



# THE BRIDGE

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

### Census 2020

The Census is a count of the United States population that occurs every 10 years. Census Day 2020 will be on April 1, 2020 and will affect the Long Grove community for the decade ahead and beyond. It is vital for municipalities like Long Grove to obtain an accurate count of its residents. State, as well as local funding received by the Village, is based on the number of people that are counted in the Census – which has a direct and indirect effect on Long Grove’s ability to provide services that residents and businesses want, and to enhance quality of life for all stakeholders.

Local government bodies utilize data from the Census to plan resources and services for residents, including (but not limited to) public safety, as well as new schools or hospitals. Data that comes from the Census is also used by real estate developers for planning purposes to determine what type of housing is desirable at the present, or what may be in demand in the future.

In Long Grove’s case, an accurate Census count is that much more important because the Village does not levy a property tax as most other municipalities do - which contributes to funding levels and affects the amount, and level of services provided. Through maximum participation in the Census by its residents, the Village will receive its fair share of funds from the federal government and the State of Illinois.

The Census Bureau is hiring part- and full-time Census workers. These jobs offer paid training, flexible hours and great pay. To apply online, visit [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs) or call 855-JOB-2020.



<i>Village President’s Message</i>	2
<i>New Trustee Sworn In</i>	3
<i>Real ID</i>	3
<i>Buffalo Creek Forest Preserve</i>	4
<i>RPC Spring Project</i>	5
<i>Village Stickers Available</i>	5
<i>John Kopecky: Community Gem</i>	6
<i>Old McHenry Road Project</i>	7
<i>Join The Garden Club</i>	8
<i>Furnace Permits</i>	9
<i>Downtown Events</i>	10
<i>Sprinkler System Maintenance</i>	11

# From the Village President



**Bill Jacob**  
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**H**appy New Year and welcome to 2020. This coming year, the Village of Long Grove has many initiatives and projects on our docket.

First up is restoration of the Robert Parker Coffin (RPC) Bridge and to put the finishing touches on RPC Road in our historic downtown. Due to delays in permitting, the bridge project was pushed to the spring. This allowed the Village to temporarily reopen RPC Road for the holiday shopping season. The improvements include sidewalks, street lighting and a new streetscape which has had a dramatic impact on our historic downtown.

Second, as a part of our 15-year Road Repaving Program, we have two major projects planned for 2020; North Kruger and Cuba Roads. The improvements to North Kruger will be done in part using federal funds to help us offset up to 80% of the costs for a portion of the road. Early this spring the Village will host a meeting to review the project plans with the neighboring residents, as well as for feedback purposes.

Additionally, the Village plans to repave half of Cuba Road in 2020 and finish the other half in 2021. The west end is slated for this year and the Village will be putting this work out to bid early in the year, including an option for an 18" paved shoulder. Cuba being a narrow road with mature trees makes this project very challenging. Before any work begins, the Village will host an informational meeting for this project. I know that both projects will create challenges for our residents and others that use these roads; the Village will do everything it can to minimize disruptions.

Also, we will be working closely with the State of Illinois to widen Route 22 to four lanes through central Long Grove as the State plans to go out to bid on this project in 2021. Protecting our scenic corridor while minimizing the impacts to our residents are key priorities.

Now that the Illinois Tollway has cancelled the Environmental Impact Study connected to the proposed extension of Route 53, we will continue to collaborate with our neighboring communities, Lake County and the State of Illinois to ensure the repurposing of the Route 53 Corridor. The Pathway Committee has been asked to play a role in this as the corridor could provide a means for trails to connect Long Grove's pathways to our downtown, through either walking or biking. Connecting our Village via bike and walking paths has always been a goal of the committee. To that end, Long Grove recently received a matching grant from the State,

*Continued on page 9*

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## New Village Trustee Sworn In

The Long Grove Village Board has a new trustee. Twenty-four-year resident Jennifer Michaud was sworn in at the November 19, 2019 Village Board meeting, and fills the seat left open by former Trustee Mike Sarlitto who resigned in October of 2019.

During her career, Michaud has worked with a variety of nonprofits and has a professional background as a general contractor. She has volunteered at the Reed Turner Nature Center and collaborated on a variety of habitat restoration projects. Within her application to be considered for the trustee opening, Michaud stated, "I believe it is important for citizens to get involved in their community and I am finally at a point in my life where I have enough time and energy to commit myself to volunteering."

The term for this seat will be up in April 2021, at which time an election will take place to fulfill the remaining two years of the term.

## Illinois Real ID

Though the deadline to obtain one is roughly nine months away, Illinois residents should be aware the new Real ID Card will be required starting October 1, 2020 to fly on domestic flights and to visit any federal facility.

The Real ID card can be obtained at an Illinois Secretary of State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), where a new photo will be taken, and several pieces of identification will be required in order to receive the card.

These include:

- One document that proves identity, such as a certified U.S. birth certificate, a U.S. Passport, an employment authorization document, a permanent resident card or a foreign passport with an approved I-94 form.
- One document that includes the individual's signature (e.g. a credit/debit card, a canceled check or a current Illinois Driver's License or State Identification Card).
- One document proving Social Security Number (SSN) (e.g. SSN card, a W-2 or a pay stub with full SSN).
- Two documents with the applicants correct name and address that prove residency (e.g. a utility bill, rental agreement, deed/title, bank statement or credit card statement).

**Important Information for Individuals Who Have Had Name Changes:** Name change documents, including certified



copies of a marriage certificate, etc., will be required if an applicant presents a certified birth certificate with a name different from his/her current name. The Secretary of State will require multiple name change documents if the applicant's name has changed multiple times.

A Real ID is not required if you do not use domestic flights to travel, or do not visit federal facilities.

For more information and a comprehensive list of required documentation, please visit [REALID.ilsos.gov](https://REALID.ilsos.gov).

Find an interactive checklist at [realid.ilsos.gov/checklist.html](https://realid.ilsos.gov/checklist.html) in order to determine what documents to bring to the facility when applying for a Real ID card.

## Buffalo Creek Forest Preserve

An integral part of Long Grove's open space is the Buffalo Creek Forest Preserve (BCFP), a 387-acre area bounded by Arlington Heights Road on the east, the Lake County line on the south, Old Hicks Road on the west, and Checker Road on the north.

This land is very suitable for flood control purposes. The establishment of the BCFP began through a plan by the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago (MSD) which became the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD), to construct a stormwater retention facility to defend the communities of Buffalo Grove and Wheeling against flooding from Buffalo Creek.

The MWRD, in concurrence with the Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD), initiated the project. Costs were covered by a federal grant, the MWRD, and the LCFPD. Several land purchases were made between 1978 and 1987 to acquire this site.

Much of this preserve is currently managed for flood control, which is the purpose of the dam on Buffalo Creek and the reservoir it creates. Creative design techniques were utilized for reservoir construction resulting in a natural-looking wetland on the site.

Historically, this property was owned by the Popp family, early settlers in the area. Initially used as a dairy farm, the land was later converted to produce grain crops, such as soybeans, wheat and corn.

Prior to settlement in the area, the land was a tallgrass prairie with a small number of wetlands scattered about. Farming and subsequent reservoir construction drastically altered the tallgrass prairie. Restoration has been ongoing since the 1980s and today, diverse grassland birds, including bobolinks and eastern meadowlarks, are found in the preserve.

Four miles of crushed-gravel trails are open for hiking, bicycling and cross-country skiing. The trails access open areas of the preserve, crossing creeks, the edge of the reservoir and restored prairie lands. Fishing is also available at the preserve.

Access to the preserve for pedestrians and bicyclists is available at the corner of Checker Road and Arlington Heights Road, on Checker Road west of Schaeffer Road, and at the corner of Lake Cook and Arlington Heights Roads.

## Respect on the Roadways This Winter Season

Winter driving can present a variety of challenges based on conditions of the road, the weather forecast, and other variables. *Please use extra caution and be respectful of your neighbors and other motorists when out on Village roadways, to make it as safe of a season as possible.*

Please review the following winter safety driving tips:

- Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage.
- Make sure tires are properly inflated.
- Keep the gas tank at least half full to avoid a gas line freeze-up.
- If possible, avoid using a parking brake in cold, rainy and snowy weather.

- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface.

### Tips for Driving in the Snow or on Icy Roads

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly; applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Remember: it takes longer to slow down on icy roads!
- The normal dry pavement following distance of 3-4 seconds should be increased to 8 to 10 seconds.
- Know your brakes. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply steady, firm pressure on the brake pedal.
- Don't power up hills. As you reach

the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed down the hill as slowly as possible.

- Don't stop if you can avoid it. If you can, slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes.

For more driving tips visit AAA online at [Chicago.AAA.com](http://Chicago.AAA.com).



## Village Stickers Available

The 2020 Village of Long Grove vehicle stickers are available for purchase for \$10 at Long Grove Village Hall during normal business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Checks can be made payable to: *Village of Long Grove*, and either dropped off at Village Hall or mailed to the Village of Long Grove, 3110 Old McHenry Road, Long Grove, Illinois, 60047.

Vehicle stickers are not mandatory, but revenues generated from their sale help to provide funding for Village services which are available to residents and businesses. For more information, please call Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.



VILLAGE OF LONG GROVE

123

2020 VEHICLE STICKER

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## RPC Project: Spring Completion is Planned

After several months of being closed, Robert Parker Coffin (RPC) Road and the Village's historic bridge were officially re-opened in mid-November just in time for the holiday shopping season. The closures were a result of the RPC Road improvement project, which began in June of 2019 and included reconstruction of the road, extension of the public watermain, and aesthetic enhancements and improvements to the downtown such as new curbs and landscaping, as well as ADA accessible sidewalks. This project is now substantially completed; the finishing touches will occur this spring. This final phase for the project improvement will include reconstruction of the RPC Bridge and replacement of its wooden cover. For additional information, please visit the project website at [rpcimprovements.com/](http://rpcimprovements.com/).



## John Kopecky: A Community Gem

Community volunteer and businessman, John Kopecky, has a lifelong history of being involved in, contributing to, and giving back to Long Grove, in many ways.

During his younger years, his mother started a business that has now existed for nearly half a century in downtown Long Grove. Located near the historic bridge on Robert Parker Coffin Road, what was formerly called Long Grove Antiques, opened its doors in 1972. During this time, his family owned a house on Old McHenry Road just across from the Long Grove Fire Protection District. Before John took over running the business when his parents retired, he could be found making pressed apple cider and candy at the Long Grove Confectionary. From there, John took the reigns of the business that had changed its name to what is now the Country House of Long Grove. Today, the third generation of Kopecky's, John's son Dan, operates the business that continues to attract shoppers from all over with its unique gifts, souvenirs and memorabilia.



In addition to the years he spent working for/running businesses in Long Grove, John's philanthropy and giving nature spans close to four decades. He is a founding member of the Long Grove Lions Club, founded in 1983; per its charter, the club focuses much of its fundraising efforts to benefit the hearing and sight impaired. The Lions Club also takes an active role in looking after the Village. One of the many examples is the removal of trash that results from the thousands of people who visit Long Grove during the yearly festivals.

"John is probably the most unselfish business owner and property owner in town; he is willing to do anything for anybody," said Mary Ann Ullrich, the co-owner of The Village Tavern with her husband Chip for the last 50 years. "He is the go-to person, and I just can't say enough wonderful things about him. If something needs to be done, he doesn't even need to be asked – he just does it in the best interests of Long Grove."



In addition to being an active Lions Club member, John also belongs to the Long Grove Historical Society and has been a volunteer actor for the popular Ghost Walk. He belongs to the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA) where he serves as the organization's secretary.

John can be seen all around the downtown area depending on the season. He is very involved in the Scarecrow Festival over Halloween, helping young and old build scarecrows and then setting them on display along Old McHenry Road. He sells sangria on behalf of the Lions Club at the yearly festivals, which is one of the ways the club raises funds. In addition to causes that help the sight and hearing impaired, funds raised also benefit a wide variety of nonprofit organizations. These include the Long Grove Park District and Long Grove Arts and Music Council, in addition to the development of a park along the creek in partnership with the HDLGBA, where wildflowers and trails will be added to provide a new, natural haven for area residents.

"The good things we do today make life better for future Long Grove residents," Kopecky said. "It's not just me—we have so many volunteers that make Long Grove a very special place. Our Village Board has been awesome, and I see that they are working very hard to build the future of Long Grove."



## Old McHenry Road Project

**T**he culmination of the Old McHenry Road project was celebrated with a historic ceremony where new streetlamps in the downtown area were ‘switched on’ by master of ceremonies, The Village Tavern Co-Owner Chip Ullrich on September 5, 2019. That date marked the end of the 14-month project that brought many improvements to the downtown.

In addition to the new period street lighting, the project also included the reconstruction Old McHenry Road – in

partnership with Lake County - as well as ADA accessible sidewalks, benches, streetscapes, landscaping, and piping to transport public water into the downtown. This project mirrors what the Robert Parker Coffin Road project will look like when it is finally completed this spring. These improvement efforts have been a top priority for the Long Grove Village Board, as they continue to work to attract new businesses that will contribute to the ongoing revitalization of historic downtown Long Grove.

## Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide Detector Safety

Residents are encouraged to make it a habit to clean and check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at the beginning of each year. Smoke alarms with sealed long life lithium batteries are designed to be effective for up to 10 years, at which time the entire unit needs to be replaced. For smoke detectors that use standard batteries, it is recommended to replace the batteries twice per year. Both types of smoke detectors should be tested every month to make sure they are in good working order.

Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside of each sleeping area, and on every level in your home. They should be placed high on a wall or on a ceiling. For more information about smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, visit the National Fire Protection Association website at [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org).



## 2020 Resolution: Join the Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club!



**T**he Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club was formed in the mid 1970s by former Village residents Betty Coffin, Barbara Turner and Beverly Bystricky, and was initially a small group made up of several women who would meet in each other's homes.

Barbara's family donated their Long Grove cabin to the Long Grove Park District, which became the Reed-Turner Nature Center - and the new home for the Garden Club. More than 40 years later, the Garden Club still holds its meetings there. Back in the day, the Garden Club was all about flowers and floral arrangements, though the group would also create holiday favors for local nursing home residents, as well as host fashion shows, formal teas and luncheons. Their funding came directly from their generous members.

Betty, along with her husband Robert Parker Coffin, (a former Village President of Long Grove) initiated a free daffodil program after the Garden Club was formed. The Village Board approved funding for the program, and thus started Long Grove's long-standing fall tradition of supplying

free daffodils to residents so that they could plant them along Village roadsides.

Over the years, the Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club's membership has grown to more than 40 members from 12 area communities. Today's club is a casual, friendly group of men and women ranging from novice to master gardeners. The club's 2020 line-up (so far) of events and education includes, 1) Bird Migration Through Long Grove, 2) Driving Out Invasive Species to Reclaim Native Landscapes, 3) Pollinator Gardens, 4) the Annual Plant Sale and 5) Long Grove Area Garden Walks.

Gardening is a great activity for the mind, soul and body, as it gets people outside and moving. And, it's an inexpensive hobby that children as well as adults can get involved in. The Garden Club meets on the second Monday morning of the month at the Reed-Turner Woodland Nature Center, 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove. If you are interested in joining the club, please contact Penny Fulkerson at [pennysgarden@att.net](mailto:pennysgarden@att.net).



## From The Village President

*Continued from page 2*

which we will use to install a pathway this year from Sunset Grove to the downtown along RPC Road. This project will include the installation of a crosswalk at the Route 83 and RPC intersection.

Third, we will continue our efforts to attract appropriate economic development throughout the Village to grow sales tax receipts which fund Village initiatives. This effort is especially important since Long Grove doesn't levy a real estate tax – and it will remain a top priority. We've had renewed interest for development of the 15-acre parcel of land just south of Sunset Grove and continue to have discussions with Menards for the development of outlots along Lake Cook Road and Route 53. This year, the Village will conduct some preliminary work on the feasibility of establishing a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) in south Long Grove near the Menards as a tool to attract development if the right opportunity arises.

Last year, we began an effort to overhaul our Village permitting process to make it more efficient and easier for residents and business owners to obtain a permit; this effort included outsourcing inspections to Mundelein. The feedback we've received to date has been positive, and we will continue process improvement efforts moving forward. We will also work to complete the update of our Village code as it relates to Alternative Energy Systems, after deficiencies were identified while reviewing a Solar Energy System special use permit application from District 96. Additionally, the Village will continue working to develop solution(s) in partnership with residents in south Long Grove who have experienced a significant increase in cut-through traffic on Schaeffer and Checker Roads to avoid the under-engineered Lake Cook and Arlington Heights Road intersection. Ideally, improving this intersection would reduce most of this traffic, but it is not currently a priority for Cook County.

Finally by April, every home in Long Grove will have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 census, which I'm urging all to participate in. The census impacts us, not only at the state level, but the local level as well. Long Grove's share of the Motor Fuel Tax, along with the Personal Property Replacement Tax fund and the Local Government Distributed Fund are provided on a per capita basis, accounting for approximately 25% of revenue to the Village annually. Having everyone accounted for will ensure that we get our fair share of significant funds we collectively send to Springfield each year, enabling us to continue to operate Long Grove without levying a real estate tax.

We have much to do this year and I'm confident that 2020 will be another successful year for Long Grove.

Village President - *Bill Jacob*

## Furnace Replacements Require a Permit

All furnace replacements require a building permit from the Village of Long Grove prior to installation. Once installed, a permit provides inspection of the furnace by a qualified mechanical inspector, to ensure it meets manufacturer's guidelines and building code requirements for safe and proper operation.

As with any mechanical piece of equipment, oxygen is required for the unit to operate properly. A lack of oxygen can result in the need for repairs and a reduced life span of the unit. Gas and electric appliances are vented, and must be properly installed so they are safe for in-home use.

Building permits can help in the case of a mishap; homeowner's insurance may not cover the cost of damages, repairs or replacement if a building permit was not obtained.

Under no circumstance should a homeowner trust a contractor or individual who says a permit isn't necessary when it comes to installing a furnace.

For questions regarding furnace installation requirements, or the building permit process, please contact the Long Grove Building Department at **847-634-9440**.



## HDLGBA/Downtown Long Grove 2020 Events!

Downtown Long Grove will again be the center of fun in 2020! Below is a preview of some of the biggest festivals and special events planned over the next six months by the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA), so mark your calendars!

### Cocoa Crawl: February 1

Participating Long Grove merchants team up to create a fun-filled, family-friendly day where people can shop, dine and make memories. Every stop along the way includes yummy cocoa-infused treats to warm the heart and soul!



### Egg Hunt: April 4

Kids of all ages are invited to bring their own baskets starting and fend for themselves on different egg hunt challenge courses that correspond to varying ages. Big Bunny presides over the activities, which also include dancing and music, face painting, craft tables and tractor rides (weather permitting).

### Craft Beer Fest: April 25

Historic Downtown Long Grove transforms into an outdoor beer garden for Craft Beer Festival each year. Ticketed attendees get unlimited tastes of up to dozens of the best local beers, while live music and good eats round out this day dedicated to craft breweries.



### Chocolate Fest: May 15 – 17

Long Grove's first major festival of the year brings in tens of thousands for three days of family entertainment and delicious hand-made chocolate-inspired foods. In addition to music on multiple stages, dozens of local vendors at the annual Chocolate Fest dish out chocolate creations, everything from chocolate cotton candy to burgers slathered in BBQ chocolate sauce.

### Strawberry Fest: June 26 – 28

The annual homage to summer fun returns for three days focused on Midwest's sweetest fruit! Although the festival begins and ends with the almighty strawberry, with strawberry-centric foods and drinks galore, in no way is it an exclusive strawberry party. There's live music, the classic Kid Zone and summer carnival games sure to bring out the little kid in anyone!



Visit [LongGrove.org](http://LongGrove.org) for more details, pop-up and other events, merchant specials and must-do's that are great for family and friends in the historic downtown area. Support your community and sip, shop and dine in Long Grove!

## Keep Home Sprinkler Systems from Freezing

As temperatures drop throughout the winter months, the Countryside and Long Grove Fire Protection Districts are reminding residents to take proactive steps to prevent home sprinkler systems from freezing. If sprinkler systems do freeze, the results can range from leaky, to completely broken pipes that can cause a wide spectrum of water damage to the home.

Residents and property owners should keep the heat in their home no lower than 60° F (between 65° and 68° F is considered optimal) if going on vacation, or leaving the home for an extended period. Some sprinkler systems installed prior to 2006 have piping in attics that are covered with insulation. If the insulation has been moved, pipes can freeze due to exposure. Newer sprinkler systems are in most cases, located on the second level of a home behind walls, which provides additional safety measures against freezing due to temperatures being warmer in these spaces.

Fire officials also recommend if a home has a security system, that the flow switch for the sprinklers be connected to the system, so that emergency responders are notified in case of water flow in the home. Garage doors should not be

left open for long periods of time during winter months, and residents should monitor local weather to know when temperatures are expected to drop below freezing. Regular, yearly inspections, testing and maintenance of sprinkler systems are also strongly encouraged.

For additional information about sprinkler system inspections, contact the Countryside Fire Protection District at **847-367-5511**, or the Long Grove Fire Protection District at **847-634-3143**.



## SWALCO Solid Waste Disposal Options

The purpose of the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) is to assist Lake County residents by providing alternatives to solid waste management, including disposal and recycling opportunities. Examples of solid waste disposal events sponsored by SWALCO include electronics recycling, household chemical waste, composting, pharmaceutical disposal and more. All residents of Long Grove can utilize any of the services provided by SWALCO. Below is a list of initiatives and efforts that the organization handles on an ongoing basis:

- Implement a Solid Waste Management Plan for all of Lake County.
- Facilitate an efficient, reliable and environmentally sound waste disposal system.
- Advise, assist and educate SWALCO members regarding solid waste management issues and options.
- Identify, evaluate and disseminate information regarding techniques to reduce, reuse and recycle solid waste.



The overall goal of SWALCO is to provide Lake County residents with programs and the infrastructure necessary to divert as much material from disposal in landfills as possible, in an environmentally responsible way.

To sign up for the SWALCO newsletter to receive updates on upcoming recycling and waste disposal events, visit this link: [swalco.org/283/Newsletter](http://swalco.org/283/Newsletter).



## Upcoming Meetings

### January

Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	January 7, 2020
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	January 15, 2020
Economic Development Commission	January 21, 2020
Village Board Meeting	January 21, 2020
Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	January 21, 2020
Architectural Commission	January 20, 2020 Cancelled

### February

Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	February 4, 2020
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	February 5, 2020
Architectural Commission	February 10, 2020
Economic Development Commission	February 11, 2020
Village Board Meeting	February 11, 2020
Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	February 18, 2020
Economic Development Commission	February 25, 2020
Village Board Meeting	February 25, 2020

## Connect with Long Grove

**D**o you receive the Village's semi-monthly Enewsletter? If not, and you would like to, please visit the Long Grove website homepage at [longgroveil.gov](http://longgroveil.gov) to sign up! The 'Enews' is sent out after Village Board meetings on Thursday mornings, and provides subscribers with a variety of news and information that affects the Long Grove community.

Connect CTY is another way to 'stay connected' with the Village, but instead of general news and information, it sends out messages that are more urgent in nature, such as safety, health and welfare information caused by natural or man-made disasters. This service can send out thousands of messages to everyone's phone number stored in its database in just minutes when emergency notifications are necessary.



## Village Contacts

### Village Office

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