



THE BRIDGE

Update on Old McHenry Road Construction

The Village is partnering with Lake County for the improvement and reconstruction of Old McHenry Road that runs through downtown Long Grove. The project runs from the shared entrance drive to Village Hall and Kildeer Countyside School to the north, and the Long Grove Fire Protection District to the south.

The roadway improvements include a complete reconstruction of the existing pavement, with a new, two-lane pavement at the same width as the existing road. The roadway design will be changed from an open ditch to a formal curb and gutter, to address long-standing drainage problems in the downtown area.

The two-lane pavement will continue through the intersection without dedicated turn-lanes, and the current stop sign intersection will be replaced with a traffic signal. To align with predominate traffic levels, the signal will be timed to provide the longest green light to southbound Old McHenry Road in the mornings and westbound Robert Parker Coffin Road in the evenings, which is expected to greatly reduce traffic backups.

The Village will cover the cost of streetscape improvements, which includes adding formal public sidewalks on both sides of Old McHenry Road through the downtown area, period-style lighting fixtures, benches and landscaping in keeping with the design guidelines of the downtown master plan.

Continued on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



<i>Old McHenry Road Update</i>	1
<i>Village President's Message</i>	2
<i>Spring is Coming</i>	3
<i>Downtown Incentive Program</i>	4
<i>Consider Joining C.E.R.T.</i>	5
<i>Water Heater Permits</i>	5
<i>Meet Lenore Simmons</i>	6
<i>Non-Home Rule</i>	7
<i>Coyotes on the Rise</i>	7
<i>Neighborhood Beautification</i>	8
<i>Upcoming Meetings</i>	8

From The Village President



Bill Jacob

Bill.Jacob@LongGroveIL.gov

As we approach spring, I am looking forward to warmer temperatures and longer days. Soon the daffodils will be in bloom throughout the Village, demarcating Long Grove for everyone traveling to and from our area.

Spring also marks the start of Long Grove's new fiscal year, which begins May 1, 2018. The Board and Village staff are now in the middle of our annual budgeting process, which is required to be completed and approved by the end of April 2018. The good news is revenues remain strong with one exception - our telecommunications tax receipts have decreased by more than \$100,000. We are currently conducting an audit, as we believe this may be related to our shared 60047 zip code with Lake Zurich. There is a possibility some of the revenue that is due to Long Grove is being assigned to one of the towns with the same shared zip code, which also includes Hawthorn Woods, Kildeer and Forest Lake.

This spring, the Old McHenry Road construction project will begin in downtown, and is expected to be completed in the fall. As a part of this project, the Village will be expanding the public water system further into the downtown area. The Board has been deliberating on how to expand the system to cover the entire downtown to attract new businesses. During our most recent discussions, we considered reinvesting the proceeds the Village received from the sale of the Archer Lots to significantly reduce fees downtown property owners would have to pay to connect to the water system. I like this idea and look forward to coming to an agreement with the Board and the downtown property owners, so we can get this initiative on the docket for next year.

The Board recently approved annexing several parcels of land on the southwest side of Long Grove near Old Hicks Road and Route 53, adding approximately 64 acres to the Village. Two developers, Rick Swanson and Mike DeMar, collaborated to integrate plans for single-family housing projects, and I thank them for that. I anticipate these projects will break ground this spring.

Our new Village website will be launching soon to improve navigation and security. Please look for more information on this in the near future.

Our current contract with the Lake County Sheriff will end this spring, and we have received a renewal proposal, which we are currently evaluating. I anticipate that Long Grove will remain with the Lake County Sheriff's Police, as the service we've received has been excellent. To ensure we are utilizing funds to the best of our ability, we did request bids from neighboring villages to benchmark pricing and service.

Finally, the HarborChase Assisted Living and Memory Care facility recently held their ribbon cutting ceremony, which the Village Trustees and I attended to welcome them to Long Grove. HarborChase is a part of the downtown TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District, and the new facility and property improvements will benefit the TIF greatly, which is great news!

I look forward to an early spring that we can all enjoy!

Village President - *Bill Jacob*

Village Trustees



Chris Borawski

Chris.Borawski@LongGroveIL.gov



Anne Kritzmire

Anne.Kritzmire@LongGroveIL.gov



Chuck Nora

Chuck.Nora@LongGroveIL.gov



Rita O'Connor

Rita.Oconnor@LongGroveIL.gov



Bobbie O'Reilly

Bobbie.Oreilly@LongGroveIL.gov



Michael Sarlitto

Michael.Sarlitto@LongGroveIL.gov

Village Clerk



Amy Johns Gayton

Amy.Gayton@LongGroveIL.gov

Old McHenry Road *continued from page 1*

Changes will also be consistent with the existing streetscape improvements on Archer Road. A new pedestrian pathway will be installed on the east side of Old McHenry Road and will extend to Kildeer Countryside School.

The Village Board has approved installation of a public water main extending the full length of Old McHenry Road through the downtown, with work planned this spring. Construction may begin as early as March, and completion is expected by November of 2018.

Beginning and end dates are subject to change due to weather and other variables related to the project partnership with Lake County.

Construction updates will be provided in the bi-weekly Village E-newsletter. Residents and business community members can sign up to receive the E-newsletter at LongGroveIL.gov/content/newsletter.



Spring Forward and Change Your Clocks

It's time to spring forward! On Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 2:00 a.m., clocks should be set forward one hour for Daylight Saving Time (DST). While changing clocks, residents are also encouraged to change batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors if they weren't changed this past fall.

Spring is Coming and It's Time to Prepare

The first day of spring is March 20, 2018, when the temperatures normally begin to rise and the ground begins to thaw. Gardeners will dust off their gloves and track down their gardening tools as the growing season kicks off.

The warmer weather prompts a lot of activity in suburban backyards and at nature preserves, as snow melts and spring rains result in damp soil. Many residents have a high percentage of clay in the soil on their property, which holds water and results in slow drainage. When it is waterlogged, soil holds even less of the air essential for roots to breathe. The Long Grove Park District recommends residents stay out of their gardens and avoid heavy traffic on lawns when the soil is damp. The rule of thumb is to grab a handful of soil and squeeze it. If it packs into a ball and does not fall apart when you open your hand, it is too wet to work with, whether at home or in a natural area.

Some trees - oaks for example - drop their leaves well into winter. Leaf piles should be removed from lawns and garden areas, or they will smother grass and some perennials. In contrast, in natural areas, leaves are not to be removed. The leaves slowly decay into part of the 'duff', which is the loose upper layer of soil in a woodland. Throughout a woodland, grass will scarcely be seen. The combination of the leaf litter and shade in a woodland keep most grasses out. Each spring at Reed-Turner Woodland Preserve, native spring wildflowers have evolved to flourish in this environment and can be seen pushing up through the multiple layers of leaves.

By mid-April, early trees will start greening up. Homeowners may get the urge to prune back wayward

branches, but the best time to prune is in late winter when trees are dormant, not in the spring when the sap is flowing fast. In the spring, cutting live branches results in substantial loss of nutrient-rich sap, which serves to attract multiple kinds of pests. However, if buds do not swell, are black (instead of green inside) or shriveled, or bark is peeling from branches, that area of the tree is dead. In these cases, dead branches can be pruned back to live wood at any time.

In the Woodland, mature oaks and hickories with dead branches can be seen. These will stay on the trees for decades, serving as feeding and nesting areas for birds and other wildlife. The Park District removes trees or large branches when they pose a danger of falling onto a trail. Unfortunately, the many ash trees attacked by the emerald ash borer must be removed whenever they show signs of dying, as dead ash trees deteriorate quickly and will fall easily in a storm.

The Park District uses the wood chips from cut down trees to pave the Woodland trails, providing a comfortable walking surface. These fresh wood chips are good for this purpose, but not recommended as a mulch for personal gardens due to their high carbon to nitrogen ratio.

Enjoy spring, but have the patience to follow nature's cycle when tending to your landscaping.

For more information about the Long Grove Park District, visit lgparks.org.

Written by Ken Wittig, Long Grove Park District Volunteer

Village Extends Downtown Business Incentive Program Through July of 2018



Long Grove has experienced some exciting growth since the start of 2017, with more than a dozen new or relocated businesses opening their doors in the downtown business district and throughout the Village.

Out of the 16 businesses that opened or expanded in 2017, three took advantage of the 50/50 Tax Rebate Incentive Program offered by the Village of Long Grove. They include Buffalo Creek Brewing and Fred Astaire Dance Studio, both of which are new businesses to Long Grove, and Long Grove Confectionery which moved its location due to expansion.

The incentive program was extended by the Village Board in December of 2017 and will remain in effect until July 31, 2018. The goal of the program remains the same; to encourage private investment within the Historic Business District (HBD) for property improvements, and to attract and maintain businesses in the downtown area.

The extension will allow businesses additional time to obtain permits that would qualify for the incentive program, in addition to extending the time for completion of the improvements.

For more information, you can visit LongGroveIL.gov/content/Economic-Development.

Businesses that Opened in Long Grove in 2017:

1. Agata Brannon Photography
2. Arboria of Long Grove
3. Buffalo Creek Brewing LLC
4. Burn Boot Camp
5. Fred Astaire Dance Studio
6. HarborChase of Long Grove Assisted Living and Memory Care
7. Morkes Chocolates of Long Grove LLC
8. PUB83 Pizza and Burgers
9. Signature Popcorn
10. Starbucks
11. Team Rehabilitation Physical Therapy
12. The Davey Tree Expert Company

Businesses that Relocated in 2017:

1. First Impression Management
2. In Motion Dance Studio
3. Long Grove Confectionery Co.
4. Within Reach

Business that Opened in 2018:

1. Covered Bridge Creamery
2. Appell Dental Group

Have You Considered Joining CERT?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is an organization of resident volunteers who have received training in basic disaster response skills. CERT's main function is to supplement efforts of the Fire Department, Police Department and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in the event of a major disaster.

By utilizing CERT to perform basic emergency tasks, emergency responders are freed up to focus on more technical and specialized tasks during a major event. When they are not responding to disasters or emergencies, CERT members work to raise funds to purchase emergency equipment and provide first aid and crowd control at community events – as well as hold ongoing recruitment meetings and trainings.

The South Lake County Regional (SLCR) CERT provides emergency support to the Village of Long Grove during fires, traffic accidents, utility issues (gas leaks, downed lines, etc.), storm events, and provides non-emergency safety support for many Long Grove community events.

In 2017, the 85 SLCR CERT members provided more than 4,000 hours of service to sponsoring partners, which also include Lake Zurich, Hawthorn Woods, Kildeer and Ela Township.

Recent examples of services provided by SLCR CERT include:

- Support and transportation for a structure fire in Long Grove (pictured).
- Traffic control, first aid, and radio communications for the Long Grove Turkey Trot.
- Traffic control and first aid for the Long Grove Chocolate Fest, Strawberry Fest, Apple Fest, Long Grove Half Marathon and the Long Grove Heritage Race.



- Displaying equipment and providing support during the Long Grove Fire Protection District Open House.

In 2017, the Long Grove Fire Protection District donated their 2005 Ford Excursion (a former command vehicle) to the SLCR CERT team for use as a support, communications and tow vehicle.

Interested in volunteering? Contact SLCR CERT team leader and training chair Randy James at randy.james.cio@gmail.com. For more information, you can visit www.slcrCERT.org.

All CERT members must be 18 years of age and have a valid driver's license.

Water Heater Permits Ensure Safety

For the safety and well-being of Long Grove residents (and their neighbors) building permits are required for the installation of water heaters. Because the unit works under pressure, a relief-valve is required to prevent it from over-pressurizing, which can result in an explosion. Residential water heaters also must be vented properly, which involves specific sizing and appropriate length for the exhaust. There are a number of different types of water heaters, including high-efficiency, tankless, electric-only, and the typical gas-fired unit.

Building permits protect homeowners by ensuring that water heaters are installed properly and are safe to operate. The Illinois Plumbing Code requires a water heater be installed by an Illinois licensed plumber. The installation process includes piping into the water source, and specialized training is required to handle this task in addition to others. The Village of Long Grove utilizes Illinois licensed and certified plumbing inspectors to ensure water heaters are installed to the specifications of the unit, and Illinois Law. For questions regarding water

heater installation, or the permit process, please contact the Long Grove Building Department at [847-634-9440](tel:847-634-9440).





Meet Former Village President, Trustee, Clerk and Volunteer, Lenore Simmons

Lenore Simmons has been a Long Grove resident for the last four decades, and the Village is where she and her husband Mike of 52 years raised their two boys. In the early 1980s when her youngest son was in elementary school, Simmons began volunteering, which was the catalyst for a number of different roles she would take on in service of the Village of Long Grove.

Her first volunteer experience was at the Long Grove Historical Society: Simmons was involved in the Archer School program, which includes a one room school house located behind Village Hall. Area third graders visit the location for field trips to learn about life in the 19th Century. Simmons was a docent and gave the 'barn talk' and tours to youngsters.

When the Village clerk resigned in 1982, Simmons was asked to step in and fill the open seat, and she gladly accepted the appointment. Her interest in local government grew during this time, and she served as clerk until 1985. She then ran for Village trustee and won. After serving two terms as trustee, she went on to successfully serve two terms as Village president from 1993 to 2001. Simmons said one of the biggest political issues of the day when she served in Village government was the proposed Route 53 extension.

"The issue divided the community back then; our challenge was that it could negatively affect our community character, and our natural environment. Since most of our drinking water comes from shallow wells, the expansion was viewed as harmful to our water supply," Simmons said. "None of this even gets into the economics. We really fought it as a Village, but it continues to come back."

Simmons said while she was Village president, she attended every event she could in the downtown area to show her support for the downtown business district - which she believes is an integral part of the fabric and identity of Long Grove. She cites the older buildings that provide an echo to the past, as part of what comes to mind when people think of Long Grove.

When asked about her thoughts and memories of Long Grove over the years, Simmons reminisced about the small town feel and helpful attitude residents had toward one another, and for the Village.

"Decades ago in the winter, at Route 22 and N. Krueger Road, there was a 55-gallon drum filled with sand, and our residents would stop their cars and scoop out sand to scatter over the road to help make sure it wasn't slick for other drivers. Everyone knew this also helped to keep costs down for the Village," Simmons said. "There was a camaraderie; a connection between neighbors."

She conceded times have changed as they oftentimes must, and that the Village has developed more of a 'suburban Chicago' feel - but she is hopeful each resident does what they can to keep some of the small-town mentality alive by showing support for Long Grove events and the businesses around the Village.

"We of course can't help but to move forward, but while we do that, we can't and shouldn't forget the past and the close-knit community that made us what we are today," Simmons said. "Let's not forget we are all a part of this Village, and we can come together and support the very things that set us apart from the suburbs around us."

Inspections Agreement with Buffalo Grove Expands

In 2015, the Long Grove Village Board approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Buffalo Grove for inspectional and adjudication services. This agreement was initiated to help Long Grove enforce property maintenance codes for residential properties located in the Village.

As part of the Village Board's goals to maintain and improve the condition of all properties in Long Grove, the Board approved expanding the existing agreement with Buffalo Grove in August of 2017. This new agreement will include all business and commercial properties, including those located in the Historic Downtown Business District. Buffalo Grove has hired an additional inspector to assist with these expanded inspections.

‘Non-Home Rule’ Means Lower Taxes?

There are many ways to describe Long Grove... scenic, quaint, safe, beautiful, historic and now... less expensive? By design, Long Grove’s ‘minimalist’ government demonstrates our founders’ core belief in resident freedom, independence and self-direction. Long Grove is one of few municipalities in Illinois boasting “Non-Home Rule” status. This status means residents should have less fear for their wallets, since Long Grove Village government has no ability to impose additional local taxes without voter approval, in what is already one of the highest-taxed states in the country.

While ‘Home Rule’ is used by local leaders in a number of different ways, of primary interest to Long Grove residents is its effect on taxing powers. With few exceptions, governing bodies of ‘Home Rule’ units do not need to ask voter approval when instituting home rule taxes. Common home rule taxes include: property tax without a rate cap, taxes on municipal retailers/service occupations, hotels/motels, gasoline, cigarettes, food/beverage, amusement, tangible property ‘uses’ and real estate transfers (by referendum).

Conspicuously missing from Long Grove resident property tax bills is a line item funding Village government. Village operations are funded primarily through local sales,

motor fuel, state income and telecommunications taxes. Unlike most surrounding neighbors, as a ‘Non-Home Rule’ community, your elected leaders do not have the power to impose taxes on you, its residents. While many ‘Home Rule’ communities experience an increasing residential tax burden imposed by leaders to ostensibly fund spending growth, Long Grove does more with less at the direction of its residents.

Long Grove’s anti-tax sentiment is unambiguous and remains a galvanizing issue:

- 80-percent opposition to any new tax, even if it means reducing services (2015 Village-wide survey).
- 80- to 20-percent failed referendum for the first-ever municipal property tax in Long Grove history (2014).
- 70- to 30-percent failed referendum in latest of three ‘Home Rule’ referendum attempts (1978, 1983, 1986).

As a result, Village leadership has recently launched numerous initiatives, seeking to diversify revenue sourcing opportunities, reduce operating costs and attract new business to the Village. These will be the subject of future articles so please stay tuned!

Written by Village Trustee Mike Sarlitto

Coyote Presence Increases in Lake County

Residents should prepare for an increase in coyote sightings in April and May. During this time, female coyotes give birth to their pups, and both male and female coyotes actively seek out food for their newborns – a period that lasts for approximately five to six weeks.

Coyotes are members of the dog family, weigh between 20 and 30 pounds, have a narrow muzzle like a shepherd, and pointed ears. Their fur is usually brown with white fur on their bellies. Coyotes are territorial, protective of their den and will aggressively chase or attack anyone that gets close to their young. They often travel in pairs, but can create a wide variety of high-pitched howls called vocalizations that make them sound as if they are traveling with a pack.

As opportunistic eaters, coyotes will take advantage of available food sources. They prefer small mammals, but will eat carrion, pets and even garbage. Though they are generally afraid of people, they are not afraid of animals such as dogs and cats. If residents see a coyote, they are advised to make loud noises until the animal leaves the area. If a coyote is undeterred, odds are it has lost its fear of humans because it has been fed by a person in the past.

Here is a list of what residents can do to make sure their pets are kept safe:

- Do not feed coyotes or coyote pups.
- Always keep dogs on a leash when walking them.
- When going on walks, stick to sidewalks and designated trails.
- Do not leave food outside.
- Make sure garbage cans are closed.
- Feed pets inside.
- Do not leave pets outside unattended.
- Be extra vigilant around fences because coyotes are climbers.

If a resident or pet has been bitten by a coyote, or if a sick or injured coyote is observed, contact Lake County Animal Control immediately at [847-949-9925](tel:847-949-9925). For more information about coyotes in Lake County, visit the Lake County Forest Preserves’ website at lcfpd.org, and search ‘Coyotes’.



Image Courtesy of Lake County Forest Preserves



Save the Date: The Lake County Department of Transportation (LCDOT) will be hosting a pre-construction public information open house meeting regarding the Old McHenry Road reconstruction project. This is an open house format where the public will be able to view the proposed improvement and the staging plan, as well as ask questions.

Meeting Date: Early April (TBD)

Location: Kildeer Countryside Elementary School, 3100 Old McHenry Road

Time: Between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

March

Board of Trustees	March 13, 2018
Architectural Commission	March 19, 2018
Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	March 20, 2018
Conservancy/ Scenic Corridor Committee	March 21, 2018
Board of Trustees	March 27, 2018

April

Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	April 03, 2018
Conservancy/ Scenic Corridor Committee	April 04, 2018
Board of Trustees	April 10, 2018
Architectural Commission	April 16, 2018
Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	April 17, 2018
Board of Trustees	April 24, 2018

Neighborhood Beautification Weekend

Long Grove is asking residents to participate in this year's 'Neighborhood Beautification Weekend' on Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, April 22, in honor of Earth Day, which takes place on April 22. Any trash that is picked up around neighborhoods and placed in trash bags can be left on the roadside for Waste Management to collect during the week of April 23. For questions, please call Long Grove Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.



Village Contacts

Village Office

3110 Old McHenry Road
Long Grove, IL 60047
847-634-9440
Fax: 847-634-9408

Website: LongGroveIL.gov

Office Hours:

**Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Village Staff Main

847-634-9440

Village Manager

David Lothspeich
DLothspeich@LongGroveIL.gov

Village Planner

Jim Hogue
JHogue@LongGroveIL.gov

Building Commissioner

Margerita Romanello
MRomanello@LongGroveIL.gov

Administrative Assistant

Sherry Shlagman
SShlagman@LongGroveIL.gov

Receptionist

Julie Bauer
JBauer@LongGroveIL.gov