



THE BRIDGE

Keep Our Community Safe

Long Grove residents are most likely aware that the Village does not have its own police department, and instead contracts police services with the Lake County Sheriff – as has been the case for more than a dozen years. The last time the question came up regarding the establishment of a Village police department was through a referendum on April 1, 2003, which if approved, would have required a tax increase to cover the cost. Of the 4,217 registered Long Grove voters in 2003, 16% or 693 voters weighed-in on this referendum. The outcome was 135 voted yes and 558 voted no, which is the reason why police services continue to be contracted with Lake County to this day.

Through the contract between the Village of Long Grove and the Lake County Sheriff's Office, the Village is fortunate to have a dedicated group of deputies who are an integral part of the community – and who work to keep the citizens of Long Grove safe.

As always, residents and businesses are encouraged to contact the Lake County Sheriff's office if they notice any suspicious activity. If there is an incident that makes residents or business people uncomfortable or threatened, immediately dial **9-1-1**. If it is a simple inquiry or something that is not an emergency, please call the non-emergency number at **847-549-5200**. When unsure, dial **9-1-1**.

Recently, a number of cars were stolen from residential driveways in Long Grove (keys were left in the vehicles), there have been thefts of items from inside vehicles (all were unlocked), and there was also one attempted home burglary. Due to these incidents, the Lake County Sheriff wants to remind residents about

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From the Village President



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We've had an interesting start to the year with the federal government shut down, fears of a slowing economy and the looming tariffs imposed on Chinese imports. I realize that this weighs on us all, but fundamentally our economy remains strong and I am optimistic our leaders in Washington will eventually sort out their differences.

At the local level, we start the year with a new governor, new Lake County Board leadership and even a new Lake County Sheriff. Certainly, these newly elected leaders will bring a fresh perspective - including how we address our transportation needs in Lake County. As a result, I am hopeful they will help to accelerate some of the proposed road improvement projects, which would have a dramatic impact on getting in and around our Village today. These proposed road projects include the widening of Routes 22, 45 and north Route 83, in addition to an overpass above the Canadian National (CN) Railroad tracks.

Governor Pritzker's intentions to replace the Illinois Tollway Board is refreshing, and I trust it will bring Lake County representation to this board - as there currently is no one from our county on the board. When you consider that \$25 million is being spent to conduct another Environmental Impact Statement for a road that doesn't make economic sense to build, my hope is that a new tollway board will halt the study and reallocate funds to projects that can make a difference for us today.

I'm also encouraged by feedback that we have received from the newly elected Lake County Board leadership; as a whole, they appear to be taking a position that would focus on how we can solve our transportation problems, while making it clear that they do not support extending Route 53.

In this edition of The Bridge, there is an article that provides an update on Route 53. I encourage you to review it and provide your feedback to the Illinois Tollway Authority via the link in the article.

As we get closer to spring, which I'm sure we all can't wait for after the record low temperatures we experienced in late January, reconstruction will start back up in our downtown. Lake County will complete the improvements on Old McHenry Road and the Village will reconstruct Robert Parker Coffin Road, which will further extend our public water main underneath it just prior. As of the writing of this article, I'm pleased to report all property owners adjacent to the Old McHenry leg of the water main installed in the spring of last year, have either

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Route 53 Extension Update: The Facts Are Speaking for Themselves

The Village of Long Grove opposes the Route 53 extension project, which has existed in various forms since 1962. Despite this opposition, the Village fully supports secondary road infrastructure improvements that would be located primarily in more heavily-trafficked, east-west corridors. While the extension has been described by the Illinois Tollway Authority (ITA) as a way to decrease traffic congestion, many other facts and aspects of the project – which directly and indirectly challenge congestion relief claims – may not be as well-known. These include the potential for significant new tax burdens, environmental damage, degradation of property values, and a negative impact on the quality of life in Long Grove, and in Lake County.

Please review the information below:

- The project was placed on the back burner in the recently updated “ON TO 2050”, published by CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning).
- The ITA has not identified how to pay for the road.
- The ITA has not shown how it will improve mobility for passenger vehicle traffic.
- The ITA has not shown how it will preserve community character.
- The ITA has not shown how it will preserve environmental quality.

The ITA is currently performing another Environmental Impact Study (EIS) with an initial price tag of \$25 million. This is the third study of its kind to be conducted since the project was proposed decades ago. Back then, it was rejected as an ineffective solution to solving congestion issues. Facts can be stubborn.

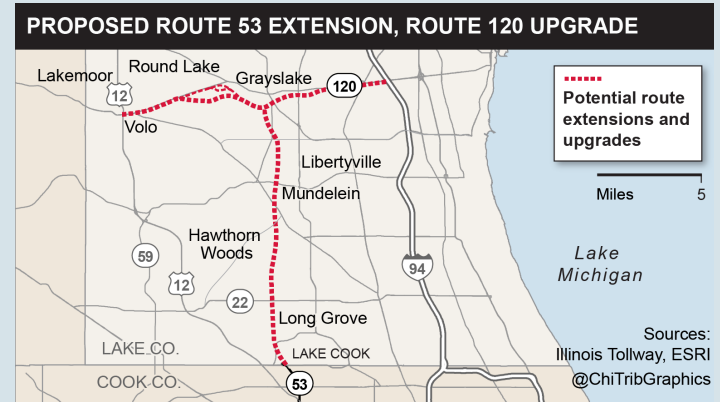
Long Grove and other communities have long opposed the extension of the Route 53/120 corridor through Lake County for a variety of reasons:

1. The project has, and continues to be, proposed without a financial plan.
2. There is the absolute potential for the loss of sovereignty for communities located within the corridor, in the form of land-use decisions.
3. Negative and irreversible environmental impacts are a threat on many levels, including impacts to wildlife, drinking water quality and open space.
4. The project will not solve local traffic congestion challenges as it states; secondary road infrastructure improvements are needed.

Key Update #1: The Tollway has rebranded/renamed the project as the ‘Tri-County Access Project’, which now considers southern Wisconsin development trends. This new consideration reveals what skeptics have been saying; that the economics of this project point toward it being a truck bypass to Wisconsin. If it were to come to fruition, this project would create a tollway windfall, which would additionally burden all Illinois taxpayers, tollway users and most directly, Lake County residents. Annual passenger car traffic and associated revenue is growing only fractionally, while truck/commercial vehicle use is nearing double digit growth. These facts only strengthen criticisms about the extension being a means to solve local traffic congestion challenges.

Key Update #2: The political landscape has changed, due in part to the Lake County Board experiencing a significant turnover; winning candidates campaigned on a commitment to lower taxes. As part of that commitment, one could presume a pronounced opposition to the Route 53 extension, due to its burdensome price tag. In addition, Governor J.B. Pritzker has announced plans to replace the ITA board, largely due to recent scandals. If you are interested in volunteering to be considered for an ITA board position, please contact the Long Grove Village Hall at **847-634-9440**

A growing number of residents from across Lake County and other areas are rejecting the ITA’s attempts to build Route 53 through the heart of Lake County at the expense of Lake County residents. Residents are encouraged to leave their questions and comments regarding the project at the following website link: project.tricountyaccess.org/leave-a-comment/. Stay tuned for future articles designed to help disseminate available information, and actions taken on this most critical of issues.



From The Village President

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connected to it or are under contract for their connections. Also, there is a sense of optimism with the business owners in the downtown area relating to the improvements that the Village is making – in addition to the increase in new businesses over the past several years. I'm confident that we are on the right path and I look forward to the completion of our work in the downtown later this year.

Village President - *Bill Jacob*

Robert Parker Coffin Road Bridge Update



Now that spring is on the way, preparation of bids for abutment replacement, and the repair and painting of steel on the Robert Parker Coffin Road Bridge are moving forward. Additionally, plans are also being made to replace the Bridge's timber cover; these efforts are necessary due to an accident involving an oversized box truck that damaged the Bridge on June 27, 2018.

The Village Board approved the contractor, ESI Consultants, Ltd. (ESI), to develop the bid requirements for the abutment repairs, steel work and the timber cover replacement. These plans are expected to be completed by mid-April and then will be bid publicly. The goal is to have all projects underway simultaneously to integrate construction and design of the Bridge. As of the publish date of this newsletter, the Village is awaiting confirmation of a \$250,000 state grant request, which would assist with the costs for the repair and reconstruction of the Bridge.

Keep Our Community Safe

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simple steps to take to avoid becoming a victim.

- Lock all doors in vehicles and in the home (including the door leading from the garage to the inside), in addition to windows.
- If a home is equipped with an electronic security alarm system, make sure that everyone in the household is familiar with how to arm and disarm it.
- If there is no home security system or alarm, consider installing one. Security alarms should have a wireless back-up.
- Doors that lead into the house should have deadbolt locks.
- When going out at night, leave outside lights on and have lamps connected to timers that can be programmed to go on and off at different times.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight in homes and/or in vehicles.
- Make copies of credit cards and take pictures of valuables to keep a record in the case of a burglary.
- Consider installing a 'wireless driveway alert', which sends out a message when a vehicle is nearing a home.
- If you're going to be away for several days or longer, suspend delivery of newspapers and mail.
- When away during the winter, arrange for driveways and walkways to be cleared of snow, or in the warmer months, the lawn to be mowed as if you were at home. In short, make your house look 'lived in'.

As a further precaution, call the Sheriff's non-emergency number at **847-549-5200** and request that a deputy, during

his regular patrol, check the outside perimeter of your house. In the event there is evidence of a break-in, property damage, suspicious circumstances or even



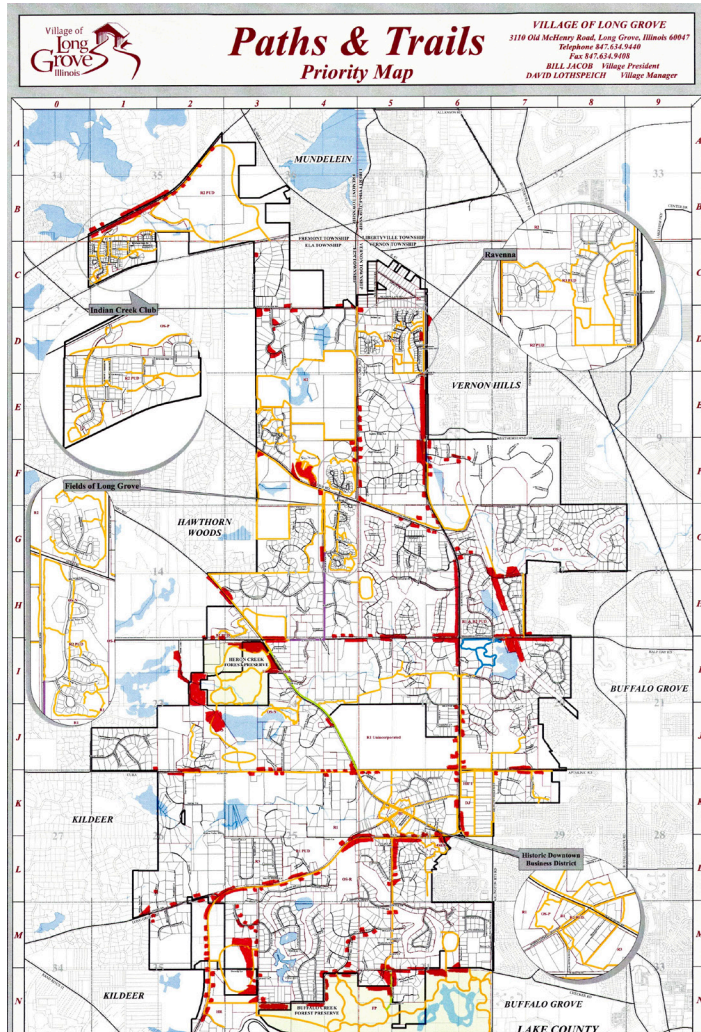
packages left at the front door, a key holder would be notified immediately and an investigation would begin. **PLEASE NOTE:** Make sure the Sheriff's Patrol Division is aware of the person designated as a house key holder during your absence.

The above tips are simple precautions, which are timeless, and all represent ways to minimize the likelihood of being victimized. For more information, visit the Lake County Sheriff's website at lakecountyl.gov/sheriff.

Teasel Mapping of Long Grove...It's Everywhere!

Attend an upcoming Teasel seminar on March 11, 2019 at Reed-Turner Nature Center 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove.

This past summer, Long Grove Park District volunteers Jan Healy and Lyndsay Murphree drove all over the Village, and recorded sightings of the invasive Teasel plant. Using a bright orange marker, they catalogued these Teasel sightings on a map.



This map shows that Teasel is prevalent on virtually every major road in Long Grove, which includes Midlothian, Diamond Lake and Gilmer roads, as well as Route 83 and Route 22. Additionally, Teasel was also observed on roads including Aptakisic, Cuba, Old McHenry, Port Clinton and Long Grove Road, in addition to Route 53, Checker and Schaeffer roads. There are large areas of Teasel along Heron Creek and Buffalo Creek forest preserves, the forested areas bordering Salem Lake Drive, and vacant land under high voltage transmission towers.

Given the aggressive and invasive nature of the Teasel plant, it will keep spreading each year, smothering and pushing out other species of plants, including native plants that feed and protect our wildlife. One Teasel plant drops 2,000 seeds each year!



Teasel Stalk

The Long Grove Park District asks that residents do their part to help eradicate Teasel from the Village. Early spring 2019 is a critical time to kick it off, as Teasel rosettes are not dormant during the winter, and can be treated as soon as temperatures are above freezing. They're easy to spot, as other plants have not leafed out yet.



Teasel Rosette

Below is a list of steps that residents can take to help:

1. Spray Teasel rosettes with a broadleaf herbicide, for example 2,4-D, from local home centers, hardware stores or garden centers. This will kill the roots. Young rosettes can also be dug and pulled out when the soil is moist, with the aid of a long dandelion wrench. Please note, it is important to pull the entire long root out of the ground and bag it for disposal.
2. Cut existing Teasel stalks at the ground level and bag them for disposal since they can have seeds. Spray the remaining stalk stump with a broadleaf herbicide, otherwise it will just regrow.
3. Once killed and removed, plant native plants to prevent the return of Teasel.

A Teasel seminar will be held on Monday, March 11, 2019 at the Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club meeting, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Reed-Turner Nature Center, 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove. All are welcome.

Stand Strong Coalition Raises Awareness of Substance Abuse

Written by Amy Voss, Co-Chair of the Stand Strong Coalition's Prescription Drug Committee

I am a bereaved mom who lost my adored son, Jared, on October 16, 2015. He died from an accidental overdose of heroin and cocaine. As a way to honor Jared's memory, I have been a volunteer advocate working to raise awareness, reduce the stigma and shame and educate the community on ways to reduce this pervasive substance abuse epidemic. Unfortunately, this disease doesn't discriminate. People from every walk of life have been impacted. I never thought it would happen to our family.

As Co-Chair of Stand Strong Coalition's Prescription Drug Committee at Stevenson High School, our mission is to share information about the necessity to safely store and dispose of prescription and over-the-counter medications. Often, an unsecured prescription, expired medication or improper storage is an open invitation for experimentation or self-medication. Prescriptions all

too often fall into the hands of our youth who are curious and fearless. The stories about how individuals began their journey of substance abuse often begin with using other people's medications due to easy access. In fact, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), nearly half of teens (47%) say it is easy to get prescription drugs from a parent's medicine cabinet. Let's not make it so easy!

Twice yearly, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) holds a Safe Disposal Day where the community can safely discard of all unwanted, expired, unused prescription and over-the-counter medications. These events have been very successful. In October of 2017, more than 600 pounds of drugs were collected in Lake County!

Help us get rid of the unwanted prescription drugs in our community on April 27, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Collection sites will be located at Lincolnshire Village



Hall, Buffalo Grove Police Station and the Long Grove Fire Protection District. For more information visit takebackday.dea.gov/.

In addition to these yearly events, Stand Strong distributes safe disposal maps with the locations of drop boxes available every day, as well as lock tops for safe storage of prescriptions. Additionally, most 24-hour Walgreens have secured safe disposal boxes in their pharmacies. We encourage residents, professionals and the community at large to share this information with their families, patients, clients and friends, in order to increase support for this initiative. For more information, please visit standstrongcoalition.org.

April 2 Consolidated Election

The upcoming Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019. If you are not registered to vote, you have until March 17, 2019 to do so. Lake County residents can register to vote online, or in person at the Illinois Department of Motor Vehicle Services (DMV), if there for other services. Early voting begins March 18 and ends April 1. On Election Day, the polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Three open seats on the Long Grove Village Board will be on the ballot, along with positions for library trustees, fire protection trustees and park district commissioners. Additionally local and regional school board seats are up for election. To view a sample ballot and for other voter information, including where to find polling places, please visit lakecountyiil.gov and search 'April 2 Election'.

Lake County Property Check

Lake County homeowners have a new way to fight against property theft and mortgage fraud. A service called 'Property Check' is available to homeowners, which is free and accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It enables residents to sign up through the Lake County Recorder's website to receive an email and/or text message, which alerts them to when a document has been recorded against a specific name or property (residential address). Lake County residents can sign up at lakecountyiil.gov/2350/Property-Check. For residents who do not have access to a computer, call 847-377-2575 for assistance in signing up for this service.

Beautification Weekend is April 27 – 28, 2019

Earth Day is April 22, 2019, and Long Grove residents are encouraged to take part in the yearly Neighborhood Cleanup the following weekend; Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. During these two days, any trash that is picked up by residents around the community can be left at the roadside in garbage bags, which will be collected by Waste Management the week of April 29. If you have questions, please contact Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.

What is Earth Day? Started in 1970 by a U.S. Senator in response to a massive California oil spill, Earth Day has become a yearly observed day by more than 1 billion people in 192 countries. It is meant to remind everyone about the importance of protecting our greatest natural resource, planet Earth. It is observed as a day of civic participation, and includes efforts such as planting trees, residents meeting with their elected officials to ignite positive change for the environment, as well as clean up days in towns and cities across the world.

Source: Earth Day Network

Tail End of Coyote Season: What You Need to Know

During coyote mating season, which normally ends in March, coyotes are often much more visible than at other times of the year. While coyotes do resemble dogs, they have distinctive features – including pointy noses and tails that are bushier than most dogs. While some can weigh up to 55 pounds, most are between 20 and 40 pounds.

Coyotes are normally not dangerous to people, and the overwhelming majority are afraid of humans. In some cases, coyotes will attack dogs. As a precaution, when coyotes are seen in neighborhoods, people or dogs should not approach them. They should also not be fed, and food should not be left outside of the home. If approached by a coyote in a neighborhood or residential yard, it is suggested to shout or wave your hands above your head to scare it away. Additionally, whistles or horns can also be used to communicate to them that they should leave the area. If a coyote is seen in its natural habitat, it is safe to watch it from a distance.



If a coyote has bitten a human or a pet, is observed to be seriously ill or injured, or is confined in a building or other area, please call the Lake County Health Department Animal Care and Control at **847-377-4700**. For more information about coyotes, visit lakecountyil.gov, and search 'Coyotes'.

Historic Downtown Long Grove Events

The suburban epicenter of entertainment in 2019 will once again be historic downtown Long Grove! See a preview below of some of the biggest festivals and special events planned for the year ahead, presented by the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association. Please visit their website at longgrove.org/events-festivals for more details, and information about other community events coming up in 2019.



Craft Beer Fest April 27: Historic Downtown Long Grove transforms into the suburb's biggest outdoor beer garden for the Craft Beer Festival each year.

Chocolate Fest May 17 – 19: Long Grove's first major festival of the year brings in tens of thousands of people for three days of family entertainment and delicious hand-made chocolate inspired foods.

Strawberry Fest June 21 – 23: The annual homage to summertime fun returns for three days focused on the Midwest's sweetest fruit!



Vintage Days August 17 – 18: The annual celebration of all things vintage, reclaimed, antique and repurposed, caps off summer in Long Grove.

Irish Days August 31 – September 2: Long Grove nods to the Emerald Isle on Labor Day weekend!



Apple Fest September 20 – 22: The festival said to bring 'barrels of fun' to charming downtown Long Grove, this festival will return for the 28th consecutive year this fall!

The location of the events in the downtown listed above are pending final approval by the Village Board, relating to the ongoing Old McHenry Road project, and the upcoming Robert Parker Coffin Road project.



Upcoming Meetings March

Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	March 5, 2019
Economic Development Commission	March 12, 2019
Village Board Meeting	March 12, 2019
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	March 6, 2019
Architectural Commission	March 18, 2019
Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	March 19, 2019
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	March 20, 2019
Economic Development Commission	March 26, 2019
Village Board Meeting	March 26, 2019

April

Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	April 2, 2019
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	April 3, 2019
Economic Development Commission	April 9, 2019
Village Board Meeting	April 9, 2019
Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee	April 17, 2019
Architectural Commission	April 15, 2019
Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals	April 16, 2019
Economic Development Commission	April 23, 2019
Village Board Meeting	April 23, 2019

Spring Forward March 10, 2019



It will soon be time to spring forward for Daylight Saving Time (DST), which is on Sunday, March 10 this year, starting at 2:00 a.m. Clocks should be set forward one hour for DST, and residents should also be sure to change batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors if they haven't been checked over the last year.



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