



THE BRIDGE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Robert Parker Coffin Road Covered Bridge

The Village of Long Grove is dedicated to bringing the Robert Parker Coffin (RPC) Bridge back to its former glory as soon as possible.

In mid-March, the Robert Parker Coffin Road Covered Bridge will be closed for the final phase of repairs, and for the installation of a new wooden cover. As has been reported in previous newsletters, in the summer of 2018 a box truck hit the RPC Road Bridge, damaging it and demolishing the wooden cover. RPC Road and the bridge were closed for an extended period, in part due to damages sustained by the accident, and the installation of a new water system. This was all in addition to considerable road construction in the historic downtown. During that time, the Village hired an engineering firm to evaluate the bridge's structural viability. A plan was then put into place to repair the damage to the bridge, replace deteriorating abutments, paint the historic iron truss, and build a new wooden cover. These improvements were to be done in phases, with the first phase completed prior to the 2019 holiday season

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From the Village President



Bill Jacob
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With the days getting longer, it's a sure sign that spring is on its way. Daylight Saving Time will begin on March 8th and hopefully soon thereafter our temperatures will get warmer.

Spring is also the time when we pass our fiscal year budget, as Long Grove is on a fiscal year from an accounting standpoint, and not a calendar. May 1st is when our 2020-2021 fiscal year begins. When I was elected to the Village Board in 2015, one of my key goals was to continue to operate Long Grove as our founding fathers had envisioned, with its limited government structure and zero municipal property tax. We've been fortunate, though it hasn't always been easy. Through careful fiscal management, we've been able to maintain this while repaving 56% of our Village-owned roads over the past five years, as well as the renovations to Robert Parker Coffin Road in our downtown. I applaud my fellow board members for their efforts, and for staying united on this front.

In this coming fiscal year, our Village will again have some significant projects in front of us, including the Robert Parker Coffin Bridge renovation. Fortunately, a \$250,000 grant from the State of Illinois, an insurance reimbursement for the replacement of the bridge's cover, fundraising by the Long Grove Historical Society and previously set aside funds for the bridge's renovation are all making this project possible. Reconstructing the west portion of Cuba Road as well as North Kruger Road were also both planned for this year. However, we were recently notified that federal funding will not be allocated until 2021 to reconstruct a portion of North Kruger. As a result, the Village Board will need to decide how best to approach the 2020 road paving plan, including reprioritizing projects or accruing funds to be utilized next year.

Also, on the docket this spring is the update to our Renewable Energy Code. The Village Board recently hosted a joint planning meeting with our Plan Commission Board of Appeals to discuss the proposed ordinance. The Kildeer Countryside School District 96 Special Use Permit for a 4-acre solar farm brought to light deficiencies in our code that we are currently working to address. In my opinion, it's about balancing green initiatives with preserving our rural character, while always keeping our eye on aesthetics.

Additionally, efforts by the Federal Government have already begun for the decennial 2020 Census, with the last one occurring ten years

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New Village Website

The Village of Long Grove is pleased to announce the launch of our brand-new website! This new site is available at the same URL as the previous site, which is longgroveil.gov.

The Village's goal is to provide residents with an easy way to locate a wealth of information about Village Hall, events, and services available within the community. The website has many new features that make navigation simpler and more streamlined:

- Use the search box in the top right-hand corner to quickly find what you are looking for; simply type in a topic, and all relevant information within the site on that topic will be listed.
- The 'Looking For' tab includes a list of the frequently searched areas on a variety of topics.
- While you can always call or stop by the Village if you need help, you can also click on the 'Contact Us' button (on the top right-hand side of each page) to send a quick message to the Village.
- To find out about meetings and events at Village Hall, click the 'Calendar' tab under 'Looking For', and you will find dates of previous/upcoming meetings of the Village Board, committees and commissions, as well as agendas, minutes and supplementary information associated with



these meetings.

- An online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request is now available and can be found under the 'Looking For' tab, within the 'Website Transparency Policy' page. A resident or business can choose to download the form in a PDF and mail or bring it to Village Hall, 3110 Old McHenry Road, Long Grove, 60047, or by fax at **847-634-9408**, or complete and submit it online.

We hope you find the Village's new website easy to use, and full of information that is both helpful and applicable – we encourage your feedback! There is a website survey located under the 'Village Hall' tab that gives residents and other interested individuals the opportunity to communicate what you think, and comment on any additions to the site you believe would be helpful.

2020 Census: All Residents Count!

Census Day is April 1, 2020 – but what does *that* mean? The Census is meant to record where every resident in the U.S. is living *on this date*. Census information will be arriving in mailboxes across the country this month. *Participation in the Census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution, and is important for many reasons.* The more accurate count that each community gets, the more funding and other resources they will receive to provide important community services and initiatives – these include (but are not limited to) roadwork projects, schools, emergency planning, health centers and more. The population count also determines political representation in the county, state and federal bodies of government for Long Grove residents.

In Long Grove, (which does not levy a municipal property tax) participation in the Census is that much more important. *One quarter of the entire Village budget comes from State funding sources!* In dollars, this means for every



resident counted in the Census, approximately \$1,200 will be allocated each year for the next ten years to the Village. **Please respond as quickly as possible;** the 2020 U.S. Census can be completed in a few ways. For the first time ever, residents can respond online, by phone or by completing the paper forms and mailing them back. Please visit census.gov for any questions and refer to the communications you've received in the mail (or will receive soon)!

Increased Fines for Passing School Buses

Unanimous approval was given by the Long Grove Village Board to double the fines for those who illegally pass school buses within the Village limits. These fines went into effect on January 1, 2020 by the State of Illinois. While State law dictates a \$150 fine for the first offense and a \$500 fine for a second offense, if you pass a school bus in Long Grove, the fine is doubled to \$300 for a first offense and to \$1,000 for all subsequent violations. Enforcement efforts are also planned. In addition to an increased presence by the Lake County Sheriff, electronic message boards are planned on Checker Road where there have been multiple reports of motorists illegally passing school buses. Please consider the implications of passing a school bus and help to ensure our children are transported to, and arrive safely back from school.



Teasel: It Takes a Village to Control It!

Early spring is the time when highly invasive Teasel rosettes begins to green up and start growing – long before other plants. Because they're the only green plants around, it's easier to find and spot treat these rosettes on your property, without harming other species



that are still dormant. Spot spray the rosette with a 2,4-D herbicide which can be purchased at stores like Menards. The rosettes can also be dug up using a dandelion digger, but it's important to get as much of the root as possible to prevent re-sprouting; the root can be up to 2 feet long! Securely bag and dispose of the rosettes once they are uprooted, and plant native grasses or flowers in the space where the rosettes were cleared out, filling the area before existing Teasel seeds in the dirt start to germinate.

Why Eradicating Teasel is Important to Long Grove

Teasel is a highly invasive plant that has taken over the roadsides of Long Grove, as well as in many communities across the country. One teasel plant drops thousands of seeds, so native plants get smothered and pushed out of their space. This affects the ecosystem, as wildlife depends on native plants for food and shelter. The Village is now in jeopardy of losing the beauty of native grasses and flowers to invasive Teasel.

In 2019, the Long Grove Park District contracted with a professional company that specializes in invasive plant control, to eradicate the large stands of invasive Teasel along Routes 53, 22 and 83 in Long Grove. Trained and licensed crews treated the Teasel on these state road right-of-ways, as well as on Long Grove Park District properties.

For more information, visit lgparks.org.

March 17 Primary Election

The 2020 General Primary Election is coming up on March 17! Lake County offices that will be nominated during this election will include the circuit clerk, coroner, recorder, state's attorney, several county board members, and three trustee seats for the North Shore Water Reclamation District. Lake County-wide offices to be elected are committeepersons for the two major political parties. This primary will also determine the two candidates who will run against one another in the November election for the office of U.S. president, as well for seats of the U.S. senate and house, and the Illinois House of Representatives.

To be eligible to vote, individuals must be a U.S. citizen and a resident of their precinct for a minimum of 30 days before Election Day. Any U.S. citizen who will turn 18 years of age by, or on General Election Day (November 3, 2020), can vote in the March 17 primary, even if the voter is 17 years old at the time of the primary. Individuals must be at least 17 years of age to register to vote.



For election information, including candidate lists, polling places, sample ballots and more, visit lakecountyil.gov by searching 'March 17 election'. March 12 is the last day to apply for 'vote by mail' ballot. Early voting is from March 2 through March 16. On election day (Tuesday, March 17), the polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Controlled/ Open Burn Permits

Controlled burning (also known as an open burn) is part of a strategy to enhance and restore natural areas. A spring burn is the most common type of burn and helps old vegetation to protect these areas, while minimizing soil erosion.

Open Burn Permits are required to be completed and approved before a burn can occur on any property in Long Grove. An application can be found on the Village's website by visiting longgroveil.gov and searching 'open burn permit'. This form can be downloaded and returned by mail or in person to Village Hall, 3110 Old McHenry Road, Long Grove 60047, or by fax at **847-634-9408**. Once completed, the Village will communicate the address to the Illinois



Environmental Protection Agency, as well as to the property's fire protection district. The approved addresses are also published on the Village's website. Residents must contact the Long Grove Fire Protection District at **847-634-3143**, or the Countryside Fire Protection District **847-367-5511** to arrange to pick up their permit.

As a reminder, the Village prohibits the burning of leaves and grass clippings. However, tree branches and brush materials can be burned if the pile is no larger than 5x5x5 feet. Residents are asked to report the observance of leaf or clipping burnings to their fire protection district at the numbers listed above.

SLCR CERT in Action

The South Lake County Regional Community Emergency Response Team (SLCR CERT) includes more than 100 volunteers who provide more than 4,500 hours of emergency support and community services each year. These people and the services they provide are a key resource for the Village's Emergency Operations Plan.

CERT members are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to supplement fire, emergency medical services (EMS), law enforcement, and public works resources. Members are frequently called upon to assist with traffic accidents, support for structure fires, and assistance during severe weather events – including wind and ice damage, flooding, power and utility-related issues. Non-emergency services are also provided by CERT members – such as being available to provide first aid and traffic management at the Village's many festivals and events, including the Turkey Trot and the many events hosted by the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association.

Each new member completes 40 hours of basic training, and all 100+ members receive classroom and in-field training throughout the year. Nine new SLCR CERT members



completed basic training and joined the team in December of 2019!

Congratulations to SLCR CERT for finishing #1 in the 2019 Prairie State CERT Challenge! Eleven members from SLCR CERT joined more than 150 participants from 12 Illinois CERT teams for a full-day disaster exercise and skills competition at the Cook County Department of Public Health facility. Teams demonstrated their skills in search and rescue, triage, treatment, disaster psychology, and patient transport exercises.

This April, SLCR CERT will participate with other Lake County

CERT teams at a comprehensive training exercise in Lake Villa and will also compete again at the 2020 Prairie State Challenge.

CERT Training: Examples of ongoing training include Active Threat, Rescue Task Force, Stop the Bleed, ATV safety, Damage Assessment, Ground Search and Rescue, Mental Health First Aid, Incident Logistics and so much more!

Contact Randy James at Randy.James@TheConsultantsSource.com to learn more about trainings that are offered, and for any other questions about SLCR CERT.



Save the Date:

HELP SUPPORT THE SLCR CERT TEAM!

The CERT Pancake Breakfast will take place
Sunday, June 7, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Lake
Zurich Fire Station #1, 321 S. Buesching Road in Lake Zurich.

Think Spring! Wildflower Walk and New Nature Talks

Aristotle said, “In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous.” Learn about the marvels of nature at the Long Grove Park District’s monthly nature talks and spring walk/hike at Reed-Turner Woodland. These programs are presented by Lake County Forest Preserve staff and stewards.

Landscaping for Wildlife:

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 – 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Discover the benefits of designing native habitats, such as butterfly gardens and rain gardens. Native plant selection and identification, habitat requirements and maintenance will be discussed.

Butterfly Gardening:

Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

What factors have influenced butterfly populations in our area and how can gardeners help foster these winged jewels? Discover what you can do to attract more butterflies to your landscape.

Spring Wildflower Walk:

Sunday, May 17, 2020 – 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Learn about native wildflowers while enjoying the beauty of Reed-Turner Woodland Preserve in Long Grove. The diverse habitat of this Illinois nature preserve presents an opportunity



to see a wide variety of blooms as we hike the trails. Dress for the weather; closed-toe shoes are recommended. This is a moderate hike that includes up and down trails and steps.

Reed-Turner Woodland and Nature Center is located at 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove. The fee for each of the programs listed is \$5.00 and are suggested for individuals 18 years of age and older. *Space is limited for the Wildflower Walk; please preregister by calling the Long Grove Park District at 847-438-4743 or emailing ysyoung@lgparks.org.*

Visit lgparks.org for additional information.

Long Grove Conservancy & Scenic Corridors

Most residential subdivisions within the Village of Long Grove contain areas that have been designated as ‘conservancy’ or a ‘scenic corridor’ and were identified as easements on the plat of subdivision for different developments. As subdivisions age and new residents move in, some may not be aware of easements or restrictions associated with their property.

The Conservancy Scenic Corridor Committee (CSCC) was created largely to assist with maintaining or improving conservancy districts or scenic corridor areas. The committee reviews and approves applications relating to maintenance, renovation, or enhancement of conservancy districts and scenic corridor easements, and acts as a resource for understanding regulations and restrictions.

In general, conservancy districts and scenic corridors are intended to remain in their natural and undisturbed state. However, the removal of nonnative, invasive or noxious vegetation is encouraged, and no permit is required. Replanting or other restoration may occur when in

conformance with the conservancy district regulations as they are listed in Village Code and are also subject to CSCC review and approval. To view the Village Code that guides these actions, please visit longgroveil.gov and search ‘conservancy’.

The CSCC has a maximum of five members; all are appointed by the Village President for three-year staggered terms and must have been residents of Long Grove for at least one year prior to their appointment.

The CSCC meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall every first Wednesday of the month. A second ‘as needed’ meeting takes place on the 3rd Wednesday (exceptions are in January, February, November and December, when meetings are only held on the first Wednesday). For additional information, please visit longgroveil.gov/sustainability/page/conservancy.

The Village is in need of volunteers for the CSCC committee. Those who are interested should contact Village President Bill Jacob at Bill.Jacob@LongGroveIL.gov.

Spring is Around the Corner – Get Active with Park District Programs!

Spring is just days away – so get active again after a long winter by signing up for one of the Long Grove Park District’s spring youth or adult activities! A complete list can be found at lgparks.org by downloading a brochure.

More than a dozen different activities are available for toddlers, preschool and grade school children; programs are either after school or on Saturdays. A complete list of all the offerings can be found at lgparks.org. Seniors 55+ can experience Pickleball, a low impact sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping pong. This program is offered on Tuesday mornings. For adults of all ages, there’s Instant Tennis or Tennis Stroke Production, which are held various days and times.

Spring Programs start in March or April, and take place at Kildeer Countryside School, Country Meadow School, or at the Mundelein Community Center Gym. Activities that will be held at alternate locations are listed below:

- **Fencing:** Rolling Meadows Community Center
- **Horseback Riding:** Red Coat Riding Academy
- **Taekwondo:** Hawthorn Woods Village Hall Barn
- **Hockey and Figure Skating:** Twin Rinks Ice Pavilion
- **Tennis:** LifeSport Lincolnshire



For complete program descriptions, including dates, times, locations and pricing, visit lgparks.org. You can also contact the Long Grove Park District by calling 847-438-4743 or via email at syoung@lgparks.org.

The Long Grove Park District is a non-taxing public organization staffed by volunteers.



Egg Hunt!

The 4th annual Egg Hunt in Long Grove returns to Buffalo Creek Park on Saturday, April 4, 2020 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in celebration of the holiday and the spring season! Kids of all ages are invited, for free, to bring their own baskets starting at 10:30 a.m. and fend for themselves on a variety of challenge courses that correspond to different ages. With the Big Bunny presiding over the ceremonies, other activities (outside of egg hunting) include dancing and music by a DJ, a petting zoo, face painting, craft tables and tractor rides around the downtown. All children who participate in the Egg Hunt will receive goodie bags and a commemorative photo. More information is available at longgrove.org/festivals/egg-hunt/.

Craft Beer Fest

Craft Beer Fest is Saturday, April 25, 2020 from noon until 5:00 p.m. at the Stempel Parking Lot in downtown Long Grove. Situated in front of Lake County's destination brewery, Buffalo Creek Brewing, this festival symbolizes Long Grove's annual homage to its beer-loving, German immigrant history. Attendees get a one-of-a-kind, authentic tasting experience with some of Chicagoland's most talented beermakers, outside under the spring sun with our vintage Village as a backdrop. In addition to unlimited tastes of beer from up to 20 participating breweries, Craft Beer Fest also offers ticketholders live music and local food options. Full access (over 21) tickets and discounted designated driver tickets are available at longgrove.org/festivals/craft-beer-fest/.



Route 22 Widening Delayed Until 2022

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently informed the Village that plans to widen the section of Route 22 from Quentin Road to Route 83 this year (2020) have been tentatively pushed back to 2022. The Village has long supported the widening of this 2-lane section, but with several conditions, including limiting the width of the road within the existing right-of-way (ROW) to protect the adjacent 'Long Grove' woods the Village is named after. While the Village's limitations would reduce the impact on the woods,

there will be a significant number of trees that are within, or adjacent to, the ROW that would need to be removed for this project to happen. To offset this impact, the Village has already approved a contract with a landscape architect firm in anticipation of this project occurring. The agreement

includes enhancing landscaping plans along this corridor. When this project finally begins, enhanced landscaping will be based upon the replacement of the total caliper inches of trees removed, rather than IDOT's typical one-tree for one-tree replacement program.



Beautification Weekend Is April 25 – 26

Long Grove residents are encouraged to take part in the yearly *Neighborhood Cleanup* on Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26, 2020. During these two days, any trash 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 27. If you have questions, please call Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.

The annual Beautification Weekend in Long Grove follows Earth Day - which is on April 22 this year. Earth Day is a global event that is meant to raise awareness about preventing pollution and maintaining a clean habitat - while encouraging everyone to celebrate the preservation of our environment. Founded in 1970, Earth Day now includes events that are organized across the world in more than 190 countries.



RPC Project Update

Continued from page 1

so the bridge could be opened to visitors and shoppers.

On March 15, 2020 the bridge will, again, be temporarily closed for repairs with renovations extending into summer. All work is weather dependent. This project could experience delays if there are heavy rains, which have the potential to cause water levels in the creek to rise below the bridge. The contractor hired to make the repairs will be monitoring water levels during the bridge's closure.

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Below is additional information on the upcoming renovations:

Replacement of Deteriorating Limestone Abutments

The existing limestone abutments have become brittle and worn with age, and structurally compromised. New abutments will be poured concrete with forms that are specifically designed to look similar to the limestone abutments.

Repainting of Original (Historic) Iron Truss

The iron truss will be physically moved so it is not over the creek while it is being repainted. This relocation will protect the creek from potential environmental concerns and will cost less than painting in place over the creek.

Replacement of Wooden Cover

The new wooden cover is designed to look like the original 1970s cover that was removed due to damages caused by the box truck. It is designed to maintain the goals of the original wooden cover to: (1) cover and protect the iron truss from the weather and (2) provide a physical barrier for oversized/overweight trucks from driving over the bridge. The new cover will also have newly added structural steel to support and protect the bridge. Plans are currently being bid for this additional part of the project.

How to Fund the Improvements

Out of the estimated \$1.1 million in gross costs for all the projects listed, \$200,000 will come from the truck driver's insurance company who will reimburse the Village. Additionally, a \$250,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity will be utilized,

which is meant for historic preservation. This leaves roughly \$500,000 in costs that the Village must shoulder, after subtracting out fundraising by the Long Grove Historical Society that totaled approximately \$76,000.

The Village thanks everyone for their patience as we work toward a new future for the RPC Bridge.



Bike Path Improvements: RPC Road to Route 83/Sunset Grove

The Village received a 50/50 matching Bike Path Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) last fall for improvements to the Robert Parker Coffin Road (RPC) bike path that leads to Route 83 and the Sunset Grove Shopping Center. Improvements that are part of this project will include the installation of a new bike path, along with a push button activated pedestrian crossing at Route 83 and RPC Road. Additionally, there will be ADA compliant curb ramped crossings with detectable warnings, and markings on the pavement. The total estimated cost is \$211,496; the Village will split the cost with the IDNR with each spending \$105,748. This project is expected to begin later this spring, barring any unforeseen delays due to the weather or other variables.



From The Village President

Continued from page 2

ago. Some residents may already have received communications through the mail to complete the Census. I keep mentioning this to ensure all Long Grove residents are counted, because it's crucial for our Village to receive its fair share of State funding – since allocations are based on population. For example, the Motor Fuel Tax, Personal Property Replacement Tax and Local Government Distributed Fund allocations are all based on population and account for 25% of Long Grove's revenues annually from the State. Please be sure to participate and I thank you in advance!

Finally, I hope you enjoy the spring and I'm looking forward to everything coming alive in our Village after the winter hibernation.

Village President - *Bill Jacob*



Get Connected with Long Grove

The Village's new website provides a variety of ways to stay in touch with what's happening in Long Grove. This newsletter, *The Bridge*, is mailed to all Long Grove residences every other month. If you're not signed up yet to receive the semi-monthly **E-newsletter** – which is emailed out to subscribers the week after monthly board meetings. You can find the sign up at longgroveil.gov under the 'Looking For' tab. Archives of the Village's previous E- and print newsletters can also be found on the Village's website by searching 'newsletters'. Under the 'Looking For' tab you can also sign up for **Connect CTY**. This notification service is a communication tool that disseminates information by email to residents and businesses relating to public safety, health, welfare and other community concerns. For critical situations - texts and voicemail messages are utilized to dispense emergency information.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.

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Upcoming Meetings

Board Of Trustees

- March 10, 2020
- March 24, 2020
- April 14, 2020
- April 28, 2020

Economic Development Commission

- March 10, 2020
- March 24, 2020
- April 14, 2020
- April 28, 2020

Plan Commission And Zoning

Board Of Appeals

- March 3, 2020
- March 17, 2020
- April 7, 2020
- April 21, 2020

Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee (CSCC)

- March 4, 2020
- March 18, 2020
- April 1, 2020
- April 15, 2020

Architectural Commission (AC)

- March 16, 2020
- April 20, 2020

Spring Ahead for Daylight Saving Time

It will be time to spring forward for Daylight Saving Time (DST) on Sunday, March 8, which officially begins at 2:00 a.m. Clocks should be set forward one hour for DST. Residents should also remember to take this time to change batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors if they haven't been checked over the last year.

North Krueger Road Informational Open House

The Village is hosting an informational open house on improvements planned for North Krueger Road, which is scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 3110 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove. The Village will provide an update on the North Krueger Road project and will answer residents' questions. Construction is tentatively planned for 2021.

Village Contacts

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Website

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Office Hours

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