



# THE BRIDGE

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

## Downtown Long Grove for the Holidays

**D**owntown Long Grove provides a truly nostalgic backdrop over the holiday season - so be sure to take part in one of the many events and activities planned while supporting our local businesses! This special experience has only been enhanced by the Village's many improvements over the last two years, including newly paved roads, benches, streetlights and streetscapes that are now enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Recent improvement projects such as the repaving and increase in parking spots in the Stempel Parking Lot, and the installation of a multi-use bike and pedestrian pathway along Robert Parker Coffin Road between Old McHenry Road and Route 83 are additional examples of how the Village continues to ensure the downtown attracts visitors to keep our local businesses strong.

### 1st Annual Bridge Lighting Ceremony

The Village of Long Grove and the Long Grove Historical Society invite residents and local neighbors to the first annual Lighting of the Bridge Friday, November 19 from 5 - 7 p.m. In partnership with ComEd and Long Grove Confectionery Co. this kick off to the holidays will celebrate the community! Village President Bill Jacob will 'flip the switch' for the holiday lights at 6 p.m. Santa Claus, along with Dog Mayor Lincoln, will make an appearance thanks to the Long Grove Historical Society. The Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association will be hosting a

Continued on page 3



<i>Village President's Letter</i>	2
<i>Downtown Holidays Cont.</i>	3
<i>Value of Volunteering</i>	3
<i>Thanksgiving Turkey Trot</i>	4
<i>Garden Club turns 50</i>	5
<i>Consider Quitting Plastic</i>	6
<i>Toys for Tots</i>	6
<i>Keep Deliveries Safe</i>	7
<i>History Corner</i>	7
<i>Holiday Closure Dates</i>	8

# From the Village President



**Bill Jacob**  
[Bill.Jacob@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Bill.Jacob@LongGroveIL.gov)

The year is quickly coming to a close as we enter the holiday season. Thanksgiving kicks it all off and provides an opportunity to reflect on what we are thankful for.

I'm grateful for so much, starting with how fortunate my family and I are to live in and be a part of the Long Grove community. In no small part the contributions of all past and present elected and appointed officials have enabled Long Grove to maintain our rural setting; an oasis in the suburban sprawl that continues to grow around us.

I want to thank our Trustees, Commissioners and Village Staff for their tireless efforts, hard work and dedication in supporting and serving the residents of the Village. It's an important commitment that can be challenging at times but rewarding as well. We recently lost two people who made significant contributions to our great Village. Maria Rodriguez, who served as Village President from 2005-2013, as a Trustee from 1994-1997 and our Clerk from 1993-1994, passed away in late October. She was a strong but kind leader who always had the best interests of our Village at heart. Warren Schmidt is another individual who was devoted to Long Grove and recently passed away. He dedicated 42 years of his life to public service as a Village Trustee (1975-1979), a member of the Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals (1979-1993) and the Conservancy Scenic Corridor Committee (1993-2017), as well as a longtime member of the Long Grove Lions Club and a trustee for the Long Grove Fire Protection District. Both of these individuals will be greatly missed, but their contributions will live on.

I'm appreciative of the Historic Downtown Business Association and the vibrancy that business owners continue to bring to our downtown. Their creativity never ceases to amaze, and they have thrived through the pandemic. I'm grateful we have so many other businesses in our community beyond the downtown providing goods and services to us all. I'm thankful for the sales tax receipts that all our Long Grove businesses provide enabling our Village to operate without levying a real estate tax.

I want to thank the Long Grove and Countryside Fire Protection Districts and the Lake County Sheriff's Police for the exceptional service they provide in keeping us safe. I'm thankful for the talented teachers and staff that are educating our children in the school districts that serve Long Grove. I'm appreciative of the Long Grove Park District for their stewardship and programs that they run all with volunteers.

Continued on page 6

## Village Trustees



**Chris Borawski**  
[Chris.Borawski@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Chris.Borawski@LongGroveIL.gov)

**Anne Kritzmire**

[Anne.Kritzmire@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Anne.Kritzmire@LongGroveIL.gov)



**Rita O'Connor**

[Rita.Oconnor@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Rita.Oconnor@LongGroveIL.gov)

**Bobbie O'Reilly**

[Bobbie.Oreilly@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Bobbie.Oreilly@LongGroveIL.gov)



**Jennifer Michaud**

[Jennifer.Michaud@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Michaud@LongGroveIL.gov)

**Kent Tinucci**

[Kent.Tinucci@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Kent.Tinucci@LongGroveIL.gov)



## Village Clerk



**Michele Schmitke**

[Michlel.Schmitke@LongGroveIL.gov](mailto:Michlel.Schmitke@LongGroveIL.gov)

# Downtown Long Grove for the Holidays

Continued from front page

block party on Robert Parker Coffin Road (from the bridge to Old McHenry Road) from 5 - 7 p.m. to say thank you to the local community for their support. A *Bach To Rock* DJ will be featured, along with Long Grove Confectionery-Apple Haus-Coffee Co. donuts, hot cider and carriage rides for residents provided by Renee Clark Homes of @properties.

## Vintage Holiday Magic Returns to the Downtown!

The Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA) invites you to rediscover the magic of the holidays this season. The annual Vintage Holidays campaign is what the classic holiday small town experience is all about... quaint shops, old-world charms and family memories. Vintage Holidays 2021 will feature:

**Merchant Open Houses and Promos:** Merchants throughout historic downtown Long Grove will feature decorations, sales, and specials on merchandise, food, drinks, and more throughout the Vintage Holidays campaign. Beginning November 26 and running through December 19, anyone who spends \$150 before tax/tip at the downtown merchants will receive a free gift from the Long Grove Visitors Center (maximum of four gifts per person, receipts must date between November 26 and December 19, while supplies last).

**Holiday Caroling and Santa:** Visitors who stroll historic

downtown Long Grove during Vintage Holidays will not only enjoy the sights but the sounds of the holiday season, too, with festive holiday carolers setting the tone. Additionally, on select weekends November 20 through December 19, visits by Santa Claus himself will surely put holiday smiles on all kids at heart.



[Longgrove.org](http://Longgrove.org) is your comprehensive business resource to discover additional holiday activities and details as well as all of the merchants in historic downtown Long Grove. You'll find pages devoted to each business including a description of products or services, contact information, hours of operation, websites and social media links. [#LovinLongGrove](https://twitter.com/LovinLongGrove).

## Long Grove Volunteer Perspective

**I** have been a volunteer on the Long Grove Economic Development Commission (EDC) for the past three years. I find it inspiring to work with like minded people who are looking to support the mission of the EDC in exploring opportunities to promote, retain and support the growth of the Long Grove business community. It has been my experience that volunteering can be a rewarding way to share your expertise, get out in your community and put your skills - from computers, speaking and organizing - toward helping the community. It sharpens your abilities when you share your knowledge, but at the same time, benefits the community as a whole. For example, it was inspiring to see the local business community come together and rally in the last 18 months. As an EDC member, I felt we played a part in supporting this community through this challenging time by sponsoring COVID-19 resource webinars and assisting with accessing stimulus relief and PPP loan programs. In the end, if everyone contributes even in a small way to the

future development of our community - we are all lifted up. As Henry Ford once said "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

-Pam Brown - EDC

Residents who want to be more involved in local government and are willing to volunteer their time, talents and diverse perspectives are encouraged to become a member of a commission or committee or to simply sign up to be called upon when shorter or one-time only opportunities to volunteer come about. Please visit [longgroveil.gov/bc](http://longgroveil.gov/bc) where you can download, complete and submit the required volunteer profile form.

If you'd like to learn more about Village government and attend a meeting, details are available on the website at [longgroveil.gov/meetings](http://longgroveil.gov/meetings).

# Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot

The 14th annual Turkey Trot will take place on Thanksgiving morning (November 25) between 7 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. This event helps to raise money for the Northern Illinois Food Bank, the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association and the Lake County Sheriff Reserves. The event crew and Lake County Sheriff will be located along the course and at key intersections for traffic control during the socially distanced walk/run. Residents living along the route will be able to drive on roads that are not closed. Please see more information below about affected areas and suggestions for travel during the event.

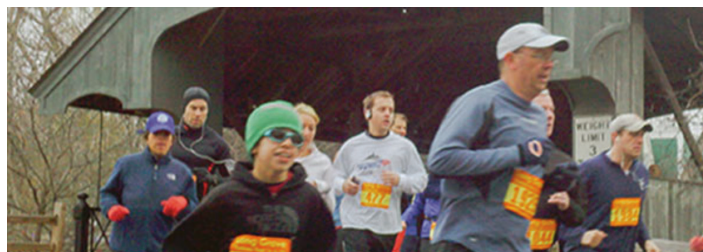
### Country Club Estates Residents:

- Country Club Estates neighborhood residents can enter and exit via Checker Road between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- Schaeffer Road (paved) will be closed northbound between Checker Road and Route 53 from 7 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The southbound lane will be open.
- Sumter Drive, Chickamauga Lane, Holy Court, Country Club Drive, Tanager Way: please drive with caution as runners will be on the side of the roads from 7 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

### Other Affected Roads:

- Robert Parker Coffin Road: Closed between Archer Road and Schaeffer Road from 6:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
- Old McHenry Road: Controlled intersection at Robert Parker Coffin Road intersection from 6:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Sheriff will allow cars to pass through runners.
- Schaeffer Road (gravel): Closed to through traffic between Robert Parker Coffin Road and Route 53 from 7 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Contact Race Director Peter Starkowicz, prior to/during the event with questions or concerns at [224-757-5425](tel:224-757-5425) or via email [info@allcommunityevents.com](mailto:info@allcommunityevents.com). Additional information can be found at [allcommunityevents.com](http://allcommunityevents.com).



# The Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club Celebrates 50 Years!

The Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club was formed in 1971 by Long Grove residents Betty Coffin, Barbara Turner and Beverly Bystricky. The initial club was small, five or six women, and they would meet in each other's homes.

Barbara's family donated their Long Grove cabin to the Long Grove Park District, and it became Reed-Turner Woodland Nature Center, and the new meeting location for the Garden Club. Decades later, the Club still holds its meetings there.

Back in the day, the Garden Club was about flowers and floral arrangements, but they would also make holiday favors for local nursing homes and hold fashion shows, along with formal teas and luncheons.

Betty, whose husband, Robert Parker Coffin, was the Village President of Long Grove, initiated a free daffodil program. Village Trustees approved it, and thus started Long Grove's long-standing tradition of supplying free daffodil bulbs to residents to plant along Village roadsides.

Over the years, the Long Grove-Kildeer Garden Club's membership has grown to more than 40 members from more than twelve different towns. Today's club is a casual, friendly group of men and women ranging from the novice to master gardeners. The club fosters goodwill and friendship among its members and guests. Presentations include such topics as: Native Shade Gardens, Soil Health of Your Garden, along with Pest and Disease Control. Field trips have included Cantigny Gardens, the Japanese Garden and Morton Arboretum. The group also holds social gatherings including a holiday party and a winter soupfest in a barn. An annual plant sale and a garden walk of beautiful private landscapes help to raise funds.

The Garden Club meets the second Monday of the month at the Reed-Turner Woodland Nature Center at 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove, unless there is a field trip scheduled. If you are interested in learning more about the club, please contact Paula VanSingel by phone at 847-478-0000 or email [Paulavanwatson1@gmail.com](mailto:Paulavanwatson1@gmail.com).





KEEP CALM AND RECYCLE

# SUSTAINABILITY CORNER

## Consider Quitting Plastic

Plastics are part of so many products that we use, and therefore a large part of our everyday lives. Experts say that while these items provide convenience, they are harming our environment - even before they end up in our homes. According to Consumer Reports, this is because plastics are made of fossil fuels, and their production emits greenhouse gases and dangerous chemicals into the air, land and water. Additionally, while recycling opportunities continue to grow, the substantial amount of plastics produced in our country cannot be recycled, and are ending up in our landfills. Once there, plastics can break down into microplastics and further contaminate our water, air and food. **So, how can you help?** You can take simple steps to reduce the demand for, and the amount of plastics used, from a truly grassroots level. See some tips below:

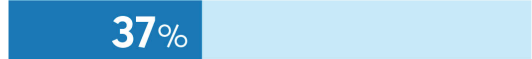
- Avoid buying drinks in plastic bottles and choose aluminum instead - which is more easily recycled.
- Switch to reusable water bottles and refill them instead of buying new.

While these steps may seem small or even inconsequential, experts say they can make a larger impact over time if everyone pitches in and does their part. For more tips on how to quit plastic, visit [consumerreports.org/environment-sustainability/how-to-quit-plastic/](http://consumerreports.org/environment-sustainability/how-to-quit-plastic/).



5,000,000,000,000

plastic bags are used worldwide every year. They can last more than 500 years.



The U.S. accounted for 37 percent of the world's food service disposables in 2010.



21-34 billion

plastic beverage bottles end up in the ocean each year.

- Bring your own reusable bags wherever you shop.
- Avoid purchasing fruits and vegetables packed in plastic wrapping of any kind.
- Stop using zipper food storage bags and use reusable containers instead.
- Stop using plastic bags for trash and for picking up after dogs. Use paper-based alternatives whenever possible.

## From The Village President

Continued from page 2

I also want to thank all those who volunteer for the many HOAs we have in our Village and the work that they do to maintain their subdivisions.

Finally, thank you for your support and trust that you have placed in the Village Board and me.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours and I hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

Village President - *Bill Jacob*

## Toys for Tots Dropoff



**B**righten the holidays for a child in-need and drop off new, unwrapped toys at Landmark Exteriors, 404 Robert Parker Coffin Road to benefit the Toys for Tots program. Toys can be dropped off now through December 17. Learn more at [toysfortots.org](http://toysfortots.org).

## Keep Deliveries Safe From Porch Thieves

While online shopping has its advantages, especially during a pandemic, there is a lingering worry about packages being stolen if you are not able to collect them right away. The holiday period presents additional challenges due to an anticipated uptick in online purchases. Fortunately, there are several ways you can help keep your packages safe this season:

- Install a doorbell video camera or a security camera for your porch.
- Add delivery instructions with the shipper to have packages delivered to a safe location other than your front porch, or have your packages delivered to your place of work.
- Ask a neighbor to pick up packages for you if you are not going to be at home.
- Use curbside pickup for purchases made from local stores or retailers.
- If you're shopping on Amazon, select one of their locker banks for deliveries. Lockers are easy to use and available at several locations in the area, including convenience stores, grocery stores and gas stations. Find a locker near you at this link: [amazon.com/findalocker](https://www.amazon.com/findalocker).
- For packages shipped by FedEx, you can request to have them delivered to a nearby Walgreens, where they can be held for you and you can schedule a convenient time for pickup. Learn more at [Walgreens.com](https://www.Walgreens.com) or [Fedex.com](https://www.Fedex.com).

## History Corner Long Grove Then and Now: Marathon Gas Station



The Marathon Gas Station at 209 Robert Parker Coffin Road was opened in 1958 as Mel's Standard by longtime resident Mel Towner, who built most of the building. Over the years there were a couple of additions, and the business became Mel's Amoco and ultimately Mel's Marathon, as it is today. Randy Towner, the older son of Mel and Dolores Towner, runs the business, which still sells self-serve gas, and also handles towing for the Lake County Sheriff's Department. Some interesting historical notes: Towner Green, at 132 N. Old McHenry Road, is still owned by the Towner family. The business that is set back from the road at the property, Corked Wine Bar, was at one time the Towner family home - and where Randy and his younger brother Wendell grew up. Mel and Dolores are buried in the Long Grove Cemetery.





## Upcoming Meetings

**Board of Trustees**  
November 9, 2021  
November 23, 2021  
December 14, 2021

**Economic Development  
Commission**  
November 4, 2021  
December 2, 2021

**Plan Commission and  
Zoning Board of Appeals**  
December 7, 2021

**Conservancy/Scenic Corridor  
Committee**  
December 1, 2021

**Architectural Commission**  
November 15, 2021  
December 20, 2021

Please visit  
**LongGrovelL.gov/meetings**  
for the most up-to-date meeting  
information.

The above meeting schedule is current  
as of the publish date of this newsletter.

## Village Hall Closures

**Thanksgiving Holiday**  
Thursday, November 25 and  
Friday, November 26, 2021

**Christmas Holiday**  
Thursday, December 23  
Friday, December 24, 2021

**New Year's Day**  
Friday, December 31, 2021

## Holiday Waste Pickup Schedule

**T**he holiday waste pickup schedule will be in effect for the Thanksgiving holiday. For residents who normally have pickup on Thursday, pickup will take place Friday, and Friday customers will have pickup on Saturday for this week. Due to both Christmas and New Year's Day falling on a Saturday, the waste collection schedule will not be affected. Additionally, Christmas trees can be left out for pickup during the normal collection day during the first two full weeks of January. Please note: Trees must be clean, with no bags, tinsel, lights or ornaments. For more information, please visit [wm.com](http://wm.com) or call 866-570-4702.

## Village Contacts

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

**Website**  
**LongGrovelL.gov**

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

**Village Staff Main**  
**847-634-9440**

**Village Manager**  
Gregory Jackson  
**GJackson@LongGrovelL.gov**

**Director of Operations**  
Denise Rosenquist  
**DRosenquist@LongGrovelL.gov**

**Building Commissioner**  
Margerita Romanello  
**MRomanello@LongGrovelL.gov**

**Management Analyst**  
Natalie Benner  
**NBenner@LongGrovelL.gov**

**Administrative Assistant**  
Sherry Shlagman  
**SSHlagman@LongGrovelL.gov**