November - December 2020 Issue 20





# THE BRIDGE

### **Proposed South Gateway TIF District Moves Forward**

he Village of Long Grove is continuing through the process that could lead to approval of the proposed South Gateway Tax Increment Financing District (TIF). The proposed TIF would be located on the east and west sides of Route 53 at the southern Village boundary, near Lake Cook Road. A TIF district in this area could be utilized as an economic development tool to redevelop and improve the approximately 60 acres of property, which include two structures and 18 parcels.

#### Joint Review Board and New Public Hearing Date

A Joint Review Board (JRB) meeting is required through a TIF district approval process and includes representatives from local taxing bodies. The JRB meets to provide recommendations to the Village Board prior to public hearings and final consideration on whether or not a TIF district is approved. The JRB for the proposed South Gateway TIF District initially met on October 9, 2020, but due to a notification error, a second JRB meeting has been scheduled for November 13, 2020, in order to follow all required steps for the proposed South Gateway TIF District.

The public hearing on the proposed TIF district has been rescheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2020 and will take place on Zoom. The public is encouraged to attend to learn more about the South Gateway TIF and to ask any questions.

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# From the Village President



Bill Jacob Bill.Jacob@LongGroveIL.gov

he holidays are now upon us as the year fast approaches a close. What a year 2020 has been, as we've experienced a global pandemic like never before in our lifetimes. It's surreal and I admit that when I wake up each morning I just want it to be over, but know that as every day passes we are getting closer to a vaccine - as well as the availability of medications that will lesson the severity of the virus.

It hasn't always been easy, but I have done my best to remain positive despite having every 15 minutes of my day scheduled with the video conference tool of your choice replacing in person meetings! However, I am thankful that I'm in such a position, as many others have not been so fortunate. That is why as we approach Thanksgiving, I would like to give thanks to so many.

Thank you to the frontline healthcare, police, fire and other workers that risk their lives every day to protect us all. Thank you to our Village officials, staff and commissioners that have been steadfast in serving the residents of Long Grove. Thank you to our teachers who have remained focused on educating our children, and their parents that for many have had to find a new balance of working and unplanned home schooling.

I also want to thank Dave Lothspeich for his contributions to Long Grove over the past 18 years as our Village Manager. Dave recently accepted a position of increased responsibility for the City of Monroe, Wisconsin. The Board and I appointed Interim Village Manager Bill Balling, while we search for a permanent replacement.

I want to thank all the Boy Scouts who have done countless community service projects over the years, and most recently Kendrick Boardman who replaced the Long Grove Village Hall sign.

Thank you to all the business owners in Long Grove and their employees who have tirelessly worked though the pandemic. Many are stronger than ever as they have reinvented themselves in order to survive.

Thank you to our Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association who was more creative then ever to attract customers to the downtown without having the benefit of the annual festivals. Just a couple of their successes were the movie night and Long Grove Live.

### Village Trustees



Chris Borawski Chris.Borawski@LongGroveIL.gov

Anne Kritzmire Anne.Kritzmire@LongGroveIL.gov





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Bobbie O'Reilly Bobbie.Oreilly@LongGroveIL.gov

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### Village Clerk



Amy Johns Gayton Amy.Gayton@LongGroveIL.gov

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### Village Board Approves Interim Village Manager

illage Manager David Lothspeich resigned his position with the Village on October 23, 2020. Due to this opening, the Village Board approved an interim Village Manager, William



Balling, to take over the daily responsibilities of running the Village. Prior to founding a management consulting firm that provides interim services for local government, Balling served as Buffalo Grove's village manager for 29 years. All Village services provided to the community will remain the same, as the Village Board seeks to hire a permanent replacement for the Village Manager position. If you have questions, please call Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.

### MAT Holdings: A Growing Long Grove Company

AT Holdings is a Long Grove-based business, and an industry leader in manufacturing and logistics with close to \$2B in sales. Located off Gilmer Road at the northern end of the Village, the company's headquarters is situated in a serene setting that understates the business' size and global scope. MAT Holdings is a private, family-owned company which was founded in 1984 and employs roughly 15,000 people operating in 40 factories across the U.S., Europe, and Asia. It manufactures and distributes a range of products that serve the Automotive and Consumer sectors. The Automotive segment produces components for braking and suspension systems,

while the Consumer segment provides diversified products for fencing, lawn and garden accessories, air compressors and outdoor power equipment. Many of their brands can be found at major retailers and home improvement centers. For more information, visit their website at <u>matholdingsinc.com</u>.



# **Protecting the Covered Bridge**

ince its renovation and reopening this August, the covered bridge has been damaged several times by over-sized vehicles, and Village officials are now reviewing ways to help protect and preserve the historical landmark. Options being considered to prevent future incidents, include improving the signage on both sides of the bridge. Another would be to restrict Robert Parker Coffin (RPC) Road to local traffic only, so that mapping systems would direct drivers to use Old McHenry Road, instead of using RPC as a cutthrough to Route 83 or Route 53. Other options include adding rumble strips on the road, changing the contours of the bridge's openings, adding steel supports to its underside to protect the wood siding, and installing video surveillance cameras. The Village will be evaluating all of these options and updates will be provided in future communications.



# COVID-19 Mitigations and Restrictions Announced by Governor

ew COVID-19 mitigations were announced by Governor J.B. Pritzker that went into effect for Lake and McHenry counties on Saturday, October 31, 2020. Among the restrictions are that bars and restaurants should no longer offer indoor dining, that all outdoor bar and food service must stop at 11 p.m. and meetings or social gatherings must be limited to the lesser of 25% room capacity, or 25 people. These new guidelines do not apply to schools. Please visit Illinois.gov for more detailed information from the Governor's office.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

# **Keep Deliveries Safe From Porch Thieves!**



hile 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.

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 area establishments, including Sunset Foods in Long Grove, convenience or grocery stores, and gas stations. Locker locations near you can be found at this link: <u>amazon.com/findalocker</u>.
- 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 orderpickup.walgreens.com.

### **Drive-Up Santa Comes to Reed-Turner Nature Center**

ong Grove Park District's annual Santa Visit at Reed-Turner Nature Center, 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove, will look a little different this season. To keep families safe, this year's event will be a "Drive-Up Santa". Families can arrive in their cars at the Reed-Turner parking lot and drive in single-file along the loop to a designated spot to see Santa. Children will remain in their cars and be able to tell Santa their wish lists at a safe social distance through their opened car windows. Santa will have a pre-packaged craft project to give to each child. Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 13 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for Santa's visit to Reed-Turner Nature Center! Santa's visit is being provided for free to all residents by the Long Grove Park District, and no registration is needed. For more information, call the Long Grove

Park District at **847-438-4743**, visit **lgparks.org** or email **syoung@lgparks.org**. The Long Grove Park District is a non-taxing public organization staffed by volunteers.

### **Candidate Petitions for 2021 Election**

total of six seats on the Long Grove Village Board will be on the ballot in the Municipal Election on April 6, 2021. These elected positions include Village President, Village Clerk, and three Village Trustee seats, each to serve four-year terms. An additional Trustee seat will be open which will fulfill a two-year term. To run for office or to sign a petition for a candidate running for office, you must be a registered voter in Long Grove

For more information about running for office, visit the **Illinois State Board of Elections website** and click on the 'Running for Office' tab to view or download the **2021 Illinois Candidates Guide**. To request petitions, please contact Sherry Shlagman at **847-634-9440** or email village clerk, Amy Gayton at **Amy.Gayton@LongGroveIL.gov**. Petition filings will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020, at Village Hall, 3110 Old McHenry Road.

### North Krueger Road Project Planned

The Village hosted a socially distanced public meeting outdoors on October 12, 2020, to provide an overview of the construction project on North Krueger Road from Route 22 to Gilmer Road. The Village is receiving federal funding to cover the costs of a portion of the improvements. Work is anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2021. The project will include a structural resurfacing in the southern portion as well as reconstruction, with widening in the northern portion. Work in the southern portion will avoid impacts to trees. For more information on the project, please call Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.



### **Students Improve Reed-Turner Trails Signage**

eed-Turner Woodland has been busier than ever the past several months through the pandemic. The preserve has some enhancements that will make it even more attractive to visitors, thanks to Ball State University student Will Snyder and Stevenson High School sophomore Alastair Tutty. Through their proposals to the

Long Grove Park District, the two young men collaborated on projects that resulted in new user-friendly trail maps, guides and signs for the nature preserve.

Snyder came up with the idea to redesign the trail map to apply



his skills learned from typography and graphic design courses. His proposal included using illustrative icons for the preserve's ecosystems, trailheads, structures, and bridges to make it more user-friendly. Tutty approached the Park

District with an idea for his Eagle Scout service project to create color-coded directional signs at the preserve's trail heads and intersections. The Park District asked him to design natureinspired signs that would link to Snyder's trail map and trail guides. The signs, 27 in total,



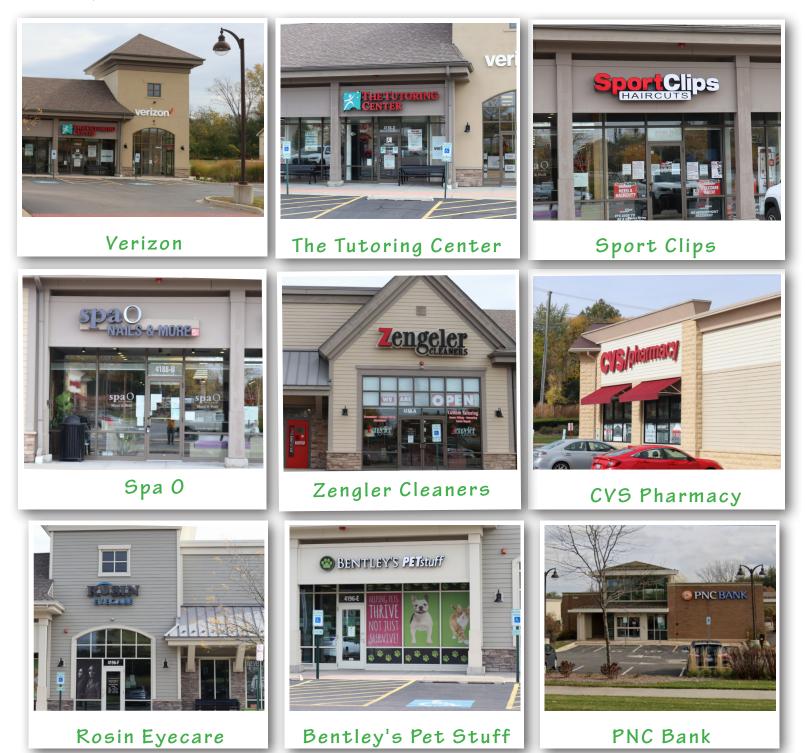
have been installed throughout the preserve, and are made of sealed cedar that will weather well and blend with the natural surroundings. The Park District thanks Snyder and Tutty for their hard work and dedication on these projects that have been a valued contribution to the community.

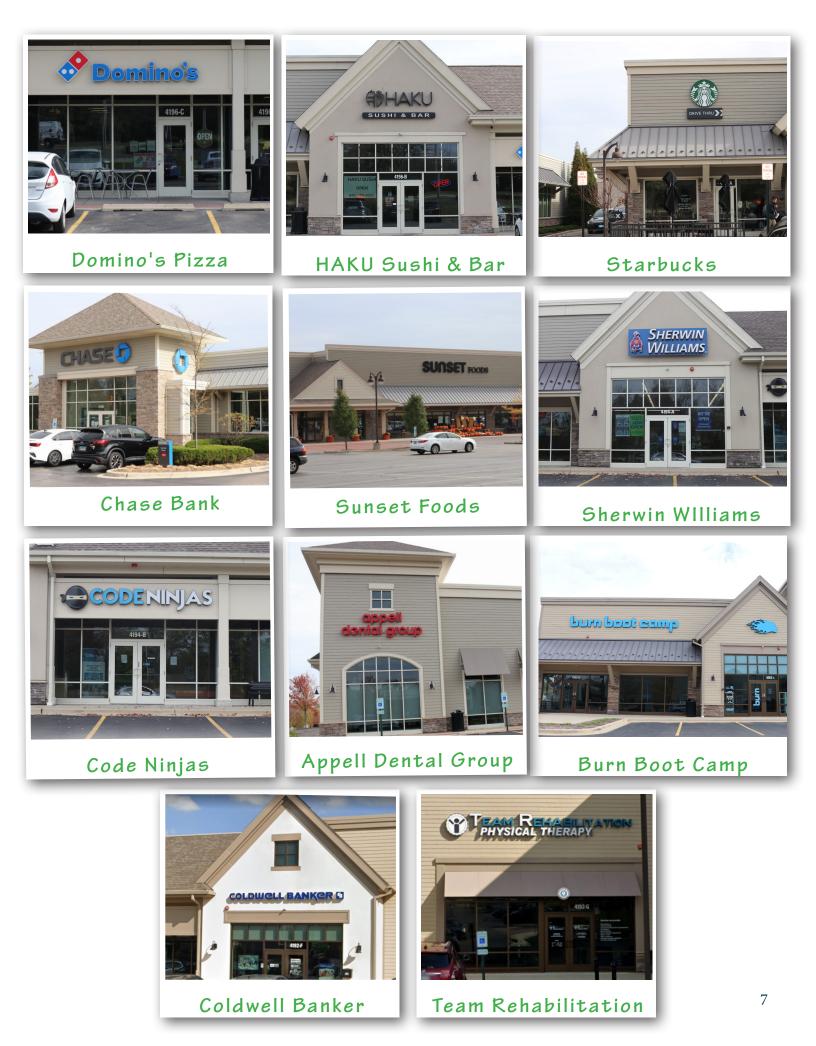
Visit the Long Grove Park District website to learn more about the history of the Reed-Turner Woodland Preserve at lgparks.org/visit-reed-turner-woodlands.

# The Businesses of Sunset Grove

In the second state of the Village's commercial district. This center currently has 19 businesses that cater to a multitude of needs. Verizon, The Tutoring Center, Sport Clips, Spa O, Zengler Cleaners, CVS, Rosin Eyecare, Bentley's Pet Stuff, Chase Bank, Starbucks, Appell Dental Group, Coldwell Banker, Team Rehabilitation, Domino's Pizza, HAKU Sushi & Bar, Sunset Foods, Sherwin Williams, Code Ninjas, and Burn Boot Camp are all located in this plaza. Additionally PNC Bank is located adjacent and to the south of Sunset Grove.

Please consider supporting these businesses, and the entire Long Grove business community to strengthen our local economy!





#### Village of Long Grove NEWSLETTER

# Vintage Holiday Magic Returns!

H istoric downtown Long Grove invites you to take a break from online or big box buying this year and rediscover the magic of the holiday season! Organized by the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA), Vintage Holidays 2020 features merchant open houses, holiday music, horse-drawn sleigh rides and more!

The HDLGBA is following all state and local safety guidelines for the Vintage Holiday events, including social distancing, mask-wearing requirements, and the use of hand sanitization stations. Vintage Holidays 2020 kicks off Thursday, November 12 and runs up until the weekend before Christmas (December 19-20). More details will be posted to **longgrove.org** as they become available.

#### Highlights include:

**Merchant Open Houses:** Shops throughout historic downtown Long Grove will feature decorations, sales, and specials on merchandise, food, drinks and more.

**Holiday Music on Weekends:** Visitors who stroll through historic downtown Long Grove will enjoy festive holiday music setting the mood throughout the season.

**Horse-Drawn Sleigh Rides:** Starting Saturday, November 21 and continuing every weekend through December 19 - 20, groups of up to ten (family & friends only) can enjoy a complimentary vintage carriage ride throughout historic downtown. To ensure that participants feel safe and comfortable, the sleigh will be cleaned after every ride, and every rider is required to wear a face cover – which will be provided free to those who do not have one.

**Holiday Selfie-Station:** New this year, historic downtown Long Grove will have a holiday-decorated location to take photos and share the Vintage Holiday experience! Create instant fun as you gather for a photo around the front porch of the Old General Store across from the Visitor's Center at Old McHenry Road and Robert Parker Coffin Road.



X Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and fluctuating rules relating to businesses and activities, some of the events above could be rescheduled or canceled. Please visit **LongGrove.org** for updates.

### **From The Village President**

I'm thankful we were able to complete the renovations and reopen the RPC Bridge. I'll be even more thankful if we can prevent trucks from crashing into it!

I'm thankful that we've been able to repave 63% of our Village-owned roads over the past six years without levying a property tax.

Finally, thank you for trusting myself and the Village Board to make decisions on your behalf, as we work diligently

to preserve Long Grove for generations to come. I wish you and yours a happy and safe Thanksgiving and holiday season.

Village President - Bill Jacob

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# Purchase 2021 Vehicle Stickers

he 2021 Long Grove vehicle stickers will be available for purchase online at the end of December, and can also be purchased by mailing a check to Village Hall, 3110 Old McHenry Road, Long Grove, Illinois 60047. Each sticker is \$10. Residents who wish to pay online can use a credit card or E-check by filling out the form on the Village's website. The form can also be downloaded as a PDF. Residents will receive an email confirmation of their online payment and are asked to forward a copy of their payment confirmation to Sherry Shlagman at sshlagman@longgroveil.gov. The sticker decal will be mailed to the address provided on the submission form. Residents



are reminded that vehicle stickers are not mandatory, but revenue that is generated helps to provide funding for Village services that are available to residents and businesses. For more information, call Village Hall at **847-634-9440**.

# **Eagle Scout Project Enhances Village Hall**

endrick Boardman, a senior at Stevenson High School and aspiring Eagle Scout in Troop 140, designed his Eagle service project to be a lasting benefit to his hometown of Long Grove. His love of building things combined with skills he learned in a computer-integrated manufacturing class led him to the idea to create a large sign to replace an older one at Village Hall, along with installing three bluebird houses near Village Hall. The new pieces were constructed and installed in September 2020 with the assistance of a crew of volunteers. Kendrick's biggest challenge in completing the project was the timeframe, because it overlapped with the onset of COVID-19. The project originally started in February of this year, but he needed to wait until the high school reopened to utilize the computer-controlled machine to program and carve the sign lettering. He also needed to recruit volunteers to paint, assemble and install while maintaining social distancing. Kendrick expects to earn his Eagle Scout rank this month and has plans to attend college next year to study aerospace engineering.



Kendrick Boardman of Boy Scout Troop 140 recently constructed and installed a new sign for Village Hall and three bluebird houses with the help of volunteers.

### **Village of Long Grove Holiday Calendar**

Village Hall will be closed on the following days in observance of the upcoming Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays:

Thanksgiving: Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27, 2020 Christmas: Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25, 2020 New Year's: Thursday, December 31, 2020 and Friday, January 1, 2021

# South Gateway TIF

The Village Board will be considering approval of the TIF district at its December 29, 2020 meeting, which is also planned on Zoom. Links to participate in all Village Zoom meetings can be found at longgroveil.gov/meetings.

The proposed TIF District is included in the Village's Comprehensive Plan, which outlines redevelopment areas and aims at balancing new development with ongoing efforts to preserve the Village's rural character. Additional information on the proposed South Gateway TIF District and how to join the public hearing is available under the 'Business' tab on the Village of Long Grove website at longgroveil.gov.

### **Long Grove Turkey Trot Road Closures**

he Annual Long Grove Turkey Trot will take place the morning of Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26, 2020. This year's event will be a socially distanced 5K run/walk that starts and finishes in downtown Long Grove. Residents will be permitted to drive along the route on roads that are not closed. Event workers and Lake County Sheriff's police will be located along the course, and at key intersections for traffic control.

This event raises funds for Northern Illinois Food Bank, the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA), and the Lake County Sheriff Reserves. If you are interested in participating or cheering on the participants as they pass your home, please visit allcommunityevents.com for more information. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact info@allcommunityevents.com or call 224-757-5425.

Please view the following roads that will be affected, including closure or traffic-controlled times:

Robert Parker Coffin Road - Closed between Archer Road and Schaeffer Road (6:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)



Old McHenry Road - Controlled intersection at Robert Parker Coffin Road (6:45 a.m. - 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 (7 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)

Schaeffer Road (paved) - Closed northbound between Checker Road and Route 53 (7 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.) Southbound lanes will be open.

Sumter Dr and Chickamauga Lane - Drive with caution as runners will be on the side of roads (7 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)





Map is not to scale or true proportions and locations are approximate. Kids event will start and finish at the bridge.

Course subject to change w/out notice





Turkey Trot photos from 2019 and course map courtesy of allcommunityevents.com

#### Village of Long Grove NEWSLETTER



### **Upcoming Meetings**

**Board Of Trustees** 

November 10, 2020 November 24, 2020 December 8, 2020

#### **Economic Development Commission**

November 10, 2020 November 24, 2020 December 8, 2020

Plan Commission And Zoning Board Of Appeals November 17, 2020 December 1, 2020 December 15, 2020

Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee (CSCC) December 2, 2020

Architectural Commission (AC) November 16, 2020 December 21, 2020

Due to the pandemic, in-person meetings have been suspended until further notice. Some meetings are being held virtually.

Please visit **LongGroveIL.gov/meetings** for the most up-to-date meeting information and to learn how to participate virtually.

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

### Stay Informed: COVID-19 Updates

s we all know, news and information related to the pandemic can change and evolve quickly as new data become available. The Village will continue to provide updates in the semi-month Enewsletters - you can sign up at longgroveil.gov/enewssignup - as well as in this bi-monthly publication of The Bridge. Residents are encouraged to visit the Illinois Department of Public Health website at **dph.illinois**. gov/COVID19, as well as the Lake Count Health Department website at lakecountyil.gov/4377/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19 where you can sign up for email updates to receive the latest news and information.



### Village Contacts

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Administrative Assistant Sherry Shlagman SShlagman@LongGrovelL.gov