



THE BRIDGE

Brothers' Field Adds to Downtown Attractions

The owners of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in downtown Long Grove, Aaron and Jesse DeSoto, who also happen to be brothers, have been hard at work developing yet another attraction in the downtown called *Brothers' Field* at 344 Old McHenry Road. This open space is just north of the dance studio and across from Chatterbox. While their blueprints to further contribute to the Village's many unique offerings were markedly different more than a year ago (before the onset of the pandemic), their pivot in creating this new outdoor recreation space fits well into our new world.

In the fall of 2019, the DeSotos knocked down the building that housed Red Oaks Furniture for more than 70 years. The two own that property, along with two barns and a historic home that still stands today, in addition to the dance studio building. The intention of the knockdown was to construct a large banquet facility in its place. When it became clear in the spring of 2020 that indoor gatherings could be several months away at a minimum, the brothers switched gears and formulated an exciting new plan for the green space they were growing fonder of seeing each day.

"We started to realize this open area could also serve the purpose of being a community gathering place, while fitting in with Long Grove's identity – which is built in part by open, natural settings," Jesse DeSoto said. "Brothers' Field serves as a solid continuation of our first business here in Long Grove (Fred Astaire), which is all about hospitality and growing relationships in the greater community."

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From the Village President



Bill Jacob
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I hope that you are enjoying the longer days and milder temperatures now that spring has arrived. This time of the year is always beautiful in Long Grove.

Spring is also when the annual road construction season begins. We have a major project this year with the reconstruction of N. Krueger Road. The State also recently shared preliminary plans for the Route 22 widening project with the Village, but it remains unclear when the project will be ready to enter the construction phase. A few years back, Long Grove aligned with Lake County's Consensus Plan in support of five major State highway improvement projects in Lake County, three of which are in and around Long Grove. They are as follows: Route 22 from Quentin to Route 83 which I just mentioned, Route 60/83 from Route 176 to the Canadian National Railway (CNR) tracks, including an overpass, and Route 45 from Route 60 to Route 22. I hope that we can make progress on moving these projects along this year, but just not all at once.

I want to take a moment to congratulate Rita O'Connor, Anne Kritzmire and Bobbie O'Reilly for being re-elected to the board, as well as Jenny Michaud for being elected after her appointment in November of 2019. I also want to thank you for selecting me to serve a second term as Village President.

A bipartisan bill was recently introduced by State Representatives Dan Didech and Chris Bos that if passed would create a task force to study alternative uses for the Route 53 expansion land. The task force would include the mayors (or their designee) of Long Grove, Hawthorn Woods, Mundelein, and Grayslake, as our communities would be most impacted by decisions regarding the use of land in the former Route 53 Corridor. The joint house resolution as written, would first address the cost, feasibility, and environmental impact of alternative uses of the expansion land, including any potential impact on flooding in the area. Second, any short and/or long-term economic impacts to the region, and third, all options for funding alternative uses.

I have some thoughts on what I would like to see done with the property that the State has acquired but would like to hear from you. In my opinion, protecting the environmentally sensitive areas including wetlands and groves (our namesake) of trees, should be a top priority, especially in Long Grove. However, the repurposing of the former corridor also provides us with an opportunity to connect the pathways in our community and beyond via bike and walking trails. Finally, I believe some of the property

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Village Enhances Communications

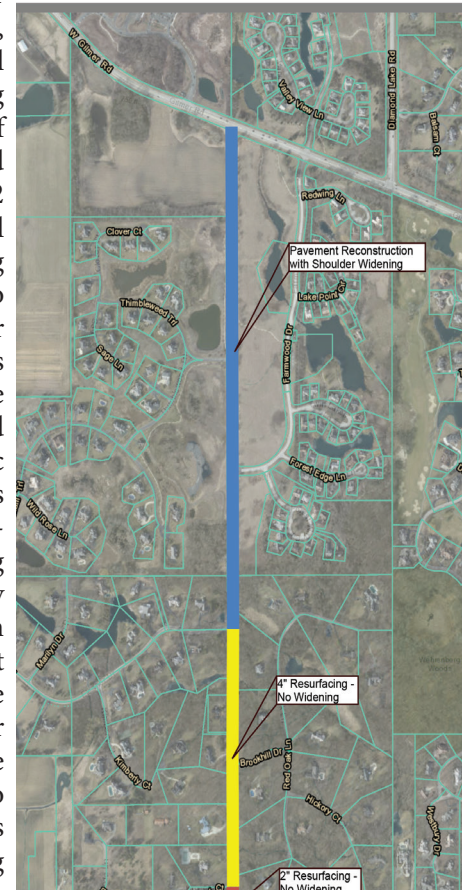
As part of ongoing efforts to enhance and strengthen communications and information sharing with residents and stakeholders, the Village Board recently approved the creation of two Village of Long Grove social media pages. These two new communication channels will be on Facebook and Nextdoor and complement others that have been utilized over the last several years, including this bi-monthly print newsletter, *The Bridge*, which is delivered to all Village residences six times per year. Other timelier information from the Village has been shared through the semi-monthly Enews, which is sent out via email through Constant Contact to subscribers on Thursday mornings. Connect CTY is an emergency notification tool that communicates more urgent messages to subscribers' landline phones, cell phones or email. If you have not already signed up to receive the Enews and/or notifications from Connect CTY, you can do so at longgroveil.gov/ewnessignup.

Both social media pages will be launching soon and will share public information and timely news, upcoming events, as well as updates from the Village Board, commissions, and committees. Please look for updates on when these pages will go live by subscribing to the Village's Enews or visit the Village website at longgroveil.gov.

For any questions about the Village's new social media pages, or about overall communication, please call the Village at 847-634-9440.

N. Kreuger Road Project Starting Soon

The N. Kreuger Road project, which will include the repaving and widening of portions of the road between Route 22 and Gilmer Road, will begin late this spring and is expected to last for three to four months. Due to this project, there will be detours in place and subsequent traffic delays. The Village is hosting a public pre-construction meeting on Wednesday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot at Woodlawn Middle School, 6362 Gilmer Road, to provide information to residents about this project. This meeting will have an open house format where members of the public can view project plans and ask questions. For more information, call Village Hall at 847-634-9440.



Philip Estates Subdivision



The Village Board has been reviewing the next steps for approval of the Philip Estates preliminary planned unit development (PUD), which includes 34 acres of undeveloped land on East Cuba Road. Philip Estates, LLC is requesting reclassification of the property from an R-1 PUD District to an R-2 PUD District, which would allow for a 15% increase in density. The development area would consist of 19 single-family lots with a public sewer and a private water main system. The planned development was designed to preserve and enhance environmentally sensitive spaces. A proposed pathway system would link the development's scenic corridor and conservancy easements, and provide future opportunities to connect with nearby Lake County Forest Preserve properties. For any questions, please contact the Village at 847-634-9440.

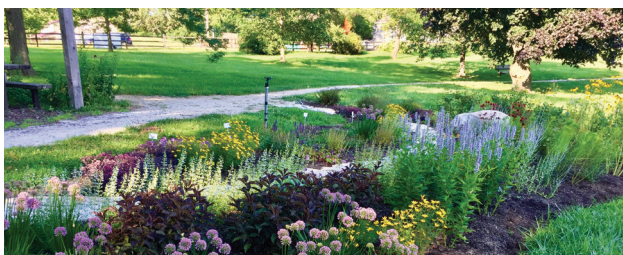
Park District Properties

The beautification of Buffalo Creek Park in the downtown - bordered by Robert Parker Coffin Road and Old McHenry Road - continued throughout the winter and was managed by volunteers with the Long Grove Park District. These individuals removed invasive plants, shrubs and trees in the park's sedge meadow, walnut grove and eastern border. Buckthorn and honeysuckle brush were also cut and burned on-site. Mulberry and other non-native trees were removed, along with overpopulated trees smaller than 4" in diameter. A prescribed burn of the park's walnut grove and sedge meadow is also planned for later this spring. Following these projects, the renovated areas will be overseeded with native plant mixes.



A large but more obscure Park District property is called Longview Meadow on the southeast corner of Routes 22 and 83. This 57-acre wildlife habitat is a significant migrating bird site. In early spring, the accessible upland areas that contain buckthorn and other invading shrubs were mowed. Additional ecological maintenance is planned, including edging into the wetlands, as well as revisiting the area over the summer to control invasive species such as teasel, thistle, purple loosestrife, phragmites and isolated cattails.

The Park District's year-round stewardship of these properties helps to preserve wildlife habitats and maintains the health and beauty of the Village's abundant open spaces for residents to enjoy. The Long Grove Park District is a non-taxing public organization staffed by volunteers. Visit lgparks.org.



Why Do I Need a Permit?

Building codes exist and are required for a variety of home improvement projects to protect its inhabitants, as well as the property from unsafe or hazardous conditions. A building permit gives you and your community general assurances that specific minimum construction standards are met. These standards are based on well-established safety, health and environmental considerations intended to protect the integrity of buildings, the safety of the people who live in them and the general welfare of the public. A building permit is required regardless of whether work in your home is done by you, or a contractor.

Below are some examples of what permits and property inspections can do for you:

Hot water tanks and furnace replacements are common projects. Approximately one out of ten inspections fail due to gas leaks found on the supply line to the tank. Inspectors also often find that there is improper exhausting of the unit, which creates the real possibility of a carbon monoxide buildup. Both tanks and furnaces should be inspected to verify they are installed and working properly.



Stairs are another project that have specific guidelines in the Village code on how they should be constructed. Stairs can be too high or even too short relative to acceptable standards. Inspectors can carefully confirm their size and construction are within acceptable guidelines, along with handrails and guardrails.

Anti-scald shower valves are required on new showers or replacement shower valves, which protect the user from getting burned by hot water. When adjusted properly, the valve regulates water temperature so that it cannot exceed 115 degrees. All other fixtures in the home should deliver water with a temperature of more than 120 degrees for proper sanitation. Water temperatures are also checked as part of the inspection.

Roughly 15 – 20% of projects fail inspections. Obtaining a permit and receiving the required inspections help to ensure you are getting what you're paying for and that your home is safe and meets minimum code requirements.

For more information on permits and what home improvement projects require them, please visit longgroveil.gov/building.

Take Steps to Protect Yourself from Ticks

Ticks are prevalent across Illinois and can be found in a variety of habitats, including forest floors, grassy prairies, gardens, and in overgrown weeds. Ticks are forms of arachnids that range in size from the tiny deer tick to the larger American dog tick. Not all tick bites are harmful, but several species can transmit diseases and are primary carriers of Lyme Disease. In 2018, more than 47,743 cases of tickborne disease were reported across the U.S.



There are currently no vaccines to prevent tickborne diseases, so avoiding tick bites is the best way to protect yourself and your family. When you are out enjoying nature, tuck shirts into pants, tuck pant legs into tall socks or boots, and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing and exposed skin. Also, remember to do regular tick checks and remove any ticks with tweezers and not a lighted match as some resources suggest. Dogs are very susceptible to tick bites and should be treated regularly with tick-prevention products. For more helpful tick prevention and treatment tips, check the CDC website at [cdc.gov/ticks/pdfs/FS_TickBite.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/pdfs/FS_TickBite.pdf).



Ruse Burglaries Are on the Rise

The Lake County Sheriff has reported that there has been an increase in ruse burglaries and scams, which are crimes often committed by offenders working in pairs and using different methods to distract residents while an accomplice enters the home to steal cash, jewelry and other valuables. Criminals often target elderly residents and claim to be a utility worker, village employee or contractor offering to help with home repairs or other maintenance. Additional scams include urgent phone calls or emails from people who claim to be relatives that demand money.

Residents should remain vigilant against these types of scams and be wary of offers that sound too good to be true. The list below provides safety tips to help keep you and your family safe:

- Only allow workers into your home who have a scheduled appointment.
- If a solicitor comes to your door, take note of attire and any vehicles present.
- If you choose to speak to a solicitor, never leave your door unlocked or unattended.
- Check the individual's ID or business card and call to verify if the individual was sent to your residence.

Share these tips with family, friends, and neighbors, and be aware of your surroundings. Please report any suspicious vehicles in your neighborhood to the Lake County Sheriff's Office at **847-549-5200**, or call **911** if you witness an incident that is in progress.

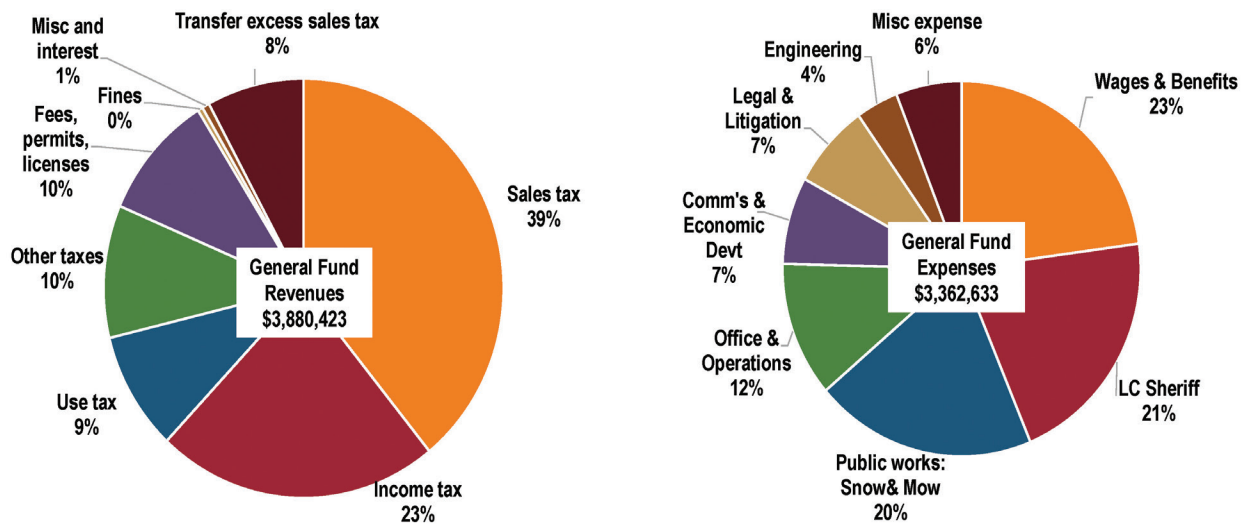


Village Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budgets Summary

The Village's 2021-22 fiscal budget process concluded on April 27 with the adoption of a balanced plan that outlines the projected operating and capital revenues and expenses for the upcoming fiscal year, which runs May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022. The budget team led a preliminary review of the draft budgets at the March 9, 2021 Board meeting and public hearing dates took place on March 23, April 13 and April 27.

The budget plan meets the Village's core service needs and supports its operational and infrastructure goals, while providing enhanced transparency and additional communication channels to reach residents and other stakeholders. Despite several financial impacts that arose due to the pandemic, the Village accomplished its budgetary goals through prudent revenue projections, including alternative funding sources and through the careful planning of expenditures.

Village Finances: FY '21-22 Proposed Draft budgets as of 13 April 2021



Projected Funding

The Village's budget plan reflects its overall fiscal health. The General Fund reserve was increased to 96% of the operating budget. The Village aspires to maintain a reserve equal to 100% of its operating expenses to safeguard core Village services during a financial crisis such as the pandemic.

Projected General Fund revenues are \$3,880,423 and expenditures are \$3,362,633, resulting in a surplus of \$517,790.

Projected Capital Fund revenues are \$2,322,154 and expenditures are \$2,051,606, resulting in a surplus of \$270,548.

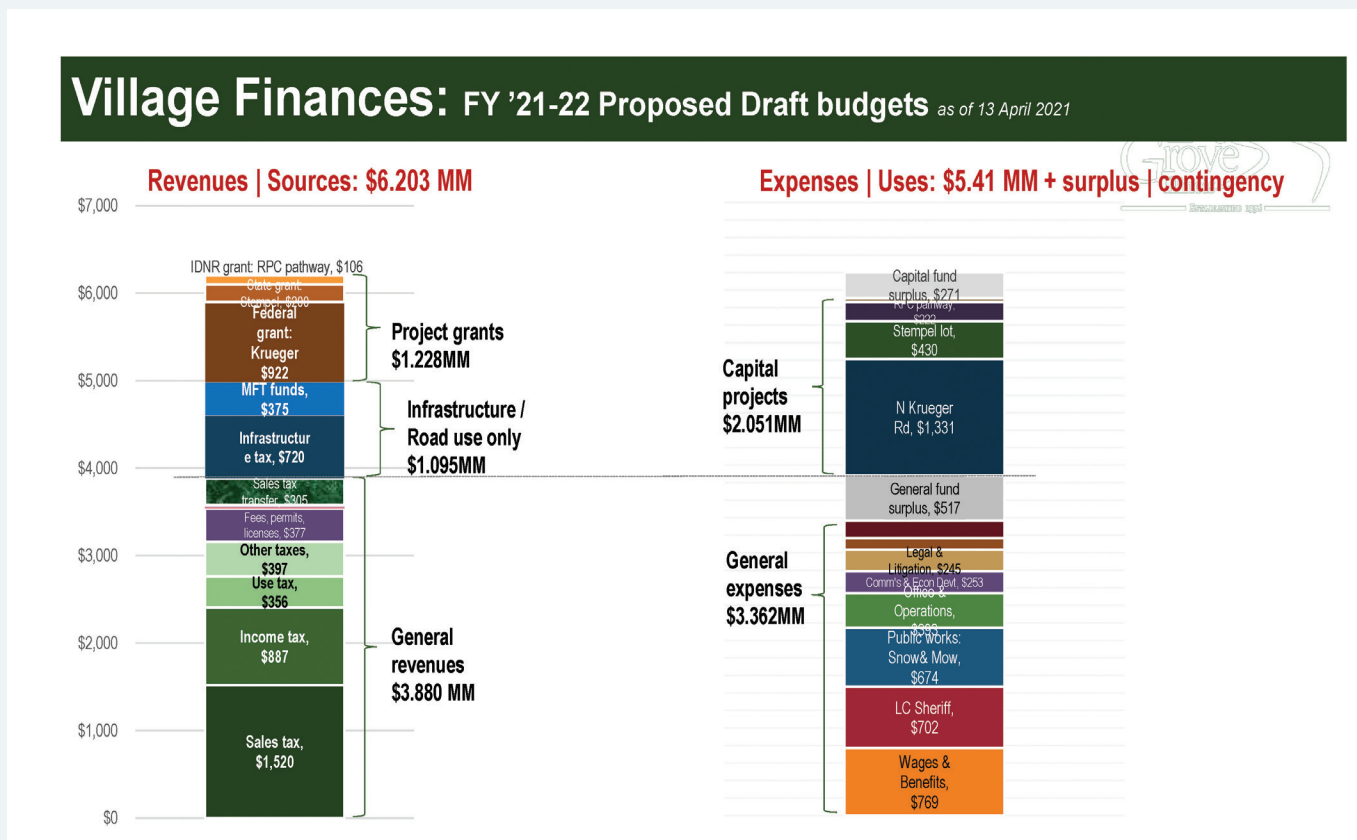
Capital Projects Planned for 2021

The Village allocated funding in support of several capital projects that are anticipated to begin in 2021:

N. Krueger Road between Route 22 and Gilmer Road will be improved and resurfaced in sections. Minor resurfacing will be completed from Route 22 to Krueger Court. Between Krueger Court to Eleanor Court, the road will undergo structural resurfacing, and from Eleanor Court to Gilmer Road the road will be reconstructed and widened to add shoulders. Six bids were received in early March for the reconstruction portion, with the lowest bid from Peter Baker & Son Co. in the amount of \$1.05 million. The cost to the Village is estimated to be \$375,000, with \$921,000 provided through State and Federal programs. Construction is anticipated to start in late May and to be completed in approximately three to four months.

Robert Parker Coffin Pathway is an 8-foot-wide asphalt path for pedestrian and bicycle traffic, proposed to run along the south side of Robert Parker Coffin Road from the Archer Parking Lot to Route 83. The project will be partially funded by a Bike Trail Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and will include a marked pedestrian crossing at the Route 83 intersection.

Stempel Parking Lot in downtown off Old McHenry Road will be rebuilt and resurfaced. The project will be partially funded by a State grant and may include proposed amenities such as electric car-charging stations, enhanced landscape islands, improved lighting, trash receptacles and way-finding posts.





KEEP CALM AND RECYCLE

SUSTAINABILITY CORNER

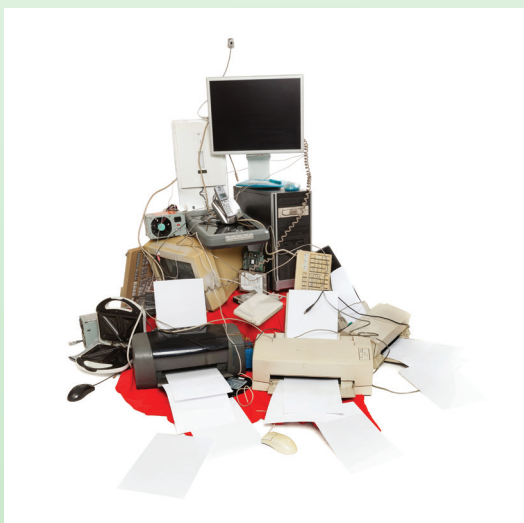
Textile Recycling Bin in Archer Parking Lot

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that more than 11 million tons of clothing and textiles end up in landfills each year, which makes up 10% of all collected waste. As part of a community-wide effort to encourage and increase recycling while reducing the number of landfilled usable goods, the Village installed a clothing and textile collection box in the southwest corner of the Archer Municipal Parking Lot at Archer Road and Robert Parker Coffin Road, adjacent to the Long Grove Fire Protection District fire station.

The collection box is the result of a partnership between the Village and the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) as a full-circle program that reuses or recycles nearly 95% of the materials collected. These items include new and gently used clothing, hats, backpacks, blankets, sheets, towels, and other household textiles. All fabrics will be accepted, whether they are clean, ripped or dirty. Donations can be placed directly in the bin, which is open 24/7, or next to it in sealed plastic bags. Please note that shoes, cushions or pillows are among items that cannot be accepted. More information on this recycling program can be found at swalco.org, including a list of acceptable and unacceptable items. For information on how to recycle shoes or boots through the Reuse-A-Shoe program, visit swalco.org/182/Reuse-A-Shoe-Program.



Waste Management Recycles Electronics



Waste Management (WM) now offers resident pickups of unwanted electronic items on the first Monday of every month. Items accepted include phones, computer equipment, video players, speakers, flat screens and printers. Up to 10 electronic items can be donated at one time; however, only one TV or computer monitor per pickup will be accepted. Microwave ovens cannot be recycled and should be discarded with the trash. WM asks that smaller items are placed in a box for easier removal. For more information and a list of accepted e-recycling items, visit the WM website at wm.com.

To arrange for a pickup, residents can call **866-570-4702** at least two business days prior to the first Monday of the month and request to be put on the schedule for electronics recycling. The evening before the scheduled pickup, electronics should be placed street-side. **Please note:** this pickup does not take place on the regular residential waste collection day.

Brothers' Field

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This new outdoor space is open to all residents and local community members - including families - and creates opportunities to socialize in the open air in a safe and socially-distanced environment. Brothers' Field has quietly grown in popularity over the last several months, and now boasts attractions on a weekly basis, along with planned special events, and much more to come.

During the summer and fall of 2020, three movie nights took place at Brothers' Field, along with the Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA) 'Do It Yourself' Scarecrow Day in October. Recently, the HDLGBA Egg Hunt was held there, where nearly 2,000 people came through during the four-hour event to enjoy some Easter fun.



“It was pretty awesome to see all the children and families enjoying this space leading up to the Easter holiday,” said Aaron DeSoto. “Despite the safety guidelines we all still need to follow, Brothers' Field can help us feel one step closer to normal in how we spend time with one another, while out in the open air.”

Left to right Aaron and Jesse DeSoto



Throughout the roughly quarter acre of open space, a Tiki Bar now sits at the southwest corner which is open Saturdays from 1 – 10 p.m. (weather-permitting), along with live music, several fire pits, a VIP wagon for special events, and space for the members of the public to set up their own lawn chairs while they sit back and relax. Private events can also be planned for birthdays, anniversaries, family reunions, showers and more.

During Chocolate Fest (May 14-16), a tent will be erected at Brothers' Field to expand the festival area while maintaining COVID-19 safety restrictions. Special ticketed events are also planned, including a Food and Wine Festival on June 5 that will showcase a chef who will pair a variety of wines with delicious foods; live music will also be featured. For families, a Disney Princess Day is planned for June 19 when several of the iconic princesses will be at the field along with music and fun craft projects. Updates on both events, as well as other upcoming programs can be found at

BrothersFieldLongGrove.com.

From The Village President

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should be sold for development. For example, the State has acquired most of the parcels of farmland that comprise Sub Area 1 in the Village's Comprehensive Plan. This area is in the north section of Long Grove bordered by Midlothian Road, Route 83 and the CNR railroad tracks, and currently cannot be developed. Our comprehensive plan calls for commercial development near the existing Mundelein retail area and the Countryside Fire Station, but also residential as you move west. Sale of most of this property to a developer(s) would enable the State to recover its costs, plus assist Long Grove with our economic development efforts. Currently, this area cannot be developed since the State is holding most of the land. Please provide your thoughts and feedback by emailing me at bill.jacob@longgroveil.gov.

Finally, I'm looking forward to announcing our new Village Manager in the coming days.

Village President - *Bill Jacob*

Park District Programs

The Long Grove Park District is offering new activities that feature nature classes for adults and sports for kids.

Nature programs for adults:

- **Butterfly Gardening – Virtual:** Learn why butterfly populations have declined and how you can attract more of these important pollinators to your yard. This will be a Zoom presentation by Lake County Forest Preserves on Tuesday, May 11 at 1 p.m.
- **Spring Wildflower Walk:** Learn about native wildflowers while enjoying the beauty and diverse habitat on a nature hike through Reed-Turner Woodland. Wednesday, May 12 at 10 a.m.



Sports programs for kids (located at Lemmon Hill ball fields):

- **Parent & Me Soccer:** Skills taught through fun games with parents. Thursdays for five weeks, beginning May 13 for ages 2 – 3 at 4 p.m.
- **Youth Soccer:** Learn basic skills through noncompetitive games, drills and fun! Thursdays for five weeks beginning May 13. Ages 3 – 5 at 5 p.m.; ages 6 – 8 at 5:45 p.m.
- **Track & Field:** Develop knowledge, techniques, and skill levels for a variety of events including hurdles, long jump, relays and shot put. Fridays for five weeks, beginning May 14. Ages 5 – 7 at 5 p.m.; ages 8 – 12 at 5:45 p.m.

To register, email Stephanie Young at syoung@lgparks.org or call 847-438-4743. For more information, visit lgparks.org.

Open Burn Permits and Reminders

Residents planning an open burn are reminded to follow safety guidelines and permit requirements. Please remember to contact the Countryside Fire Protection District or the Long Grove Fire Protection District, depending on which district you live in prior to any burning.



The Village's burn requirements can be found at longgroveil.gov/bc-cc/page/open-burn-general-requirements which include:

- Verify if the location is already approved for a Village of Long Grove IEPA Burn Permit on the master list.
- If the site is not listed, you should submit a request form to be added to the list.
- Call your fire protection district to inform them of plans to open burn: for CFPD, call 847-367-5511; for LGFPD, call 847-634-3143, extension 2520.

Information on conducting a safe and productive open burn has been provided by Prairie Nursery in Westfield, WI, and can be found at prairienursery.com/media/pdf/burn-your-prairie-safely.pdf.



History Corner

Long Grove Then and Now: Long Grove Cemetery

The Long Grove Cemetery is an historic site adjacent to the Long Grove Community Church on Robert Parker Coffin Road and has been in continuous use since its first interment in 1847. The land was donated by George Ruth, a pioneer who homesteaded nearby along Buffalo Creek and was the first postmaster of Long Grove. The cemetery is surrounded by white metal fencing with a graceful arched gateway. Rows of vintage tombstones mark the graves of early settlers, their descendants, a Revolutionary War veteran and several Civil War veterans. Many of the markers are inscribed in German and bear familiar names that include Krueger, Landwehr, Quentin. The cemetery is managed by the Long Grove Community Church.



Chocolate Fest: Long Grove's Bite-Size Celebration

Historic Downtown Long Grove is reimagining its sweetest event of the year to give chocolate lovers a taste of the traditional Chocolate Fest - while complying with COVID-19 safety guidelines. 'For the Love of Chocolate' runs from Friday, May 14 – Sunday, May 16 and will be a bite-sized celebration filled with delicious chocolates, activities and entertainment. A special VIP Chocolate Night on Friday from 5 - 7 p.m. will give a limited number of ticket holders a sampling of the weekend festivities, complete with swag bags and live music. A pre-event Chocolate Bar will be open to pre-registered ticket holders on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Experts will entertain attendees in the wonderful world of chocolate, while vendors showcase innovative chocolaty cuisines. The event will feature live entertainment on multiple stages throughout the downtown. Pre-registration and tickets are required and available at longgrove.org.

for the LOVE
of CHOCOLATE



Long Grove's Bite-Size Celebration

PRSTD STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ALGONQUIN, IL
PERMIT #300



*****ECRWSS****
Postal Customer
Long Grove, IL 60047

Upcoming Meetings

Board Of Trustees

- May 11, 2021
- May 25, 2021
- June 8, 2021
- June 22, 2021

Economic Development Commission

- May 11, 2021
- May 25, 2021
- June 8, 2021
- June 22, 2021

Plan Commission And Zoning

Board Of Appeals

- May 4, 2021
- June 1, 2021

Conservancy/Scenic

Corridor Committee (CSCC)

- May 5, 2021
- June 2, 2021

Architectural Commission (AC)

- May 17, 2021
- June 21, 2021

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

Please visit [LongGroveIL.gov/meetings](https://www.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.

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Vaccine eligibility in Illinois was expanded April 12, 2021 to include all individuals ages 16 and older. Due to limited supplies, residents are asked to be patient as additional vaccines are delivered to the State. For residents who have not registered for the vaccine, visit allvax.lakecohealth.org to be notified when vaccination appointments are available. For help registering online, call **847-377-8130**. Residents can also call **833-621-1284** to schedule appointments.

Please continue to wear face covers, practice safe social distancing and avoid large groups per CDC guidelines. Get the most recent COVID-19 news and vaccination progress throughout Illinois at dph.illinois.gov.



Village Contacts

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Website

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Office Hours

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