

Page 2
Village President's Letter

Page 4
Retirement
Announcements

Page 6
The Clove Update

Page 7
Firefighter of the Year

Page 8
BG Days

Page 9
Stormwater Basins

Page 12
Election Update

Enjoy the Village's Nature Sites

The Public Works Forestry Section has been converting portions of the Village's turf grass and overgrown wet spots into naturalized areas, which provides a number of community benefits. Not only do they create high-quality, diverse ecosystems that benefit animal life, they also help to address stormwater management and erosion control. Plantings also support the local environment by helping to clean the air and water, in addition to creating more aesthetically pleasing areas to be enjoyed by community members. Once established, these natural sites generally cost less to maintain, when compared to turf grasses and planting beds. Developing these natural areas is critically important to the Village's overall success as a sustainable community and provides residents and visitors with nature sites that are ripe for exploring.

To help the public find and enjoy these 'natural gems', Public Works is utilizing

a geographic information system (GIS), which can be accessed through the Village's Forestry page at vbg.org/forestry. This new, Natural Areas Storyboard page provides easy access to natural locations, which are mapped alongside streets, landmarks and bike trails. Enticing photos and individual descriptions are also included for each site.

Information that is included highlights the Village's future naturalization plans, and residents can follow along as different areas progress and evolve. Some of the latest projects that are open for observation include the Public Works pollinator gardens, and the Police Department pollinator gardens - which were recently planted by local scout troops. There are also five acres of early progress for a pollinator meadow conversion along Prairie Road. Residents and visitors are encouraged to

continued on page 5



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Letter From the Village President

Summer is now in full swing, and that means the return of the Buffalo Grove Farmers Market! The Village has one of the most impressive markets in the area, and I invite you to come out and enjoy all it has to offer on Sundays now through mid-October (except the Sunday during BG Days on September 3) from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Mike Rylko Park, 951 McHenry Road.

The Village has been extremely successful with new economic development since the beginning of 2021. During this time, the Village has issued more than 3,300 building permits, resulting in private investment into our community of nearly \$127 million. During the last 18 months, 91 businesses have either opened, expanded or relocated to Buffalo Grove.

This includes eight restaurants as well as the following new key businesses:

- The new golf simulator business, WJ Golf, and Vin 90 Kitchen and Bar at The Arboretum Club.
- The relocation of Lou Malnati's headquarters and e-commerce fulfillment center to a 123,000-square-foot complex on Busch Parkway.
- Northwest Community Hospital recently completed a 70,000-square-foot state-of-the-art medical office building.
- The True North Shell gas station on the north end of town on Milwaukee Avenue.
- The new Dunkin' Donuts building in the Spoerlin Commons Shopping Center.

We have many exciting projects currently approved and/or under construction:

- The new Ricky Rockets Gas Station and retail development at 800 E. Lake Cook Road.
- The new 51,000-square-foot industrial and office building for Premier Design and Build at 1305 Busch Parkway.
- The Speedway at 201 N. Milwaukee is constructing a new larger gas station later this year.
- Deerfield Parkway Apartments will be a new 120-unit apartment project on the former Concrete Erectors site located on Deerfield Road.

Lastly, please save the date for this year's BG Days, leading up to, and continuing through the Labor Day holiday weekend – Thursday, September 1 through Monday, September 5. As always, this community tradition will feature a carnival, Buddy Baseball, food, live entertainment, fun with family and friends, and a chance to close out summer.

Wishing you a happy and healthy summer!

Beverly Sussman

Beverly Sussman
Village President



Beverly Sussman
BSussman@vbg.org

New Deputy Chief Joins Fire Department

After an exhaustive application and assessment process, Larry Kane was sworn in as the Fire Department's new Deputy Chief on June 20, 2022. Kane comes from the Glenview Fire Department where he served for 21 years, most recently as a battalion chief. His other professional experiences include two years as the fire chief for the Harvard Fire Protection District and 15 years of fire service instruction at McHenry Community College. In addition, he served for three years as a police officer in Mt. Prospect and six years in the United States Army. Kane holds a Master's Degree in Public Safety Administration from Lewis University.

A third-generation firefighter, Kane is married to a school teacher and they have two children in high school. In his free time, he enjoys outdoor activities including fishing, hunting and camping. Welcome Deputy Chief Kane!



Village Manager's Message

We can't help but feel an overwhelming sadness for the Highland Park community in light of the tragic events that occurred there on Independence Day. Watching the scene unfold was horrifying, frustrating and devastating as we saw friends and neighbors terrified and running for their lives. All on a day when we traditionally come together to celebrate community and what makes us Americans.

Buffalo Grove's ties to Highland Park run deep. Many of our residents grew up in the community or have relatives there. We can count numerous friends, relatives and co-workers from the tight knit suburb just to our east. Highland Park's City Manager, Ghida Neukirch, served as our Deputy Village Manager

for more than 13 years. We also share legislators, Congressman Brad Schneider and Senator Julie Morrison.

But what is more jarring is how much the two communities have in common – safe, friendly, family-oriented places where people strive to live a quiet and peaceful life. Residents support and value public safety, tranquil neighborhoods, excellent schools and parks, and the opportunity to come together as a community. Unfortunately, Highland Park is not alone. As of this writing, there have been more than 308 mass shootings in the United States in 2022 alone.

During this time of sorrow and healing for our friends and neighbors in



Dane Bragg
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Highland Park, I urge all of us to do what we can to support them. The Village recently published ways we can give to and support Highland Park, and I'm sure there are countless other ways we can show our care and concern for their well-being. Only time can heal the emotional wounds torn open by this senseless violence. In the meantime, let's do what we can! **#HPSTRONG**

New Faces at Village Hall

Next time you visit Village Hall you may be greeted by a few new faces. They all wanted to take a minute and introduce themselves, and share some interesting factoids!



Christine Berman
Deputy Finance Director
Favorite Ice Cream Flavor?
Mint Chocolate Chip



Angela Butler
Permit Coordinator
What's the best concert
you've ever been to?
Prince



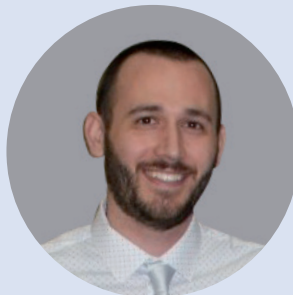
Amy Cash
Payroll Coordinator
What's your go-to midnight snack?
*Chips & Salsa or pretzels
& French onion dip*



Andrew Binder
Associate Planner
Favorite Vacation Spot?
Northern Michigan



Kelly Purvis
**Deputy Community
Development Director**
What obscure thing are you talented at?
Karaoke



Josh Strangberg
Accountant
What's your favorite
zoo animal?
Tiger



Vicki Bielik
Accounts Payable Coordinator
Favorite Holiday?
Easter

Dedicated Public Service Leaders Retire

Three of the Village's long-standing public servants have, or will be retiring this year. The Village is grateful for their many years of leadership and wishes them all well in their future endeavors!

Steven Casstevens

Police Chief Steven Casstevens will be retiring on November 11 after nine years of service to the Village, and 46 years working in law enforcement. During this time, Casstevens had many accomplishments, including the creation of the Community Relations Unit (CRU) to build relationships and trust between the police and the community. He also implemented a department-wide Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) to provide personnel with the tools needed to intervene and/or prevent crisis incidents whenever possible.



During his tenure, Casstevens served as president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and president of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police. He also led the Department in becoming one of the first to complete the 'One Mind' campaign, which prioritizes mental health first aid for law enforcement professionals, along with CIT training.

Casstevens began his law enforcement career in the Military Police with the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne, and later

spent 30 years with the Hoffman Estates Police Department, retiring as assistant police chief. He then served as police chief in Cary from 2011 – 2013, prior to being hired with the Village. Additionally, he served as an adjunct instructor at Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety for 17 years.

A comprehensive nationwide search to hire his replacement is currently underway.

Scott Eisenmenger

After serving for more than 26 years with the Police Department, former Deputy Chief Scott Eisenmenger retired on June 23, 2022. He was sworn in as a Buffalo Grove police officer in 1995, making his way through the ranks as a sergeant and lieutenant, before becoming deputy chief in 2017.

As a valued member of the agency, Eisenmenger focused his knowledge and experience in many areas throughout his career, which included being a High School Liaison Officer, Criminal Investigator, Crash Investigator, Crisis Team Coordinator, Training and Operations Sergeant, and Patrol Shift Lieutenant before becoming Deputy Chief of Operations. During his career, he earned numerous awards including Officer of the Year in 2012 and an Outstanding Achievement in 2019.



Eisenmenger has a master's degree in Public Administration and is a graduate of Northwestern's School of Police Staff and Command and The Executive Management Program. Included among his many accolades is being a graduate of the 271st session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Bill Wagner

Deputy Fire Chief Bill Wagner retired on July 2, 2022 after serving nearly 32 years with the Village, with a total of 38 years in the fire service. He was appointed deputy chief in Buffalo Grove in 2015 and has been instrumental in developing ongoing improvements related to pre-fire planning and investigations. He provided critical insight and utilized his extensive experience in the fire service to implement new technology that increased operational capabilities and efficiencies within the department.



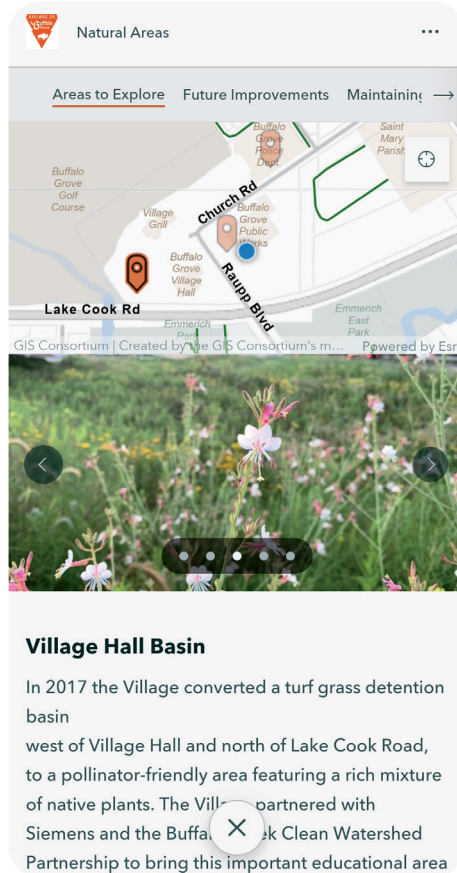
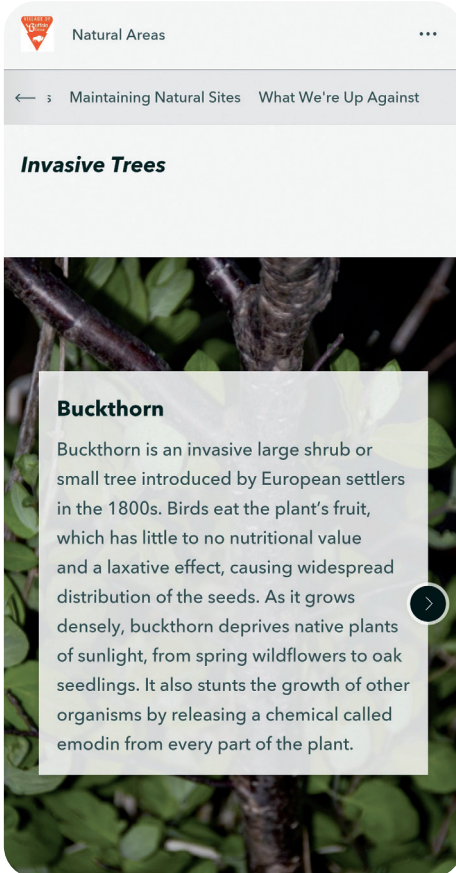
Wagner was most recently the Chairperson of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division 1 OPGS Committee, which has a regional influence on mutual aid operations in the fire service. Prior to his service to Buffalo Grove, Wagner worked for the Franklin Park and Pleasantview fire departments before being hired by the Village on August 13, 1990.

Nature Sites

continued from page 1

experience these, and the progression of some of the area's old favorites, such as the Village Hall Basin, the Buffalo Creek Preserve and the Farrington Ditch Nature Area.

The Natural Areas page can help to identify these natural areas to explore, and can be viewed on most devices, including mobile devices. Visitors are encouraged to snap some pictures and share them across social media using the hashtag **#VBGNature!**



Village Honored for Medical Property and as Finalist for Municipality of the Year

The RE Illinois Real Estate Journal recently awarded Buffalo Grove's Northwest Community Healthcare Center as the 2022 Best Medical Property in the State. The Village was also honored as a Finalist for Municipality of the Year. Congratulations to all involved in obtaining these accolades!



Village Board Approves Final Plans for The Clove

This past June, the Village Board facilitated the largest redevelopment project in Buffalo Grove's history by approving the final plans and a Redevelopment Agreement (RDA) for

The Clove project. The project, which is being undertaken by Kensington Development Partners (Kensington) and Urban Street, was born out of the concepts presented in the 2018 Lake Cook Corridor Market Study and Plan.

will be a unique destination for residents and visitors alike. The enterprising plan will have an estimated total project cost of \$150 million.

The Village retained SB Friedman and Associates (SBF), to assist in the RDA review process and assess the proposed financial structure of the plan. SBF's analysis found that the RDA is structured to safeguard the Village's finances and does not put it at any financial risk. The construction of this multi-year project is anticipated to start this summer, with more information and details forthcoming. Residents interested in learning more about The Clove project can visit vbg.org/the-clove.



THE CLOVE



The Clove rendered perspective – looking southwest from a restaurant's outdoor dining.

WHO'S LISTENING?



Nicole Woods

DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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The Clove rendered perspective – looking southwest from Route 83 and Old Checker Road.

Firefighter of the Year

Firefighter/Paramedic (FF/PM) Patrick Dinsmore was selected as the Buffalo Grove Rotary Club 2021 Firefighter of the Year. The decision came following a submission review by the Fire Department's nomination committee, which was comprised of former Deputy Chief Wagner, Lieutenant Navarro and FF/PM Pound.

Since joining the Department on January 20, 1996, Dinsmore has been a 'go-to' employee, as his work ethic continually

sets an example for others and he is quick to lend a helping hand in any situation. During his 26 years with the Department, he has demonstrated an unwavering positive attitude toward both fellow firefighters and citizens in the community.

A dedicated member of the Department's Technical Rescue Team (TRT) for the past 20 years, he recently transitioned off of the TRT to allow newer members to become

involved, though he has maintained his involvement by training others in various rescue techniques. Additionally, he has taken on the responsibility of maintaining the Department's pressurized equipment.

A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Dinsmore is also involved with his local VFW post and is an original member of the Buffalo Grove Professional Firefighters Local 3177 Honor Guard. Most recently, he was selected to be a Guardian for Lake County Honor Flight #18. Congratulations to FF/PM Dinsmore!



Pictured left to right – Chief Mike Baker, FF/PM Pat Dinsmore and Buffalo Grove Rotary President Brett Robinson.

WHO'S LISTENING?



Mike Baker

EMA DIRECTOR, FIRE CHIEF

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Employee Spotlight

Officer Collan O'Neill, the Village's newest police officer, joined the Police Department on June 6, 2022. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and grew up in Pingree Grove, a western suburb of Chicago. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a degree in Criminal Justice degree, O'Neill participated in ride-alongs with a number of departments and completed an internship with the Milwaukee Police Department.

Though he has only been with the Department for a short time, O'Neill says he already has the sense that the Village promotes a positive environment, and that his fellow employees and the community are very supportive. His specific areas of professional interest include investigations, community relations and work with the K-9 unit. He is also looking forward to the tactical and scenario-based portions of class during his time at the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy, where he is currently training.

Upon completing the Academy in September, O'Neill will return to the Department to begin his Field Training. He enjoys spending his free time with his family, including his parents, sister and two brothers - one of whom is a police officer with the Montgomery Police Department. Welcome to Officer O'Neil!



Mark Your Calendar for BG Days!

The BG Days event is coming September 1-5! The annual festival will be back with classic crowd favorites, as well as some new activities!

Thursday, September 1

- Carnival through Monday, September 5
- Rotary Bingo

Friday, September 2

- Meet On Main Street Business & Craft Fair through Monday, September 5

Saturday, September 3

- BBQ Challenge
- Annual Buddy Baseball Game hosted by the Rick Kahlen Commission for Residents with Disabilities

Sunday, September 4

- BG Days Parade at its new location along Checker Drive
- Rotary Duck Race

Monday, September 5

- Rick Kahlen Commission for Residents with Disabilities' Food and Fun Event
- Car Show

Follow the Village's social media pages for more information as the event draws closer at vbg.org/socialmedia!

WHO'S LISTENING?



Mike Skibbe

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Buffalo Grove Rotary Club Events During BG Days

During BG Days, the Buffalo Grove Rotary Club will be hosting two events that residents can participate in and have some fun while getting the chance to win cash prizes!

Bingo will be held on Thursday, September 1 under the Rotary Bingo Tent, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and calling starting at 6:30 p.m. Learn more at bgrotary.org/.

The annual Duck Race fundraiser will also be back! This is the club's largest fundraiser of the year, which helps to fund scholarships for graduating Buffalo Grove and Stevenson High School students that plan to attend college, and community grants given to nonprofit organizations that serve the Buffalo Grove community. Ducks can be purchased online at bgrotary.org/duckrace/. The drawing will take place on Sunday, September 3 at 5:30 p.m. and will be live streamed at BG Days!



Stormwater Basin Inspections

Those who are part of a homeowners association (HOA) board or maintenance company should keep an eye out for a letter from the Village's Engineering Department, referencing annual stormwater basin inspections. These inspections play a critical role in ensuring that the stormwater system is functioning as designed.

Many organizations are unaware of maintenance or ownership responsibilities of local stormwater ponds until major issues arise - such as a backup after heavy rain. These regular inspections ensure that small problems

are addressed before becoming larger and more urgent, costly or destructive.

Most inspections take 20 to 30 minutes and can identify common issues like overgrown vegetation, shoreline instability, clogged pipes, eroded locations at pipe inflows and debris/garbage accumulation. Additionally, inspections and follow-up work items can typically be completed by landscaping and maintenance companies.

Additional resources can be found on the Village's stormwater page at



vbg.org/stormwater. The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission is sponsoring a free workshop for HOAs on Tuesday, September 20 to share resources and funding opportunities available to HOAs. Save the date and stay tuned as the Village will be providing additional information on the workshop as it becomes available.



WHO'S LISTENING?



Darren T. Monico, P.E.
VILLAGE ENGINEER

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Hydrant Hysteria

Last April, the Public Works Department's Jeff Wells and Colin Wotring earned a first place finish at the State Hydrant Hysteria competition, earning them a trip to San Antonio, Texas for the American Water Works Association's 2022 National Conference and Exhibition. The Water Division duo had a respectable showing and are bringing back the latest industry knowledge of caring for water systems. While already practicing for next year's competition, Wells and Wotring are utilizing their skills by making repairs to the Village's water system, in the meantime.

For more composed hydrant action, check out the Village's interactive hydrant flushing progress map on the Hydrant Flushing page at **vbg.org/hydrant-flushing** where you can also view a video of Jeff's and Colin's State Championship performance.





BUFFALO
GROVE
PARK
DISTRICT



FOOD DRIVE

Bring a nonperishable food item to National Night Out. All items collected will be distributed through local food pantries supported by the Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council.

Tuesday, August 2

Willow Stream Park - 651 Old Checker Road

5:30 - 7:30 pm

- ★ Business Expo
- ★ Buffalo Grove Fire and Police Department Greetings
- ★ Free giveaways
- ★ Steak sandwiches and hot dogs available for purchase from Dorfner's Meat Market

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Live music with **Hi Infidelity**

Sponsored by



Saturday, August 20

(rain date Sunday, August 21)

4 - 7 pm

Willow Stream Park
651 Old Checker Road

- Live Music
- 4 beer or wine tastings paired with local snacks
- Bring your own chairs
- Register using the QR code
- 50/50 Raffle

It's an adult day out! Enjoy an afternoon in the park drinking, eating, dancing and raising money for a good cause. Join us for a beer and wine tasting event, paired with snacks from local businesses. Each adult must register for either a beer flight, wine flight, or a nonalcoholic flight. With the beer and wine flights, each adult will receive 4 beer or wine paired tastings. Those who register for the nonalcoholic flight will receive tickets for 2 sodas and 2 waters. Bring your own chairs, and make it an afternoon affair. Sit back and relax to some great music by our live band, Tap Room All-Stars. Additional alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages will be available for purchase at the event.

For more information and to register, scan the QR code.



Presented by

BUFFALO GROVE
FRIENDS OF THE PARKS
FOUNDATION



Flight	Fee per person
Beer Flight	\$40
Wine Flight	\$45
Nonalcoholic	\$25



BUFFALO GROVE
FRIENDS OF THE PARKS
FOUNDATION

The Buffalo Grove Park District's charitable foundation.



Join us for our second Cardboard Boat Regatta! This event will challenge amateur boat builders to design, build and navigate a boat made entirely of cardboard. Each boat will then set sail or sink in Willow Stream Pool, as each team competes for a variety of awards and trophies. Registration will be done by team (maximum of 3 people), with only one person from each team needing to register. All rules will be emailed out Monday, August 1. For more information, contact Jenn Foreman at 847.850.2110 or jenn@bgparks.org.
Age: 6 years and up

Code
160312-01

Day
Sat

Date
Aug 27

Time
12:30 - 2 pm

Fee
\$25

Location: Willow Stream Pool

Portillo's

Sponsored by: **HOT DOGS · BEEF · BURGERS · SALADS**

Summer Musical Footloose

July 22, 23, 29 and 30 at 7:30 pm

July 24 and 31 at 3 pm

Community Arts Center

Directed by Abby Vombrack
Music Direction by Aaron Kaplan
Choreography by Annie Snow

Footloose the musical

Big Deal Productions is delighted to present Footloose for the 2022 Summer Musical. This explosive musical, featuring your favorite songs from the movie of the same name, bursts onto the stage right here in Buffalo Grove! The production will be presented at the Community Arts Center on July 22, 23, 29 and 30 at 7:30 pm and July 24 and 31 at 3 pm.

Tickets for adults and teens ages 13 and up are \$18 in advance or \$20 at the door (plus a \$1 convenience fee). Tickets for children ages 12 and under are \$15 in advance or \$17 at the door (plus a \$1 convenience fee), and are available at bigdealproductions.org. For more information, contact Lindsay Grandt at 847.850.2132 or lindsay@bgparks.org.

ARE
You
IN?



50 Raupp Boulevard
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089

Phone: 847-459-2500

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Website: vbg.org

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Non-Emergency)

847- 537-0995

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(Non-Emergency)

847- 459-2560

PUBLIC WORKS

847-459-2545

Connect with BG!

The Village utilizes a variety of communication channels to provide important news and information to our community members. These include the Village website, this bi-monthly Village News, Enewsletters, and on social media pages including Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, LinkedIn and YouTube. In addition to the weekly 'Enews' emailed to subscribers on Thursday afternoons, a Business Bulletin and road construction Enewsletters are also sent out on an as-needed basis. Please visit vbg.org/enewssignup to subscribe to the Enewsletter of your choice!



Village of Buffalo Grove
50 Raupp Boulevard
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

PSRTD SRD

U.S. POSTAGE

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PERMIT #26

BUFFALO GROVE, IL

WS-CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

BUFFALO GROVE, IL 60089

2022 Election Update

This year's general election will be held on Tuesday, November 8, and, as it is an even year, will include a gubernatorial election as well as all State offices. Municipal elections are held in odd years, so the next election for the Village, park district, library district, and township candidates will take place in the spring of 2023.

Village Board positions that will be elected in 2023 are for Village President, Village Clerk and three Trustees. Candidates for those offices will begin circulating petitions at the end of September 2022, in order to be placed on the ballot.

Those wanting to sign a petition can do so for each of the open Village Board positions. Petition signatures only offer a candidate the opportunity to appear on the ballot; they do not require or offer a guarantee that a resident will vote for said candidate.

Residents can register to vote at Village Hall on Mondays from 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., and Tuesdays - Fridays from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Your vote makes a difference! For questions or assistance, call **847-459-2500**.



WHO'S LISTENING?



Janet Sirabian

VILLAGE CLERK

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Farmers Market Is Open for Business

The Buffalo Grove Farmers Market continues to offer residents and visitors the finest in local and seasonal products! The Market is currently open every Sunday through mid-October from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Mike Rylko Park, 951 McHenry Road. Please note: the Market will not be open on Sunday, September 3 during BG Days. There is something to please every palate, as it provides an array of products, including locally grown fruits and vegetables. Specialty items such as condiments, gourmet coffee, and pastries are also available, and both sponsored and non-profit booths are present each weekend, showcasing local businesses and organizations. Per Village Ordinance, dogs are prohibited. Interested in selling your wares at the Market? Find vendor applications at vbg.org/farmersmarket.

