



VILLAGE NEWS



This event is made possible through a partnership between Jewel-Osco and the member communities of JEMS:

- Arlington Heights
- Buffalo Grove
- Elk Grove Village
- Hoffman Estates
- Inverness
- Mount Prospect
- Palatine
- Rolling Meadows
- Schaumburg
- Streamwood
- Wheeling

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Village Partnership Increases Vaccine Opportunities

Jewel/Osco and the Northwest Suburban Illinois Joint Emergency Management System (JEMS) member communities, including Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates, Inverness, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Schaumburg, Streamwood, and Wheeling, have partnered to host multiple events to ensure the COVID-19 vaccine is available to community members who wish to be vaccinated. Each event was held at the Schaumburg Convention Center and the two-dose Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine was administered. The first event on March 17 targeted individuals in member communities aged 65 and up, with the second dose on April 7. A second vaccination event took place May 6 which was open to all residents aged 16 and up, with the second dose scheduled for May 27.

More than 250 volunteers from member communities were needed to make

these events possible. Individuals worked 10-hour days in a variety of roles, such as greeting people and guiding them to the right location, working the registration check-in, calling participants with vaccination appointment reminders, and providing language translation services to those who needed them. Jewel-Osco provided the vaccines and vaccinators, and the JEMS communities handled logistics, traffic and ambulance presence on all dates. Nearly 7,000 vaccine doses have been given so far.

Buffalo Grove Village Manager Dane Bragg, who also serves as the current chairman of the JEMS board said, "The recent vaccination clinic, as well as our efforts to continue expansion of access to vaccines for our residents, shows the power of regional collaboration to benefit everyone. We are proud to take on this role in the northwest suburbs."

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Letter From the Village President

When considering topics for each edition of the newsletter, I am always proud about what Buffalo Grove has to offer and what we can accomplish as a community. The COVID-19 pandemic has been very difficult, but it also brought out the best in our community.

As noted in the cover story, through our partnership with members of the Northwest Suburban Illinois Joint Emergency Management System (JEMS), the Village was able to co-host a mass vaccination clinic targeted at those 65 and up that administered just under 6,000 doses! This is particularly important in a time when many of our residents have found it difficult to get a vaccination appointment so they can feel safe again and are able to see their loved ones. I am very proud of the work that staff, our volunteers, and the JEMS community members did to put on this successful event. Without our JEMS partnerships, this event would not have occurred. A special thank you goes out to JEMS Executive Director Mick Fleming, for all of his hard work to make this event happen.

As you will see in this newsletter, Village staff and the Village Board have been working hard to provide support to our business community throughout the pandemic. A new website called **bgdelivers.org** allows businesses in Buffalo Grove to create their own listing that can include hours, special deals, and changes due to COVID-19. The website provides information and resources so that residents can locate and

support Buffalo Grove business. Thank you for shopping locally!

Village staff continues to work closely with businesses to assist with items such as encouraging outdoor dining, complying with changing regulations, and communicating business relief programs offered by the State and Federal governments.

The Village Board continues to work with Village staff to plan safe alternatives to a traditional Buffalo Grove Days over Labor Day weekend. Staff will continue to monitor contracts and COVID-19 regulations in order to put on a safe, modified event. As regulations continue to change quickly throughout the pandemic, I encourage you to sign up for the Village's Enews to ensure you have the latest information about what is happening in Buffalo Grove.

Be safe and healthy. Please remember the three Ws: wear masks, wash hands and watch social distancing.

Beverly Sussman

Beverly Sussman
Village President



Beverly Sussman
BSussman@vbg.org

Arbor Day Tree Planting

Arbor Day is an annual celebration of public tree-planting and the many benefits it provides for communities across the country. Illinois acknowledges Arbor Day on the last Friday in April and in honor of this day, the Village and the Park District planted two redbud trees Friday, April 30. The first tree was planted on Park District property

near the Mike Rylko Park splash pad along Route 83, and the second at the Buffalo Grove Nature Preserve at Checker Road and Arlington Heights Road. The Village has been dedicated to the planting of public trees for decades, evidenced by being awarded the Tree City USA honor through the Arbor Day Foundation for the past 33 years. To receive this award, a municipality must meet several standards relating to the investment in, and the care of trees.



Both the Village's Public Works Department and the Park District are proud partners in maintaining and protecting the tree canopy that makes up our beautiful Village! Residents are encouraged to plant more trees - and to protect and enjoy the current trees around town.

Village Manager's Message

We have been blessed with an early spring this year, and you have probably noticed more than just tulips and daffodils sprouting in Buffalo Grove. If you travel any of our collector or regional roadways, you have likely seen a fresh crop of barricades, barrels and orange signs to greet you on your journey.

We are now in the second year of the Infrastructure Modernization Program, which brings with it the completion of several major projects, including the widening of Weiland Road, widening of Buffalo Grove Road, the widening and reconstruction of Lake Cook Road, reconstruction of Thompson Boulevard and Brandywyn Lane, as well as several neighborhood-level water, sewer and street improvements. Overall, we will see more than \$175 million in infrastructure reinvestment from 2020-2025. The majority of the regional and collector streets will be completed or substantially completed in 2021. Beginning in 2022, we will focus more on neighborhood-level utility and street work.

You may wonder why several projects with such a significant impact must be completed at one time. Many of the current projects are multi-agency initiatives, involving county and state agencies and multiple funding sources. Because many of these projects access state and federal funding for construction, there are specific timing requirements for the use of the funds that drive project schedules. The pandemic has allowed us to complete these projects while minimizing the impact on traffic flow, as more people work from home and schools continue to offer remote learning.

The Village is committed to keeping pace with its infrastructure replacement program, which is another reason you see so much work going on right now. Many of our residents receiving water, sewer and street upgrades have suffered from significant utility service disruptions over the years. The Village wants to prevent those interruptions from occurring



Dane Bragg
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in other parts of the community by remaining committed to planned asset replacement schedules.

I hope you will pardon our dust during this critical time in the Village's history. We know it is an inconvenience, but the long-term payoff is worth the frustration. To receive updates on construction projects affecting your neighborhood, be sure to sign up for the Village's Enews under the 'Get Notified' tab at the top of our website at vbg.org. You will find dedicated Enewsletters for each road construction project, with Friday afternoon communications that describe the work planned for the week ahead.

Public Works Employee of the Year



Left to right: Public Works Employee of the Year Dave Getz is pictured with Public Works Director Mike Skibbe.

Dave Getz, a 26-year employee of the Village in the Public Works Department, recently received the Public Works Employee of the Year award. Dave started his career as a Maintenance I Worker, then became a Maintenance II Crew Leader for the Forestry Department. Among his many responsibilities are managing tree trimming, operating heavy equipment, driving a snow plow, and managing contracts for the Village related to these different roles. Dave also helps out during emergency situations such as water main breaks, forced main breaks, road repairs and sand bagging during heavy storms. His certifications include being a Certified Arborist, Municipal Arborist, a Tree Risk Assessor and a Snow Plow Maintenance Supervisor. Dave is also

a proud member of the Professional Snow Fighter Association. Thank you to Dave for his dedication to Public Works and to the Buffalo Grove community!

WHO'S LISTENING?



Mike Skibbe
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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It's Public Works Spring Cleaning Time!

Spring has arrived! For Public Works, that means shifting from winter activities to warmer-weather activities and working on some spring cleaning.

The Street Section will be cleaning and checking winter equipment, and replacing parts to ensure the Village is ready for the next winter season.



Crew members will also begin the total patch program, which includes repairing dreaded potholes! This process is more complex than just dumping asphalt mix into the potholes. Public Works applies a mix of gravel and tar as a more permanent repair, which initially results in some extra gravel on top of the newly covered pothole. After a few days, the material cures and excess gravel will be swept off by the Village's sweeper for a smoother finish.

The monthly street sweeping program for all Village streets has also resumed. The goal is to reach every street in the Village each month in the spring, summer and fall. As long as the weather cooperates, residents will see street sweepers working hard all season long!

The Utility Section will soon begin flushing the fire hydrants to help keep the Village water main system running smoothly. Warning signs will be posted in neighborhoods where hydrant flushing is planned, and the schedule will be communicated in the weekly Enews and on social media. This process may result in some slightly discolored water flowing from faucets. Hydrant flushing actually helps remove this from the water main system. Simply run faucets until the water runs clear.

Utility Section crews also clean storm sewer catch basins in the spring season, checking the system throughout town, as well as the outfalls in creeks to ensure they are working properly - and only being used for storm sewer purposes.

The Forestry Section will be repairing parkway areas damaged by snow plows and begin to mow and maintain all of the Village's green spaces. Natural areas such as the Buffalo Creek Nature Preserve and the Village Green near the Post Office are also maintained by Public Works.



Say Hello!

As you see the men and women of the Public Works Department in your neighborhood, please feel free to say hello! They are busy working hard on spring cleaning projects to make the Village shine in the months ahead.

WHO'S LISTENING?



Kyle Johnson

ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

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Fourth of July Fireworks

The annual Fourth of July fireworks tradition will take place this summer on the Buffalo Grove Golf Course! The Village will be offering residents a fireworks show that can be viewed from the comfort and safety of their own vehicles or outdoors in various parks and open spaces. More information about the viewing areas will be forthcoming and will be shared on the Village's website and social media channels.

Police Address Hate Crimes

Incidents of hate, specifically those targeting the Asian community, have been on the rise in our country as a result of some of the discourse surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Although there have not been any reported incidents of these crimes in Buffalo Grove, the Police Department is taking proactive measures to ensure safety and demonstrate support to the Asian community. Officers are actively meeting with various Asian organizations and businesses within the Village to address any concerns, gather feedback, and provide informational brochures regarding hate crimes and suspicious activity.



Community Relations Officers meet with Pastor Chen from Chinese WORD Ministries in Buffalo Grove

WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

It is a crime against a person, group or property motivated by the victim's real or perceived protected social group. The law protects against many classes of hate crimes, which can include:

- Graffiti
- Verbal Intimidation or Threats
- Hate Mail (including email)
- Property Damage
- Harassment
- Trespassing and Stalking
- Physical Assaults and Threats
- Arson
- Attacks with Weapons
- Vandalism

What should you do if you witness a hate crime? Report it to the Police Department. If hate crimes are not reported, they may continue.

Signs of possible hate crimes:

- The criminal chose the victim or property because they belonged to a protected group, like a certain religion or gender.
- The criminal made written or verbal comments showing a prejudice.
- The crime happened on a date that is important for the victim's protected group.
- There is a substantial amount of organized hate crime activity in the area.

What you can do:

- Speak out against hate and intolerance.
- Hold community rallies to support victims.
- Offer support and help to victims.
- Ask public officials to speak out against hate crimes.
- Establish a hate crime network that includes law enforcement, local government, schools, religious organizations and community organizations. Ask them to respond to hate crimes immediately when they happen, and to promote prevention and awareness.

If you are a victim of a hate crime, you should:

- Contact the Police Department right away!
- Get medical attention (if needed).
- Write down the exact words of the person who committed the crime.

- Make notes about other facts so you remember them. Save all evidence (e.g., graffiti, eggshells, writing on the victim's vehicle, etc.). If you call **911** from the location and are safe, wait at the scene until law enforcement arrives and takes photos.
- Get names, addresses, phone numbers and emails of any victims and witnesses.
- Get a description from any eyewitnesses of the criminal or the vehicle.
- Contact a community organization in your area that responds to hate crimes.

Additional information on hate crimes and what you can do to prevent them is available on the Village of Buffalo Grove's website at vbg.org/hatecrimes.

WHO'S LISTENING?



Steven Casstevens
CHIEF OF POLICE

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Beware of Telephone Scams

The Police Department continues to receive reports of phone calls from unknown persons who claim to work for some type of authoritative entity, requesting monetary payments. Entities such as the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Social Security Administration and even the Police Department will not request or accept the following forms of payment:

- Bitcoin
- Green Dot cards
- Amazon gift cards
- iTunes gift cards
- Google Play gift cards

Claims by callers of devastating injuries and threats of deportation or arrest are all emotional tactics scammers can use to trick innocent people into making

rash decisions they may not otherwise make. In these situations, it is important to ask yourself these questions:

First, is this a legitimate call? You can always request to call the entity back at a number known to be accurate. Find the number by searching the entity on the internet, not by dialing the callback number the caller may provide.

Second, does the reason for this call seem appropriate? Most people know if they owe back taxes, have arrest warrants, or are in trouble with Medicare. If the caller is pushy and demanding, simply hang up and verify the reason for the call with a known representative from the company, at a verified phone number. If you have any doubts, questions or concerns, hang up. Check with a family member,



neighbor or the police if you are experiencing uncertainties regarding a call.

In addition, talk to teens and young adults who may not be familiar with these types of scams to ensure everyone understands how to handle these potential scam calls.

For any further questions, please visit the Federal Trade Commission website at [ftc.gov/](https://www.ftc.gov/) or call the Buffalo Grove Police Department at **847-459-2560**.

Two Police Officers Recognized

Two Buffalo Grove Police Officers were recognized with annual awards for their dedication to the department and to the Buffalo Grove community.

The Officer of the Year award was given to Officer Michael Carlson,

highlighting his work in the Traffic Unit and as a member of the Major Crash Assistance Team (MCAT). Michael is also an Illinois Crash Reconstruction Specialist and is internationally recognized as an ACTAR Accredited Collision Reconstructionist. He has

investigated 17 crash sites in our area over the last year, with five in Buffalo Grove and three that were sadly fatal. Michael's work takes exceptional skill and expertise.

A Special Commendation award, which is runner up to Officer of the Year, was awarded to Officer Matthew Mills. His efforts to continue valuable community services provided by the department through the pandemic were recognized. These included his work as a Police Community Officer for Research and Engagement (P-CORE), continuing the SAFER group meetings for senior citizens and the high school internship program – both of which continued virtually. Additionally, Matthew worked with a local charity in 2020 to deliver donated food to families in need and created a focus on fellow employees' health and wellness by developing an Employee Wellness Station.

Congratulations to Michael and Matthew for these worthy recognitions.



Officer Matthew Mills, Police Chief Steven Casstevens and Officer Michael Carlson are pictured.

Recognizing Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

May 16-22 is the 46th annual National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. The theme this year is *This is EMS: Caring for Our Communities*. In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized recognition for all EMS practitioners in celebration of the hard work they handle throughout the nation when called upon day or night. It is in that spirit that EMS practitioners are recognized for their contributions.

The birth of the modern EMS field grew out of a desperate need to keep up with the times. In the 1960's, highway driving became a part of American life, as family road trips and over-the-road transport became more popular - and so did serious accidents. The lack of care standards and overextended doctors led to inadequate care, preventable deaths and serious injuries. In the late 1960s, a revolution in standards of care, the invention of portable equipment such as the defibrillator, and the introduction of **911** coincided with the return of many medics from the frontlines of Vietnam. Together these formed the beginnings of today's EMS care. Frontline EMS workers respond to the call for help without fail.

Over the past year, there has been a resurgence in the appreciation of EMS workers, with daily cheers and shows of support in many cities across the country. Early in the pandemic, ambulance sirens were an eerie echo in otherwise empty streets of some of the most populated regions in the U.S. It was a truly trying year - both mentally and physically - for all frontline workers.

National EMS Week honors frontline workers who live in and care for our communities. In this past year alone, the Fire Department responded to



3,267 Rescue/EMS calls, accounting for just more than 70-percent of the department's call volume for the year.

Nearly five decades after the beginnings of the profession, the U.S. has more than 260,000 professional Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and paramedics. While they work through the challenges of daily changes in COVID-19 protocols and supply shortages, they still make time for extensive continuing education in EMS innovations and new equipment - all while remaining compassionate and committed to their work. One week hardly seems like enough to thank them for all that they do!

WHO'S LISTENING?



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Vaccine Partnership

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The Village thanks all the JEMS member communities and Jewel/Osco for this partnership, as well as each volunteer who gave their time in order to make

these events happen.

Details about vaccination locations are included in the Village's weekly Enews. Visit vbg.org/enewssignup to sign up and receive the latest information from the Village.



Community Foundation

The Buffalo Grove Community Foundation (BGCF) exists to support the quality of life in Buffalo Grove. Despite constraints due to the pandemic, the BGCF provided cultural events and supported charitable activities in the community over the last year.

The nonprofit organization collaborated with the Remy Bumpo Theatre to produce 'Stay at Home Story Time Theatre,' where talented actors and actresses recorded themselves reading short stories that the whole family could enjoy. This program reached more than 3,170 individuals!

Local nonprofit GiveNKind operates a center that takes in new and gently used items from businesses and individuals. These goods are made available free of charge to nonprofits that serve Buffalo Grove. The BGCF is a registered partner and has accepted nearly \$2,000 in items on behalf of the Police Department that the police social worker then provides to residents in need.

Rick Kahen, a long-term chair of the Village's Commission for Residents with Disabilities (CRD), sadly passed away in September 2020. The Foundation accepted nearly \$3,000 in donations in his honor. These funds will be earmarked for projects and events that the CRD identifies as advancing access for individuals with disabilities or creating events to benefit the disabled community.

In 2021, the foundation will focus its efforts on three key areas:

Enhancing Internal Operations: The Foundation is supported by a dedicated executive team and is recruiting four additional community members to join. This team will then begin a strategic planning process to identify the Foundation's future initiatives, goals, and action steps.

Developing Plans: The BGCF has entered a partnership with the School



BUFFALO GROVE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

District 214 Internship Program and will utilize the talents of a student intern to assist with development of marketing and fundraising plans.

Creating Signature Community Events:

During its inaugural year, BGCF funded many targeted community projects and intends to continue this type of support through the remainder of the pandemic. Once it is safe to gather indoors, family-friendly events will take place to introduce the BGCF to the community.

Residents can make tax-deductible donations to support the Foundation's general work, or make donations to support specific activities or events.

For any questions about the BGCF, or to get involved, please contact the BGCF Executive Director, Evan Michel, at emichel@vbg.org or **847-459-2506**.

WHO'S LISTENING?



Evan Michel
ASSISTANT TO THE VILLAGE MANAGER

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DO I NEED A PERMIT?



I'm going to do some remodeling around my house. Do I need a Permit?

Buffalo Grove requires a permit for any new construction and most improvements.



Common Projects that Require a Permit



Deck
or Patio



Repairing
a Fence



Replacing
a Furnace



Replacing
an AC



New
Roof



But why do I need a Permit?

Building permits help ensure that construction and improvements meet safety standards and are in compliance with local codes. This process safeguards you, your family and friends, and future homeowners. It also protects the value of your home and neighborhood.

For a full list of permit types, requirements, & application process visit vbg.org/permits



BUFFALO
GROVE
PARK
DISTRICT



BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT

UNIQUELYUS

A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

The Pinta
Project



Sunday, June 6 • 12 - 3 pm
Community Arts Center

Let Your True Colors Shine: A Drive-Thru Celebration of Being Uniquely You

The Buffalo Grove Park District is thrilled to join the fun as a stop on the 2021 BG Pride Drive Red Route! Grab the family and join us for this drive-thru event, featuring all of your favorite Trolls and exciting giveaways from the Park District and their sponsors. For more information, please visit bgparks.org.

Sponsored by



We are a stop
on the
Pride Drive!

Flag Day

Monday, June 14 • Veterans Park • 5:30 pm

Flag Day is a day for all Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag, its designers and makers. Our flag is representative of our independence and unity as a nation, with a proud and glorious history. It was at the lead of every battle fought by Americans, and many people have died protecting it. It even stands proudly on the surface of the moon. Join us at Veterans Park, located at 1300 N. Weiland Road in Buffalo Grove, as we proudly celebrate Flag Day. The Buffalo Grove Police and Fire Departments Honor Guard will be presenting the colors. Our guest speaker will be Lieutenant Colonel Keith Cowan. Speeches, changing the flags, and music provided by the 484th Army Band's Woodwind Quintet will also be part of this fascinating program. The program will begin at 5:30 pm. Social distancing guidelines will be maintained; and, seating will be spread out throughout the park. You are welcome to bring your own chair; we will have some chairs available too. A face covering will be required when social distancing cannot be maintained. There is no rain date for this event.



Buffalo Grove Park District

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Concerts
are
FREE!

Tuesday Nights • 7 - 8:30 pm
Willow Stream Park • 651 Old Checker Road

- June 22 ★ Industrial Drive Rock
- June 29 ★ Rosie & the Rivets 50s & 60s Rock & Roll
- July 6 ★ The Student Body 80s, 90s & Today
- July 13 ★ Good Clean Fun Pop Variety
- July 20 ★ Voyage Classic Rock
- July 27 ★ Centerfold Pop & Rock Variety
- August 3 ★ Second Hand Soul Motown

Special Time
6 - 8 pm

Sponsored by



Social distancing circles will be located in the grass area on the soccer fields, in front of the pavilion. In this area, sitting, standing or dancing outside of circles, in walk ways, and in front of the stage will not be permitted. For a complete list of event rules and guidelines, visit the Summer Concert Series page of our website at bgparks.org.



BUFFALO GROVE
FRIENDS OF THE PARKS
FOUNDATION

The Buffalo Grove Park District's charitable foundation.



Movies Under The Stars

Willow Stream Park • Movie starts at dusk • Admission is FREE

Presented by



PLUMBING • SEWER • HEATING • COOLING • ELECTRIC

Sponsored by



Movies are back at Willow Stream Park! Bring your blankets and chairs, and join us for an evening under the stars. Find your own socially distant 14' circle for you and your family to enjoy the movie. It is not required to wear a mask if you remain within your circle. Restrooms will be available onsite in the park shelter. For a complete list of event rules and guidelines, visit the Movies Under the Stars page of our website at bgparks.org. For weather related updates on the day of movies, use the Rainout Line app, or call 847.235.6857.



Croods: A New Age
June 11
(rain date June 17)



Trolls World Tour
July 9
(rain date July 15)



Raya & the Last Dragon
July 23
(rain date July 29)

BOW WOW DOG EXPO

Wednesday, June 23 • 6 - 7:30 pm
Happy Tails Dog Park | **ADMISSION IS FREE**

Enjoy a variety of vendors, such as dog groomers, an adoption program, pet suppliers, veterinarians and many more. Your dog will also have a chance to meet and mingle with other dogs that speak their own language. All dogs must have current shots; and, all humans must wear a face covering while at the event. This free event will be held outside; so, please check the weather hotline if inclement weather is pending. For more information, or to inquire about being a vendor, contact Allison Oberst at 847.850.2146 or allison@bgparks.org.



Sponsored by





50 Raupp Boulevard
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089

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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

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Farmers Market 2021

In 2021, as in 2020, the Farmers Market will continue to be open while following all COVID-19 safety guidelines! The market kicks off Sunday, June 13 and will run through Sunday, October 10. Hours are from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Mike Rylko Park, 951 McHenry Road in Buffalo Grove.

For more information visit, please visit vbg.org/farmersmarket.



Visit BG Delivers

Support our local businesses by visiting BG Delivers at bgdelivers.org! This is the Village's online business directory that exclusively features Buffalo Grove businesses. The website was created to encourage community members to 'shop local' whenever possible, by connecting them with goods and services available right here in Buffalo Grove!



WHO'S LISTENING?



Nicole Woods
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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