MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BOLINGBROOK – AUGUST 27, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:
The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bolingbrook was called to order at the hour of 8:00 p.m., August 27, 2019, in Bolingbrook, Illinois, by Mayor Roger C. Claar.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
Mayor Roger C. Claar requested long time Bolingbrook resident and business owner Marti Barton to lead the pledge to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:
Village Clerk, Carol S. Penning, called the roll:
Present were: Mayor Roger C. Claar, Trustees Maria A. Zarate, Michael T. Lawler, Mary Alexander Basta, Michael J. Carpanzano, Sheldon L. Watts, and Robert M. Jaskiewicz
Also present were:
Village Clerk – Carol S. Penning, Village Attorney - James Boan, Public Safety Director – Ken Teppel, Finance Director – Rosa Cojulun and Director of Public Services & Development - Lucas Rickelman
Absent: None
Representing the press: No press attended the meeting.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:
Motion Lawler, second Watts to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2019. Village Board meeting as submitted by the Village Clerk.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS:
Jim Boan, Village Attorney indicated that he had no additions or deletions for the agenda.

Motion Lawler, second Carpanzano to approve the agenda.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS: None

RECOGNITIONS: None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:
MAYOR CLAAR

PROCLAMATIONS:
PATHWAYS PARADE, Sunday, September 8, 2019: Mayor Claar proclaimed Sunday, September 8th as PATHWAYS PARADE DAY. There will be a PathFest behind Village Hall after the parade. The theme of the parade will be "OUR YOUTH, OUR FUTURE". There will also be food, games for the kids, the Park District’s Climbing Wall and more behind Village Hall. The Civic & Cultural Affairs and Parade Commissioner, Peggie McMillan, accepted the proclamation. She provided details regarding Pathways Parade celebrating Bolingbrook’s 54th Birthday and encouraged residents to join the commission behind Village Hall.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH, September 2019: Mayor Roger C. Claar proclaimed the month of September, as NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH and called upon the residents of the Village to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance of preserving local history. Bill Kohl, Chair and 17 members of the Historic Preservation Commission attended the meeting and accepted the proclamation. Mayor Claar mentioned that the Commission actively participates in Bolingbrook events including the annual Village picnic, the Pathways Parade, Memorial Day services at both Boardman and Hillcrest Cemeteries and the annual Boardman Cemetery Open House in October.

2019 CITIZENS OF THE YEAR:
Attached to the minutes: Detailed bio information for the Female Citizen of the Year, Male Citizen of the Year and Family of the Year.

FEMALE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: JUDY BREDEWEG
Mayor Claar made a presentation to Judy Bredeweg

Judy Bredeweg provided some Village history. Judy introduced her family, expressed gratitude for the recognition and shared that she was genuinely surprised. She teared up when she realized that her entire family was there to support her, along with members of the Bolingbrook Senior Club, the large contingency of the Historic Preservation Commission and longtime friend Peggy Danhof.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR: THE LABRANCHE FAMILY
Mayor Claar made a presentation to the LaBranche Family –
Elwin and Rowsha, and their two adult daughters, namesake Rowsha and Rachel

Rowsha shared details about the LaBranche Family Foundation. She added that she is happily married to her high school sweetheart Elwin and expressed how rare it is to meet the love of your life. She expressed that the LaBranche family truly appreciates this recognition including all the behind the scenes work associated with this honor.
MALE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: LARRY GREENWICH
Mayor Claar made a presentation to Larry Greenwich

Larry Greenwich introduced his family. He shared that it is wonderful to be honored for being a nice guy. That is all that he ever tried to do. He expressed that he is extremely interested in aviation as it is a huge passion of his. Running his business is an even a bigger passion. He really enjoys helping people. Mostly, Larry feels very fortunate to have such a great family as they make it easy for him to be a nice guy.

PROMOTIONS/SWEARING IN: None

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE AND PRESS:
Gideon Blustein, Local Governmental Affairs Director with the Illinois Realtors. Gideon shared that he works out of Joliet and he came to the meeting to raise his concerns regarding an agenda item to enter into a contract with PROCHAMPS, which administers a vacant and foreclosed property registration. His concerns were as follows: one, making sure that if a family has fallen on hard times, that you are not adding more stress to that situation or making it worse for them by putting them on this registration. The second piece is figuring out how to get those properties back to market as quickly as possible. He asked the Village if they would be willing to work with local realtors who have dealt with foreclosed properties. He further asked for some time with the Village to make sure that there is language to protect the homeowners and get properties back to the market.

Stan Urban, PROCHAMPS explained that PROCHAMPS partners with hundreds of communities across the USA. These communities contract with PROCHAMPS to promote neighborhood health, safety and welfare through property registration. He shared that this topic has been vetted twice, not once, but twice at committee level over the last several months. Those are public meetings. This board, this mayor, is a very proactive, rather than being reactive. Every community in the United States, not just Illinois has an issue with blighted properties.

What the staff will have access to will be the names, addresses, phone numbers and email - not to the residents, but to the banks holding the mortgage, to the banks that are issuing the papers for foreclosure, to the banks that issued and evicted people from their homes and now own vacant properties.

Mayor Claar commented on erroneous comments posted on the internet. The information was simply not true. He shared that the writer of this incorrect information regarding “scoop and toss” was in attendance at the meeting. The Mayor clarified that the Village had a chance to get a better interest rate, which saved the Village 2.5 million dollars and did not extend the debt service whatsoever. The Village just refinanced the existing bonds. When people put out untrue information, it is doing a big disservice to our residents.

PRESENTATIONS: None
BILL APPROVAL:
Motion Jaskiewicz, secon Basta to approve expenditures submitted as Bill Listing A - Payables in the amount of $2,324,439.66 and Bill Listing B - Pre-Paid in the amount of $1,376,536.47 totaling $3,700,976.33. (Copies were made available in the Finance Department and the Village Clerk’s Office.)

ROLL CALL: Yea 6 Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None

Motion carried.

TAX RECEIPTS:
May 2019 State Income Tax - $688,072.22 (May 2018 State Income Tax - $628,503.57) 9.5% Increase
June 2019 Sales Tax - $2,739,272.22 (June 2018 Sales Tax - $2,829,538.66) 3.2% Decrease
June 2019 Motor Fuel Tax - $169,581.84 (June 2018 Motor Fuel Tax - $166,315.85) 2.0% Increase

MOTIONS: None

RESOLUTIONS:
RESOLUTION 19R-043
APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN PROPERTY REGISTRATION CHAMPIONS, LLC DBA PROCHAMPS
Motion Lawler, second Watts to adopt a resolution approving an agreement between property registration Champions, LLC dba PROCHAMPS.

The Resolution retains the services of Property Registration Champions, LLC (PROCHAMPS) to provide on-line registration and maintain the Village’s residential foreclosed property registration program. The company will retain $110 of the $310 semi-annual property registration fee ($200 to the Village). The contract is for two years and has a 30-day cancellation clause. Registration information will be available to the Village. This Resolution is in conjunction with Ordinance number 19-067 being considered on tonight’s agenda. The Public Safety Committee has reviewed and recommends approval.

ROLL CALL: Yea 6 Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None

Motion carried.
RESOLUTION 19R-044
APPROVING A LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND ERIK PETERSON (BULI LANE)

Motion Zarate, second Basta to adopt a resolution approving a license agreement between the Village and Erik Peterson (Buli Lane).

In 1993, the Village approved a Resolution (93R-034) with Village resident Erik Peterson (236 Buli Lane). The Resolution allowed Mr. Peterson access to and usage of a Village owned vacant piece of property adjacent to his home. In return for usage, the resident agreed to maintain the property. The earlier agreement has expired. The Resolution renews and approves a 25-year license agreement with Mr. Peterson. If the Village ever needs use of the property, there is a 120-day cancellation provision.

ROLL CALL:  
Yea 3  Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
Nay 0  None
Absent 0  None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

PC 19.26
APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT WITH VARIANCES, FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PLAT OF VACATION. HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON, 1 BROOKSIDE COURT. ARVIND AGGARWAL GOVINDA HOSPITALITY LLC: APPLICANT

Motion Basta, second Watts to accept a Plan Commission Report PC. 19.26 for approval of a Special Use Permit for a Planned Development with Variances, Final Development Plan and Plat of Vacation Home2 Suites by Hilton, 1 Brookside Court. Arvind Aggarwal Govinda Hospitality LLC, Applicant.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 19-064
APPROVING SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT WITH VARIANCES, FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PLAT OF VACATION. HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON, 1 BROOKSIDE COURT

Motion Lawler, second Basta to pass an ordinance approving a Special Use Permit for a Planned Development with Variances, Final Development Plan and Plat of Vacation Home2 Suites by Hilton, 1 Brookside Court.

Govinda Hospitality has requested a Special Use permit for a planned development with variances to construct a Home2 Suites hotel, a Hilton brand. The “extended stay” hotel would be a four story, 48,175 sq. ft., 91 room building. The hotel would be located on 1.85 acres on lots seven and eight (Brookside Court) in the Lily Cache Business park. This is directly west of Golden Corral. The applicant is also seeking approval of six associated variances and final development plan. The Ordinance approved the applicants’ project. The Plan Commission has reviewed and recommends approval.
ROLL CALL:  Yea  6  Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
           Nay  0  None
           Absent  0  None

Motion carried.

PC 19.28
APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT, PARADIGM, 552 W. BOUGHTON ROAD. GREG TAYLOR, BARONS HOLDING, LLC; APPLICANT
Motion Watts, second Basta to accept a Plan Commission Report PC 19.28 for approval of a Special Use Permit for a Planned Development, Paradigm, 552 W. Boughton Road. Greg Taylor, Barons Holding, LLC, Applicant.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 19-065
APPROVING SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT, PARADIGM, 552 W. BOUGHTON ROAD
Motion Lawler, second Carpanzano to pass an ordinance approving a Special Use Permit for a Planned Development, Paradigm, 552 W. Boughton Road.

Greg Taylor (Barons Holdings), on behalf of Paradigm is seeking approval of a Special Use Permit to allow a hair salon and spa establishment at 552 W. Boughton (Oak Square Plaza). The 2,016 sq. ft. of tenant space will offer hairstyling, nails and skin care, massage therapy and eyebrow treatments. Non-sales tax generating businesses are required to obtain an SUP to locate in business-zoned areas. The Plan Commission has reviewed and recommends approval.

ROLL CALL:  Yea  6  Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
           Nay  0  None
           Absent  0  None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 19-066
AMENDING ARTICLE 9 (CANNABIS, SMOKING MATERIAL AND ALCOHOL) OF CHAPTER 19 (PUBLIC SAFETY, MORALIS AND WELFARE) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING SMOKING MATERIALS
Motion Carpanzano, second Zarate to pass an ordinance amending article 9 (cannabis, smoking material and alcohol) of Chapter 19 (Public Safety, Morals and Welfare) of the Municipal Code regarding smoking materials.

The Ordinance revises Chapter 19, Article 9, Section 19-901 (Smoking Materials) of the Municipal Code to comply with Ordinance 18-016 raising the age limit to purchase legal smoking material. The earlier Ordinance raised the age for a person to purchase smoking material from 18 years of age to 21. This is a “housekeeping” Ordinance to amend the Municipal Code to comply with the Ordinance. The Public Safety Committee has reviewed and recommends approval.
ROLL CALL:  Yea 6 Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 19-067
AMENDING CHAPTER 27 (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BOLINGBROOK ESTABLISHING A REGISTRATION OF FORECLOSURE MORTGAGES AND VACANT PROPERTY:

Motion Basta, second Zarate to pass an ordinance amending Chapter 27 (property maintenance) of the Municipal Code of the Village of Bolingbrook establishing a registration of foreclosure mortgage and vacant property.

This Ordinance amends Chapter 27 (Property Maintenance) of the Municipal Code to create a residential foreclosed property registration requirement. The Ordinance requires that banks and lending institutions register their foreclosed homes with the Village or its designated vendor. The Ordinance requires a mortgagee to register a foreclosed property and inspect the property every 30 days to determine occupancy and property conditions. There is a $310 semi-annual registration fee per property. There is a 10% penalty for not registering a property. The lender must maintain vacant properties and the Village must be notified when the property is sold. This Ordinance is a “tool” for the police department (Code Enforcement). It will inform the Village which properties are in foreclosure for the health and safety purposes. Note: There are currently 634 residential properties in foreclosure in the Village. The Public Safety Committee has reviewed and recommends approval.

ROLL CALL:  Yea 6 Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano, Jaskiewicz
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 19-068
AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF CONTEMPLATED INVOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY

Motion Lawler, second Zarate to pass an ordinance authorizing notice of contemplated involuntary annexation of certain unincorporated territory.

On May 18, 2016 (Ordinance 16-033), the Village involuntarily annexed 18.796 acres of property located south of I-55 and exit and west of Veterans Parkway, six parcels were included. One of the landowners (Ed James) appealed the annexation to Will County Circuit Court. The Circuit Court upheld the annexation. Ed James appealed to the Third District Appellate Court. On May 18, 2018, the Appellate Court ruled (2018 IL App (3d) 160713) against the Village in a 2-1 decision. The court questioned the underlying voluntary annexation of ComEd property (Ordinance 16-019), which set up the Village’s ability to involuntarily annex the properties. The Village, following the court’s reasoning, re-annexed the ComEd property earlier this year (Ordinance 19-048). This Ordinance redoes the 2016 Ordinance Notice of Involuntary Annexation the 18.796 acres of property. Annexation of the property will “fill-in” an unincorporated parcel of land surrounding the Village and bring the land under the Village’s jurisdiction and subject it to
Ordinances. One of the parcels is considered a nuisance (junkyard) that Village maintenance codes would address. The annexation will be completed in September after a Public Hearing.

ROLL CALL:  
Yea  5  Zarate, Lawler, Basta, Watts, Carpanzano
Nay  1  Jaskiewicz
Absent  0  None

Motion carried.

QUESTIONS FROM AUDIENCE/PRESS:
Charlotte Droogen, 55-year resident living on Seabury Road in Bolingbrook had two issues to discuss as follows:

1) Has the village ever considered trying to use some kind of an incentive to get people to do more composting and recycling and cut down on the amount of garbage that we’re putting into the environment? Would the Village consider that in the future?

2) Would the Village consider finishing the remaining sidewalks on both sides of the street in the Historic Bolingbrook area?

Mayor Claar responded accordingly to both questions. He also provided a history regarding the sidewalk issue through the years. He added that both requests would be looked at for the possibility of more composting in the community and sidewalks in Historic Bolingbrook.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

The entire Board congratulated the Citizens of the Year, thanked them for their exemplary service to the community and looked forward to seeing them at the Village’s Pathways parade.

Trustee Zarate provided information on “El Grito”, Mexican Independence Day Celebration. The upcoming event shares traditional food, music, dancing, and vendors that will be selling items from Mexico. There will be games for the children, a mechanical bull, face painting, artist and fun for the whole family. This is the second year the CIMA organization is hosting this event. She then shared the event information in Spanish.

Trustee Lawler announced that the Hundred Club of DuPage County would be presenting Bolingbrook Police Officer Anthony Gomez their 2019 Award of Valor during its Annual Meeting and Valor Awards Dinner. The event recognizes first responders for their acts of courage and heroism.

BPD Officers responded to assist BFD with a residential fire. Officer Gomez was the first Officer on the scene and arrived before any BFD personnel. Upon his arrival, Officer Gomez observed the residence emitting heavy smoke and recognized it as a highly dangerous situation. He began immediately evacuating occupants of the residence. Officer Gomez was able to evacuate a mother and three of her children from the area of the front door. He was told there was one small child still in the residence in an upstairs bedroom. The upstairs of the home appeared to be the source of the fire and was filled with thick smoke. Officer Gomez did not see or hear any BFD personnel approaching. He obtained information from the family on the likely location of the child. At great risk to himself, he chose to enter the home and climbed the stairway into the heavy smoke. He located the child on the floor, in great distress, picked him up and carried him outside to the responding ambulance when it arrived. If not for the actions of Officer Gomez, this family may have had a very different outcome from this incident. Officer Gomez was also involved in saving the life of a young man who was at the Bolingbrook Holiday Inn. He was able to resuscitate him after almost drowning.
He mentioned that the Bolingbrook website is be revamped at no cost to the village as part of our maintenance contract. This is most important, as the Village website is where you can go to for accurate information about village operations. He also encouraged residents to attend the Fifth Annual Veterans Appreciation Day at the Performing Arts Center.

**Trustee Basta** shared that the theme for the Bolingbrook Pathways Parade "Our Youth, Our Future" is very special to her as she cares about the youth in our community. She provided information on the "Chicago My Way" Community Service Council Gala fundraising event, which helps families in need with counseling services. She gave details on the September meeting "Coffee with the Chiefs" and encouraged residents to attend one of these informative sessions. She wished everyone a safe and happy Labor Day weekend. She asked everyone to drive carefully and do not drink and drive. She also mentioned the Bolingbrook Soccer Club Labor Day tournaments.

**Trustee Watts** shared information about this year's Bolingbrook JoyFest, which is a family fun Christian music festival. The event will have food vendors, live music, giveaways, product vendors and so much more. He encouraged residents to bring their lawn chairs and blankets and have a great time. He congratulated Bolingbrook resident David Cook on winning the 70th Illinois Open. This marks David's second Illinois Open victory in four years and his first as a pro. David Cook becomes the eighth person to win the Illinois Open twice and the 12th multi-winner in the tournament's 70-year history.

**Trustee Carpanzano** shared the following announcements: provided information on the Cheesy Pretzel 5K that will be held in October at the Promenade Bolingbrook. He also mentioned that a book signing will be held at Cali Girl Cakes. Bolingbrook resident Hieu Tran escaped all alone from Vietnam to the United States at age thirteen. This experience, as well as his experience adapting to an entirely new culture and language, taught him about the strength in each person and about the power of the mind. One of his goals in life is to motivate people, young and old, to live up to their full potential. His book "Coming to America – A Journey Home" is also available online at Amazon.

He encouraged residents to attend the concert at the Promenade, the Bolingbrook Arts Council Commission is hosting "Arts on the Row: An Evening of Jazz & Fine Art" presented on the last Friday of August at The Promenade Bolingbrook. Lastly, he mentioned the Annual Garage Sale to be held in the parking lot at Kohl's. This event is held in support of the Humane Haven Animal Shelter.

**Trustee Jaskiewicz** mentioned that he has attended the LaBranche family foundation event in October the past couple of years and it goes to a good cause. He thanked residents for coming out to support the Northern Will County Exchange Club car show. The funds will go to help domestic abuse and child abuse agencies to support them in their role that they play. He encouraged residents to participate in the Village Cleanup Day and shared that they will be meeting over by the high school on Schmidt Road at 9:00 a.m. on September 14th. Thank you.

**Mayor Claar** mentioned the large turnout for the Taste of Pakistan that was held recently. He said he has never seen so many people on the hill behind the Performing Arts Center. He congratulated Mir Ali and Talat Rashid on a successful event.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None
ADJOURNMENT:
Motion Watts, second Basta to adjourn the meeting.
Voice vote. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

ATTEST: Carol S. Penning, CMC
VILLAGE CLERK

Roger C. Claar
MAYOR
This year’s Female Citizen of the Year has gone above, and beyond in the area of public service and community involvement. She has lived in her home on Concord Lane for the past 47 years. She moved to Bolingbrook in 1972, just 7-years after the Village’s incorporation. She is a cancer survivor. In 1963, she graduated from Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She began her career as a Secondary Education Teacher, teaching English and History. Later, in Illinois, she was an employee of the Illinois Department of Corrections as an Affirmative Action Officer. She married to her college sweetheart Bill in 1963. He died in 2008. His obituary was featured in the Tribune with an emphasis on his tenor voice as a part of the Barber’s Corner’s Boys, Company B, and the Community Chorus, which he directed for several years.

Her community involvement in Bolingbrook began early, serving as the Bolingbrook Federated Business and Women’s Club President in 1974-1975. She used “Service is the Key” as her theme. She has followed that theme throughout her own life. In her presidency, she edited a book on Bolingbrook services and resources called the “Compass” and encouraged community members to participate in a club activity called “Pitch-In for Pathways”, a cleanup and beautification project. In 1976, as a Bicentennial effort, she spearheaded the formation of the Bolingbrook Historical Society. Their first venture was the renovation of Boardman Cemetery, which is one of the oldest cemeteries in the Northern Will County region, dating back to 1832 and is located in the Heritage Creek Subdivision. She served as the society’s President. Trailways Girl Scout Board as secretary and chairing the charter audit committee (1978-79) and Will County Historical Society Board (President 2004) organizing many of their festivals. Judy still belongs to the Will County, Romeoville, and Joliet Historical Societies.

Judy was born May 19, 1941, and her journey has been all encompassing, with involvement in community, government and politics. She served as a Village Trustee 1975 to 1977; and on the Will County Board for 14 years, which began in 1982. During that time, she was a member of the and Chair of the Capital Improvements and Purchasing Committee for over a decade; Chair of the Finance Committee for six years, member of County Executive Committee; Will County Public Building Commission; Majority Leader of County Board, and a member of the Land Acquisition and Operations Committee of the Forest Preserve Board. Served as Vice President of the Forest Preserve, represented the Illinois Federation of Forest Preserves on the Illinois Association of Park Districts Board 1995-96. In her role as head of the Public Building Commission, and Finance Committee, she was instrumental in the acquiring and remodeling the old Sears building into the Will County Offices, and the development of the original Will County jail. She even made sure that she signed the “Big Beam” at the Will County Offices for posterity’s sake.

She was the President of the local Bolingbrook Business and Professional Women’s Club, and was elected and the State President of that organization in 1989. She served DuPage Township in various capacities for over ten years as the Office-Coordinator, the General Assistance and Emergency Funds Administrator, and Banquet coordinator.

Today, Judy is retired, but still serves our community. She is a longtime member of the Bolingbrook Historic Preservation Commission, which started in 1993. She spearheaded the book “Images of
America, Bolingbrook” for our 50th Anniversary in 2015. She has organized bus tours and shared community history with residents.

She is the current President of the Bolingbrook Senior Club (chartered in 1974). The club meets at DuPage Township and Judy been serving in that capacity for the past 13 years. Judy is passionate about the work she does on behalf of the Senior Club. She is always prepared and leads the meetings following “Roberts Rules of Order”. She wants seniors to have fun with productive, informative meetings, to be involved and engaged, to be energetic, to live life fully and be well. She believes in giving back to the community, so the club donates toiletries - (Hygiene Packs) 260 in 2019 to the DuPage Township Food Pantry.

Judy served on the Bolingbrook Board in 1975, at a time when the Village was celebrating its tenth birthday, and was experiencing all the growing pains of a young community. Bolingbrook was originally farmland, dirt and gravel roads. It is an important reminder of our past as we prepare to celebrate our 54th year of incorporation and acknowledge where we are today.

On Judy’s Facebook page – she lists that she is a retired politician, president of the Bolingbrook Senior Club, an International Traveler - Russia, Germany, & Canada, and is working on her family history. She loves her family and has two children: Dan and Cathy, her daughter-in-law Sally, her son-in-law Michael, and two granddaughters Samantha and Briana.

Thank you for your years of involvement with the Village, Township, and County. We appreciate your hard work and dedication. Congratulations Judy, Bolingbrook’s - 2019 Female Citizen of the Year.
2019 Male Citizen of the Year - Larry Greenwich

Drive anywhere in town these days and you will most likely catch a glimpse of one of the green and white DuAll Heating and Cooling vans as Larry Greenwich and his crew service the heating and air conditioning needs of our residents. And attend any community event and you will see Larry volunteering in some capacity. Larry’s family-owned business and his service to the community are the two things that pretty much define Larry Greenwich, this year’s Male Citizen of the Year.

Larry has been a resident of Bolingbrook since 1978. Together, he and his wife Donna, married 41 years, have raised four children here and are now proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.

Larry’s career started in the culinary world as a professional chef. He graduated from the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, and worked his way up to earn the position of Executive Chef at Carriage Greens Country Club in Darien, where many Bolingbrook functions such as the State of the Village were held in early years.

After 20 years in that field, the long hours away from his family prompted Larry to make a radical change, which led him to return to school to learn the HVAC industry, and he has never looked back. After spending years gaining experience and honing his skills working for others, Larry launched his own business, DuAll Heating & Cooling, in 2000 — an HVAC business that focuses specifically on quality and customer service. Today, DuAll also includes wife Donna, who joined the company in 2005, their son Larry Jr., who joined the company in 2007, and company mascot, Sadie, a Jack Schnoodle”.

It was not long before Larry joined the Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce in 2003, and got immediately involved. Over time, he chaired a number of committees such as the luncheon committee — which was a particularly good fit because of his culinary experience. He also chaired the Santa House committee for many years, a Chamber activity that was near and dear to his heart because it brought him in contact with the community and with many Chamber members, he might otherwise not meet.

Larry spent nearly eight years serving on the Chamber’s board of directors, has served on the golf committee, was a member of the Chamber’s networking group, and has supported many fellow Chamber members by attending their ribbon cuttings and Business After Hours. Larry remains active in the Chamber, currently co-chairing the Chamber’s Small Business Coalition.

With his professional reputation and years of service to the Chamber, it is no surprise that DuAll Heating & Cooling has received two Best of Bolingbrook Businesses awards, one in 2007 and the second in 2013, and that Larry was honored with the Chamber’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016.

Not all of Larry’s contributions to the community have been limited to the activities of the Chamber of Commerce. Through his company, he has spent countless hours volunteering on other committees, including H2O’s Breakfast with Santa, plus supporting DuCap’s projects, and sponsoring Bolingbrook Flag Football and youth baseball teams.

Through DuAll Heating & Cooling, he donated many bikes and games over the years to the annual DuPage Township “Breakfast with Santa” event, and helped to serve breakfast to all those smiling kids. Back in the 1980’s, he helped teach first graders about computers at Oakview Elementary School, and in more recent times, he has participated in job fairs at Jane Addams and Brooks Middle Schools and has given demonstrations at Jamie McGee Elementary School.
Larry and his company have a long-established history of serving the community.

Another of Larry’s passions is aviation, which led him to earn his private pilot’s license in 2003. When he is not working or in the air, his feet are on the ground actively involved in the Illinois Aviation Museum based at Bolingbrook’s Clow International Airport, where he is currently serving as president of the board. Larry has volunteered hundreds of hours as head of the restoration team, supervising the restoration of the three US military jets that are on display at Clow Airport.

Since 2004, he has been co-chair of Bolingbrook’s Cavalcade of Planes, a community event that draws nearly 30,000 aviation enthusiasts from all over the region. Larry participates in local parades, including Bolingbrook’s Pathways Parade, representing both DuAll Heating & Cooling as well as the aviation museum, walking alongside of the ever-popular “Stubby” (a restored T33 trainer jet). You will also see him giving rides to thrilled kids in “GroundBound” at many community events such as at the Down’s Syndrome “Buddy Walk”, the annual Pakistan-American festival, the village’s Fourth of July celebration, the Chamber’s “Taste of Bolingbrook”, and many more.

Larry’s community service does not end there. Over the years, Larry has been able to help many local families in need, both as a business owner and as a concerned resident, because he just likes helping people.

Long-time resident of Bolingbrook, devoted family man, community servant, and successful business owner, Larry represents the kind of citizen any community would be fortunate to have, and for that reason, it is my privilege as Mayor of the Village of Bolingbrook to name Larry M. Greenwich as Bolingbrook’s 2019 Male Citizen of the Year.
2019 Bolingbrook Family of the Year – The LaBranche Family

A local article written in 2001, focused on two under-resourced families who felt invisible and desperately in need of necessities, tugged on the heartstrings of Rowsha LaBranche. Her desire to help other families, linked in love, but challenged by circumstance was a catalyst to marshal her troops. Her family joined the community and silently adopted a family…. and so their story began.

Far too vibrant to slow down, Rowsha felt the 2001 article was a call-to-action to give back. That simple act of selflessness resonated with each member of the LaBranche family solidifying their resolve to stick with it. Every year since, they focused on increasing their impact by donating more time, donating more personal funds and recruiting more talent than the year before. Years later, they again silently expanded their efforts based on a mother’s simple wish for food and new pajamas.

By 2016, their private annual adoption rate topped 75 families and more than 160 pairs of new pajamas had been donated. In 2017, Rowsha officially stepped into the role of President/Founder organizing the “LaBranche Family Foundation” as a non-profit with a 501C3 designation. In line with this action daughters, Rowsha L. LaBranche serves as Vice President and Rachel E. LaBranche holds dual roles as both Secretary and Inventory/Purchase Manager, with Elwin LaBranche counting what’s in the coffers as Treasurer.

THE LABRANCHE FAMILY

Happily married for 39 years Elwin and Rowsha met, bonded and began dating as teenagers over brains, at Lindblom Technical High School (now Lindblom Math and Science Academy), one of the earliest in the city of Chicago to set the student bar high (in the 1960’s and 70’s) making it a model for subsequent “magnet” schools.

To do a bit of bragging on behalf of Bolingbrook

Elwin and Rowsha are model Bolingbrook citizens who climbed the corporate ladder carving out distinguished careers. Rowsha most recently for Aetna (retired 4 years) and Elwin for UPS (retired 10 years). Together, the pair has raised two adult daughters, namesake Rowsha and Rachel who were excellent students in their own right courtesy of the quality education received in Valley View School District 365U. They have been residents of our beloved Bolingbrook community since 1982.

Rowsha L. LaBranche, currently engaged to be married in November 2019, distinguished herself at BHS as a four-year letter winner in both basketball and track and field. In high school, she set the record in both the 100-meter and 200-meter dash (25.4). Rowsha served as track and field captain for three seasons and was named 2003 Bolingbrook Athlete of the Year. During her senior year, she was selected Bolingbrook Student/Athlete of the Year. Rowsha was a four-time All-Conference track and field selection and qualified for State in track and field as a freshman, sophomore, junior and senior. She was an All-Conference selection in basketball twice, earned 10 varsity letters, served as senior class president, was a member of the National Honor Society and matriculated to University of Illinois Chicago where she majored in Biological Sciences. Rowsha is a Manager employed by Ernst & Young.

Rachel E. LaBranche, is also currently engaged and distinguished herself at a very early age as a most talented dancer. Rachel initially trained and fostered this talent as a distinguished Senior Company Member of The Kinetic Dance Company (residence dance company of Dance Dimensions - Bolingbrook) and later as a Senior Member of the Youth Company (1511) of Joel Hall Dancers - Chicago. Rachel received numerous accolades including certificates and awards free classes based on her advanced dance skills. At the age of 16, she auditioned and was awarded a summer apprenticeship with Alvin Alley in New York. She was also a Varsity Member of the BHS POM Squad during her freshman, sophomore, junior and senior year, earning four varsity letters. Rachel attended
Point Park University on a dance scholarship where she majored in Dance/Education. She is the proud parent of one son.

Today, founded as a non-profit organization, the LaBranche Family Foundation Inc. (LFFINC) offers support to families impacted by financial challenges within Will County and our border communities. Guided by four pillar programs, they grant provisional wishes, donate the gift of new pajamas, provide annual scholarships/grants and host free healthy living sessions THROUGHOUT the year!

LFFINC works closely with DuPage Township Emergency Relief Center as well as public and private service agencies in and around Will County to offer outreach to families facing tragedy. Their services are additionally extended to Margaret’s Village of Chicago, with a focus on helping women and children residing a homeless shelters. This summer LFFINC re-painted outdoor planters and just in time for July 4th, purchased new outdoor umbrellas and chair cushions so that the more than 100+ Adult Seniors who reside at Heritage Woods – Bolingbrook could fully enjoy the Summer Season!

In 2018 alone, LFFINC granted more than 60 individual Christmas wishes, donated more than 350 pairs of new pajamas, distributed more the $1200 in gift cards, awarded $3,000 in scholarships and funded a $1,000 grant that was a gateway allowing eight under-resourced children to attend a Bolingbrook STEM Association camp and hosted free health and wellness seminars within our Community!

In 2019, LFFINC were finalists for the Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce BOBB (Best of Bolingbrook Business Awards) in the non-profit category.

LFFINC’s 2019/2020 target to grant another 100 personal wishes, donate 500 pairs of new pajamas, award $5000 in grants/scholarships and gift certificates - is lofty to say the least. You can help the achievement of this goal by attending their 3rd Annual Masquerade Ball. It will be held Friday, evening October 18th at Bolingbrook Golf Club.

By the way, Elwin is a Bolingbrook Golf Club Member who unofficially lives on the links six day a week!