



**Village of Lake in the Hills
Press Release**

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Date: January 29, 2021
Department: Administration
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For Immediate Release

Lake in the Hills, IL – The Village of Lake in the Hills is excited to announce the winners of the 2020 Gordon Larsen Business Achievement Awards.

Best Customer Service: Speedway
Best Community Service: Jersey Mike’s Subs
Best New Business: Elle’s Deli & Bagels
President’s Pick: LNR Insurance Services

Nominations commended winning businesses on their exceptional service to the community, sincere care for their customers, and attentive efforts to go beyond the scope of their regular services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staff and elected officials honored the winning businesses at the January 28, 2021 Village Board meeting. The winning business will be recognized in various Village publications, social media campaigns, and other outlets.

Each year, the Village recognizes businesses that exceed expectations and contribute to the quality and character of Lake in the Hills. Winning businesses embody the philanthropic and entrepreneurial spirit of Gordon Larsen, who was influential in shaping the physical and civic landscape of the Village.

The Village accepted nominations through December 17, 2020 and received 137 nominations for 20 Lake in the Hills businesses. Applications and nominations for the 2021 Gordon Larsen Business Achievement Awards program will be accepted throughout the year.

Best Customer Service

Speedway
2700 Algonquin Road
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156
847-458-0449
Year Established in the Village: 2017
General Manager: Glenn Pugh

Speedway received 21 nominations for Best Customer Service. Nominations highlighted the friendliness of the staff and their efforts to ensure a positive visit for each customer. One nominator recalled a time when they were encountering car trouble. The Speedway staff went out of their way

to help them navigate the difficulties. Nominations consistently praised staff for creating a welcoming community atmosphere and adding to the friendly character of Lake in the Hills.

Best Community Service

Jersey Mike's Subs

285 N. Randall Road

Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

847-658-0808

Year Established in the Village: 2010

Business Owner: Mark Michalak

Jersey Mike's Subs donated 25% of their sales proceeds and raised over \$1,200 for Turning Point, a domestic violence shelter, during an October 2020 fundraiser. Each March, the owner hosts a month-long fundraising event that culminates in a day of giving during which 100% of sales proceeds are donated to charity. Nominations highlighted the team's efforts to engage with local students, raise money for charities, donate food to those in need, and build community within Lake in the Hills. The Village previously recognized Jersey Mike's Subs with Gordon Larsen Awards in 2012 and 2018.

Best New Business

Elle's Deli & Bagels

9471 Ackman Road

Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156

224-858-4336

Year Established in the Village: 2020

Business Owner: Elle Fox

Elle's Deli & Bagels received 15 nominations in multiple award categories. Nominations commended the owner and staff for above-and-beyond customer service on the part of a business that opened in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The genuine, customer-first atmosphere set the business apart and positioned Elle's Deli & Bagels as a new community favorite in just a few months' time. The business opened in September 2020.

President's Pick

LNR Insurance Services

1126 W. Algonquin Road

Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156

847-915-7400

Year Established in the Village: 1999

Business Owner: Mike Lange

LNR Insurance Services was recognized for commendable customer service far outside regular operations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The owner took precautions to limit his clients' potential exposure to the virus, sometimes hand-delivering documents to clients' homes to minimize points of contact with delivery services, as many of his clients fell into the high-risk category. He ensured that clients had essentials at home and drove them to doctor's appointments when others could not. The team's special care for community members shined throughout a difficult year.

For more information on the winning businesses and a sample of the nominations received, please visit lith.org. Contact the Administration Department at 847-960-7400 with any questions.

Photos Attached:



Left to Right: Speedway Assistant Manager Beth Eicherl and President Ruzanski



Left to Right: Jersey Mike's Subs General Manager Brenon Steffensen and President Ruzanski



Left to Right: Elle's Deli & Bagels Owner Elle Fox and President Ruzanski



Left to Right: LNR Insurance Services Owner Mike Lange and President Ruzanski

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