



News from Village Hall



June 2011

From The Desk Of The Village President

While working on my late spring yard clean up, I received my tax bill. I live in McHenry County. Most of you know the Village is in 4 counties and we collect property taxes from Cook, Lake, Kane, and McHenry counties. **The Village DID NOT RAISE TAXES**, but my tax bill this year showed another substantial increase, as it did last year. Checking around, many other residents have seen a similar increase.



So if the Village HAS NOT RAISED ITS TAX LEVY in two years, why did my tax bill increase? This is the question we have been working on for the past year. The Village does not create tax bills or set assessments. This is done by other elected bodies with officials from both parties. There are a large number of factors that go into creating your bill, but the bottom line is that the counties should only be collecting what the Village actually levies. Our

Village has not changed its levy in two years so your bills should have changed little in those two years. Yet this is not the case.

Some of you know that the Village has been investigating this problem, while also working closely with School District 220 President Brian Battle and the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG). I sent a letter out last year describing this investigation which you can view at: <http://www.barringtonhills-il.gov/propertytaxbillmemo.htm>

The Village levies taxes each year based on its cash requirements to meet its operational needs. These include roads and bridges, police, zoning, etc. The total Village budget is approximately \$8.4M. The total property tax levies were 2009: \$6,565,291 and 2010 \$6,565,268. The remaining \$1.9M in revenue comes from a variety of other non-property tax sources. The complete budget can be found on the Village WEB site at: <http://www.barringtonhills-il.gov>.

The total amount the Village levies does not change with the assessed value of the properties in the Village. This

continued on page 3

2011 Barrington Hills Trustee Election



Four newly elected village trustees were sworn in on May 9th. Joe Messer is returning to the seat he has filled since the passing of Peter Wessel, while Patty Meroni and Karen Selman will be serving four year terms and Skip Gianopulos will fill the two year term. Below is a little information about your new representatives on the Board of Trustees.

Joseph S. Messer

Joe Messer, 49, has been a Barrington Hills resident since 2000, and has lived in the Barrington area since 1992. He is married to Ann Messer and has three sons, ages 9, 14 and 15. Before being appointed to the Board of Trustees, he served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and on the Plan Commission. Joe is also an active member of our equestrian community. He has served on the Board of the Riding Club of Barrington Hills, and is also a board member of the Barrington Hills Polo Club. When Fritz Duda attempted to launch a high-density subdivision on the former McArthur estate 10 years ago, Joe was an original founder of the grass roots movement, **Save5Acres**. Save5Acres helped raise village awareness and defeat the Duda plan.

Joe is an attorney in his own law firm in downtown Chicago. He earned a BA from Lake Forest College and a JD from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Early in his career Joe worked for the law firm McBride Baker & Coles (now Holland & Knight). He and a partner subsequently formed their own firm, Messer & Stilp, Ltd., specializing in business law for small, mid-size and large firms in transaction and litigation matters. Joe has also served the state in complex litigation matters as a Special Assistant Attorney General. Further, he has extensive experience in state and federal environmental law working with both the United States and Illinois Environmental Protection Agencies. In addition, he has substantial experience in employment, discrimination and real estate law.

continued on page 2

2011 Barrington Hills Trustee Election continued from page 1

Karen S. Selman

Residing in the Barrington area since 1976, Karen Selman has been active in the equestrian and conservation community for decades. She also served as the Barrington Hills Village Clerk for two years. In addition she is a former president of the Riding Club of Barrington Hills, a co-founder of the Friends of Spring Creek and is the long time co-chair for the Barrington Hills Polo Club's annual Kalaway Landowner's Cup event.

Professionally, Karen has worked in the area of child welfare since 1973, and was with Children's Home + Aid since 1985. She recently retired after serving as Vice President of the organization, where she was responsible for administering, planning and directing all aspects of three center-based early childhood programs, a substance abuse treatment program for women and their children (FACT), Family Preservation, a specialized foster care program (Second Start), and the northern Cook County Resource and Referral Program. In addition, Karen was the statewide director of Parents Care & Share of Illinois, a program that offers parent support groups throughout Illinois and functions as a prevention program for child abuse and neglect.

Karen earned her Bachelor's Degree in English and Speech from DePauw University and a Master's Degree in Public Service Administration from DePaul University. Karen is also licensed as a high school teacher in the state of Illinois. She has two children, Jennifer and Michael.

Patty Meroni

Growing up in North Carolina, Patty came to love the open countryside and spent many hours riding on her family's lands, becoming a lifelong equestrian in the process. A graduate of George Washington University, she spent over twenty-five years in the travel industry. Since moving to Barrington Hill in the 70's, she has been active in the Fox River Valley Pony Club, Spring Creek Basset Hunt, the Fox River Valley Hunt and co chaired the Barrington Horse Show. In 2001, she helped found "Riding for a Cure," which has donated over \$500,000 to University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation and the American Cancer Society.

Patty's strengths lie in her tenacious focus on pre-planning and being prepared. She is expert at organizing all elements of major events, one of the most notable being the East-West Symposium in 1974 behind the Iron Curtain with President Tito as the speaker, the first ever major event of its kind behind the Iron Curtain. She also planned the U.S. Equestrian Team's trip to Barcelona in 1992 for the Summer Olympics. Closer to home, Patty chaired the year-long Barrington Hills 50th Anniversary events in 2007.

She believes in the celebration of our past and present. Patty and her husband Chuck have been married 32 years and live on one of the village's original farms, which they have lovingly restored.

Harold "Skip" Gianopulos

Skip and his family have lived in the Barrington area for over 35 years. He and his wife Gayle have four daughters ages 4, 6, 8 and 10. In 2003, not long after their second child was born with Down's syndrome, he and his wife joined several families in founding Gigi's Playhouse, a non-profit organization that has grown quickly to have nine locations across the country. Skip continues to serve as founding director and treasurer of that organization. In addition, he is a board member of the Barrington Area Community Foundation. He has a deep appreciation for the unique character of our community and enjoys serving the community by being actively involved in these charitable organizations.

Professionally, Skip has focused his entire career counseling high net worth individuals in all areas of wealth management and has been featured in Worth Magazine as one of the Top Financial Advisors in the country. Skip graduated from Taylor University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Computer Information Systems Analysis. He received his Law Degree (JD) and Masters of Law in Taxation (LL.M.) from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

2011 Barrington Hills Trustee Election Final Vote Counts

Candidates for Trustee	Votes
Four Year Term	
Steve D'Amore	616
Beth Mallen	642
Patty Meroni	765 (elected)
Joe Messer	852 (elected)
Karen Selman	754 (elected)
David Stieper	375
Diane (Dede) Wamberg	562
Candidates for Trustee	Votes
Two Year Term	
Skip Gianopulos	914 (elected)

From The Desk Of The Village President continued from page 1

ensures that the Village operates in a fiscally conservative manner, acquiring only the tax dollars it needs to maintain operations and protect capital investment. Essentially, the Village budgets much like you do with your home or business. However, individual properties will see changes in their tax bill as their assessment changes relative to others in the Village.

The results of this investigation are troubling. No single entity will take credit for the increases in the billing numbers. Each entity, including the State, the County Assessor's offices, the County Treasurer's offices, and the County Boards, all claim the rise in your bill is simply a coincidence of various factors. They each point the finger at each other and on both sides of the political spectrum. I think that answer is horse stall muck. I believe that at least two counties are collecting more than the Village has levied. Where has this money gone to?

In order to get to the bottom of this problem, this June, I will be taking the very unusual step of filing a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to each of the four counties. We will be asking for every tax bill and the revenue collected from each billing. As a result of this audit, if any county has collected more than the Village has levied, then I will ask the Village Board to file suit against the offending county to return the over collected monies back to the taxpayers of the Village.

The Village operates on a very strict, well balanced, and stable budget. We are in excellent financial shape, and **I do not expect to raise taxes in 2011.** But our financial health is extremely dependant on internal cost control and sound revenue management. The county tax bill

problem threatens our financial health and the well being of our residents.

I will be reporting more on this issue as we receive more information. In the mean time, if you have a particular tax bill concern or question about our budget, please contact me directly.

I want to encourage you to take full advantage of the Village WEB site, www.BarringtonHills-IL.gov. Here you will find all the Village communication, meeting schedules, a fully searchable version of the Village Code, and all the latest happenings within the Village. I would like your feedback on how we can make this WEB site more useful to you.

I encourage you to continue to communicate directly with me and the Trustees. I invite you to attend our regular Board and committee meetings and get involved. We have made it easier to speak and interact at the Village Board meeting by moving Public Comment to the top of the agenda. There are still slots available on several committees and I am always looking for more volunteers. We need your feedback and ideas. I can be reached directly either by e-mail or phone and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,



Robert G. Abboud
 President, Village of Barrington Hills
 Village Hall Office: 847-551-3000
 Home: 847-381-8174
 Cell: 847-921-1932
 Bob@RGALabs.com

Community Corner

Relay For Life

Barrington Hills rose to the challenge presented by Relay for Life organizer Joanne Dalessandro that all BACOG member villages participate in the American Cancer Society fundraiser on June 10 2011. Each village including Barrington Hills fielded a team of adults and kids to relay around the Barrington High School community stadium to raise money for this event. Barrington's Biggest Birthday Party, as the event was known, was a night to remember! Kim Duchoissois got a team "The Cupcake Cuties" together, and Trustee Beth Mallen also fielded a team. We showed the local newspapers that our village can come together to fight cancer and not each other!

Citizens for Conservation Restoration Volunteers Begin Summer Schedule

Citizens for Conservation restoration volunteers have launched their summer schedule, working every Thursday and Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. Jobs include planting plugs of native plants and weeding to restore local woodlands, wetlands and prairies as high-quality habitats for wildlife in the Barrington area.

Meet at the CFC headquarters at 459 West Highway 22 in Lake Barrington. Look for the white farmhouse with a silo across from Good Shepherd Hospital. Bring work gloves, dress for the weather. CFC will provide the tools. Volunteers work on nature preserves in the greater Barrington area; new volunteers are always welcome. For more information, call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283).



Ginger Underwood, upper right, supervises volunteers preparing for Citizens for Conservation's annual spring Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

Elaine M. Ramesh

Roads and Bridges
eramesh@barringtonhills-il.gov

Our 2011 resurfacing work was awarded to Arrow Road Construction. Arrow will be repaving Barrington Hills Rd, Butternut Rd, Buckley Rd, Aberdeen Dr., Crabapple Rd. and Leeds Dr.; and also patching portions of Haeger's Bend Rd., Plum Tree Rd and Ridge Rd.

Some residents have inquired about whether or not there is a quality control process to insure that roads are paved with an adequate amount of asphalt, so details about how we manage the resurfacing program are provided. The Village's quality control for the resurfacing work starts with Gewalt Hamilton's oversight of each day's work while paving occurs. The engineers also verify that every pound of material billed to the Village is placed on our roads. Additionally, a separate material testing firm is present during paving operations to confirm that the contractor is meeting thickness and compaction requirements.

In other news, representatives from various private roads in the Village recently met as a group for the first time to discuss matters related the maintenance of their roads. Resident Ken Bosworth was the guest speaker who volunteered to provide legal information to the group regarding homeowners' associations and collection of fees for road maintenance. Everyone who attended found the summit to be very useful. The group will meet again in September, so if your private road has not yet participated, please contact the Village Clerk for information on how to join the group.

Fritz Gohl

Public Safety
fgohl@barringtonhills-il.gov

Safety First!!

Severe weather and the worst of spring are just ahead. What is the difference between a watch and a warning? A watch means a thunderstorm or tornado conditions are present for severe weather. A warning means a thunderstorm or tornado is in the immediate or sighted area and you should take shelter immediately. Do you know where to go if a tornado has been sighted? In a home with a basement, go to the basement and hide under the stairs, in a downstairs bathroom or in an interior closet. Stay away from windows and chimneys. In a home without a basement, go to the central portion of the home and hide in an interior closet or bathroom and stay away from windows. Try to take a flashlight and keys with you. Keys have a tendency to disappear in a tornado. In a car, leave it at once and find shelter in a building. If there is not shelter nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch, ravine or culvert with your hands over your head.

While you are away, thieves come out to play. When you are on vacation, let only a few people know you are gone. Have the post office hold your mail, have a neighbor check your front door for packages and newspapers that might pile up there. Burglar proof your home by having strong and securely locked doors and windows. Set your alarm, lock all garage doors and hide valuables like jewelry and cash in a safe place or security deposit box. Put indoor and outdoor lights on random timers or motion detectors. Have someone stay at your house, who knows how to turn off main gas, water and power supply if needed. Make sure that the house sitter has all emergency numbers to call, even insurance people. Let the police know that you are gone or have a house sitter, they will be happy to put your house on a watch list. If your car is left outside while you are gone, have someone move it every two to three days. By following these tips, you can help avoid coming home to any unwelcome surprises.



Joseph Messer

Zoning Board of Appeals
jmesser@barringtonhills-il.gov



The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will have a busy schedule over the next few months. The June 20, 2011 meeting agenda includes a request by the Barrington United Methodist Church for a special use permit application to allow the construction of an outdoor Nature Explore Classroom and a small garage. The July 18, 2011 meeting agenda includes a petition for a variance to the Village's average lot width requirement filed by the owner of the property at 104 Brinker Road, to allow for a barn to be constructed. At the August 15, 2011 meeting, the ZBA is scheduled to consider an appeal, filed by two neighbors of Oakwood Farm, located at 350 Bateman Road, of a decision by the village administration that the farm complies with the Home Occupation Ordinance.

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

Each meeting agenda includes a discussion of horse boarding, and to the extent that time allows the ZBA will review its history of consideration of a potential Village Code amendment regarding the regulation of horse boarding, the objective of which is to determine what further direction from the Village Board of Trustees is required to successfully move the issue forward to resolution.

Harold "Skip" Gianopulos

Beautification
sgianopulos@barringtonhills-il.gov

Earth Day

On April 21st, the Village of Barrington Hills Beautification Committee hosted its first ever "Earth Day Clean-Up Project of Kemper Park." (This park is located in the northwest corner of our village, off of Helm Road near the Helm Road Forest Preserve.) Children from both Sunny Hill and Countryside Schools worked alongside parents, PTO members, along with volunteers from Citizens for Conservation (CFC), Friends of Spring Creek, Barrington Area Conservation Trust and BHS Horticulture Club. Although the weather was "springtime brisk" the clouds did nothing to deter the spirits of the volunteers! Irma Bates, principle of Sunny Hill Elementary School said, "Children are eager to join in the spirit of community and responsibility for taking care of the Earth by beginning close to home. Children need a little guidance and modeling from adults and fall into this role easily, at times they do the teaching and we do the learning. It was a productive start to what we hope will be a joint effort for years to come."

The children listened attentively to the program's speakers, who included Steve Byers (IL Nature Preservation Commission), Sam Oliver (CFC) and Bob Kosin (Administrator of the Village). Then, when the speakers' comments concluded, the children, just as horses at the starting gate, bounded out and attacked any trash and garbage they could find. Shouts rang out about treasures found and discoveries made, while looking around the trails and areas within the park. Parents did their best to keep up with trash bags to ensure that all debris found its new home, appropriately housed and ready to be removed.

Kimberly Foster-Thomas, principle of Countryside Elementary School remarked, "Education is all about connecting what you are being taught, or what you are reading about, to the real world. The Earth Day Clean-Up Project was an ideal opportunity for students to act on what they have learned about the importance of protecting our planet for the future. I am so glad that the students from both schools had this wonderful experience. Hopefully, it will become an annual event."

The Beautification Committee would like to thank ALL the day's participants. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm of youth coupled with the supervision of adults to improve the beauty of our natural landscape!

The Village of Barrington Hills Cleans Up!

A truly chilly and blustery day didn't deter volunteers at the recent Roadside Trash Pick Up on April 30th. The village volunteers focused on the worst parts of Penny, Hawley Woods, Church, Chapel and Bateman (at the Cook County Forest Preserve) Roads. It would appear that this group discovered more debris than trash this time. This trash probably came from work crews from Com Ed, Comcast, CN Rail Road, and the phone companies; the repair crews just push things into the brush and forests. This was really a heroic effort!

Participants represented members of the Riding Club of Barrington Hills, the Barrington Area Conservation Trust and Citizens for Conservation, residents of Barrington Hills and surrounding communities including Village President Bob Abboud and Trustee Elaine Ramesh along with Beautification Committee Members P Denise Israel, Patti Fahey, Lorraine Briggs, Chuck Prettyman and Dan Cantalupo. Please watch the website and village communications for the fall pickup, and if you've not attended a roadside trash pickup, please consider joining this fun and worthwhile event.



The U.S. Census Bureau reported results that the population of the Village of Barrington Hills increased by 7% between 2000 and 2010 to a total of 4209 residents.

In 2010, the Barrington Hills Communications Committee joined all elected and staff employees of the Village in a concerted effort to get residents involved in ensuring Census numbers were reported correctly for our area. Federal funds are allocated based on population counts, so an accurate count was vital for our continued fair share federal funding. Vicki Kelly led the efforts, which included events, activities and mailers to get the word out all year. Thanks to our residents who helped make a difference!



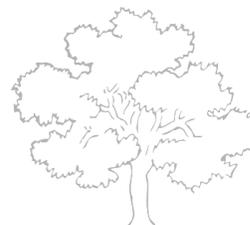
Jeremy Hensler, Scott Motisi, John Matlachowski, Tony Thompson



Lewis B. Simon, Chief Danly, James Kempe

ARBOR AND BIRD DAY
April 29, 2011

The Village of Barrington Hills celebrates Arbor and Bird Day by planting a Shade Master Locust on the grounds of the Village Hall (below), a similar location to the groundbreaking for the Fire Station 15 years prior (top).



Chief Michael N. Murphy Sr.

The Village is celebrating two members of the police department who have served for 25 years. Chief Michael N. Murphy Sr. celebrated his silver anniversary with the Village on February 23rd. President Abboud expressed the Village's gratitude for his dedication and presented Chief Murphy with a 25-year service award at the February 23, 2011 Village Board Meeting. In addition, Officer Dominic Caputo will celebrate his 25th year on June 30th. Officer Caputo was recognized at the Village Board meeting June 27th.



Officer Dominic Caputo



Barrington Hills Police Department



Citizen Survey

In an effort to provide the citizens and guests of Barrington Hills with the most professional and caring service that we can offer, please take a few moments to fill out this survey of citizen attitude and opinions. This survey will allow us to view our citizen concerns and help us address any issues that you may have. Your opinions are very important to us.

Please choose the answer to the following questions if they apply to you.

What is your opinion of our agency's OVERALL PERFORMANCE? (Circle one)

Excellent Good Fair Poor

How do you view the overall COMPETENCE OF OUR AGENCY EMPLOYEES? (Circle one)

Excellent Good Fair Poor

How do you view our EMPLOYEE'S ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOR TOWARDS CITIZENS?
(Circle one)

Excellent Good Fair Poor

Within our service area, DO YOU FEEL GENERALLY SAFE AND SECURE? (Circle one)

Yes Mostly No Does not apply to me

Please provide us with any recommendations and suggestions that you may have for us to improve our service.

I thank you for taking the time for this short survey. Your information is confidential and will be used for administrative use only.

Sincerely,

Chief Michael N. Murphy

Please Return by July 31, 2011:

By Fax: 847-551-3055

By Mail: Barrington Hills Police
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010

Attn: Survey



Village of Barrington Hills
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 Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199
 www.barringtonhills-il.gov

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Vehicle Stickers

It's still not too late to buy your 2011-2012 Vehicle Stickers. For your convenience, stickers can be purchased through the mail, in person at the police department, or new this year, online. If purchased by June 30, stickers are \$20 for cars and motorcycles and \$22 for trucks. Starting July 1st, stickers will be \$30 for cars and motorcycles and \$33 for trucks. In addition, the Village of Barrington Hills has partnered with the State of Illinois and is now offering E-Pay. Please see the web site for instructions on how to use this service.



A vehicle sticker is required for all vehicles registered within the Village of Barrington Hills. Failure to comply with the ordinance may result in a \$25 citation. If you did not receive a form in the mail please visit the police department so that your vehicle and contact information can be updated.

Directory

Village of Barrington Hills

112 Algonquin Road
 Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199
Web address with e-mail
 www.barringtonhills-il.gov

Phone
 847-551-3000

Village Hall Hours
 Monday-Friday
 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Director of Administration
 Robert Kosin

MEETINGS

Village Board
 4th Monday of the month, 6:30 PM
Equestrian Commission
 1st Monday of the month, 7:00 PM
E-911 ETSB
 2nd Monday of the month, 6:30 PM
Plan Commission
 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30 PM
Zoning Board of Appeals
 3rd Monday of the month, 7:30 PM

All meetings are held in the Alexander MacArthur Room of the Barrington Hills Village Hall.
 Should you wish to comment at any of these meetings, your advance notice, by telephoning the office of the Village Clerk at 847-551-3000, is appreciated.

Board of Health
 3rd Wednesday of the month,
 7:30 PM
Communications Committee
 3rd Monday of the month, 6:00 PM
Police Pension Board
 4th Monday of the month, 9:00 AM

Board of Trustees

Robert G. Abboud
President
 Fritz Gohl
Pro-Tem
 Harold "Skip" Gianopulos
Trustee
 Patty Meroni
Trustee
 Karen S. Selman
Trustee
 Elaine Ramesh
Trustee
 Joseph S. Messer
Trustee