

## 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

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### Meetings

#### Village Board

4th Monday of the month,  
7:00 pm

#### Plan Commission

2nd Monday of the  
month, 7:30 pm

#### Zoning Board of

Appeals - 3rd Monday of  
the month, 7:30 pm

#### Board of Health

3rd Wednesday of the  
month, 8:00 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.*

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### Board of Trustees

James A. Kempe  
*President*

Theodore L. Horne  
*President Pro Tem*

Robert G. Abboud, Jr.  
*Trustee*

Fritz Gohl  
*Trustee*

Daria G. Sapp  
*Trustee*

Walter E. Smithe III  
*Trustee*

Julie McKeivitt  
*Trustee*

# News from Village Hall



Keepers of the Land  
published by  
The Garden Club  
of Barrington  
is available at the  
Village Hall.

Winter/Spring 2005

## FROM THE DESK OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

### What is BACOG?

It stands for Barrington Area Council of Governments, an association of nine units of local government that meet monthly (more or less) to discuss common problems and alternative solutions. BACOG has been around since 1970 when the original agreement was signed. The founding members were Barrington, Barrington Hills, Deer Park, North Barrington, Tower Lakes and South Barrington. At that time, the President of Barrington Hills was Thomas Z. Hayward, Sr. He was the third President of the Village.

The original agreement contained only two articles. The first was a statement that the organization was hereby created and that the Council would be governed by the By-Laws which were attached as exhibit "A." The second article said that all members would be bound by and comply with the provisions of the By-Laws and a statement that any Village could withdraw from the Council upon 60 days notice by resolution of its President and Board of Trustees.

Over the 35 years of its existence, only one village has withdrawn. That was Inverness. And the By-Laws were recently amended to permit townships to become a part of BACOG. Barrington Township and Cuba Township have joined, making the current membership seven villages and two townships.

The chairmanship of the Council is rotated among the various members. I am serving as the current Chairman in a term that generally runs from June to June.

The first Executive Director of BACOG was Don Klein, who held the post from the Council's founding until October 31, 2000. Barrington Hills resident Janet Agnoletti is the second Executive Director. There is currently only one other part-time employee, and an intern, both of whom carry out the various activities as directed by the Board.

Just as the chairmanship rotates, so do the meeting locations, moving monthly to the offices of the member villages and townships. Meetings are usually held on the fourth Tuesday of the month and are open to the public. At monthly meetings, in addition to reports from the Village/Township representatives and the Executive Director, the Board gives time to the School District representative, BADC, and other civic organizations if they wish to be heard. Individuals can also make presentations to BACOG, although it is best to arrange to be on the agenda before the meetings.

The BACOG office is in Barrington at 218 West Main Street. Their phone number is 847-381-7871. The BACOG newsletter is included as a part of this Barrington Hills newsletter.

James A. Kempe  
*President, Board of Trustees*

## What's Inside:

- Village Financial News
- BACOG Newsletter
- Riding Club of Barrington Hills
- Village Hall Update
- League of Women Voters
- Police Department News
- And more...

## ELECTION COMING UP

### APRIL 5, 2005

The first Tuesday in April.

Don't forget to go to the polls to vote for your new Village officials.

There are two people running for Village President:

- Robert Abboud, a current Village Trustee
- James Kempe, the current Village President

Three people are running unopposed for Village Trustee:

- Fritz Gohl, a current Village Trustee
- Steven Knoop, a resident formerly involved in opposing the Barrington Bypass
- George Schueppert, currently serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals

Consult the local papers to find your Barrington Hills polling place. Or check with your county clerk to verify your correct polling place.

- Cook County Clerk: David Orr, 312-603-5656
- Kane County Clerk: John Cunningham, 630-232-3400
- Lake County Clerk: Willard Helander, 847-377-2000
- McHenry County Clerk: Katherine Schultz, 815-334-4000

In addition, you could call Grace at the Barrington Hills Village Hall, 847-551-3000.

**Don't forget to vote. In the last Village election, every vote DID count.**

## MEET YOUR POLICEMEN



The newest member of the Police Department is Officer Steven Hodge who joined the Department on October 16th. Steve grew up in Zanesville, Ohio, went to Colorado State University on a football scholarship, and played Arena Football for the St. Louis Stampede in the 1995 – 1996 season. He joined the United States Army in 1996 and served until 2000. In 2001, Steve began his Law Enforcement career in Colorado - working with the Grand Prairie Youth Facility and then with the Colorado State Police. Steve recently relocated to Crystal Lake with his wife, Burgandy, and their 3-year-old son.

## SHED A TEAR...

The northwest portion of the Village of Barrington Hills is sadly diminished with the disconnection of the MacArthur property. Fritz Duda has been successful so far in his suit to remove nearly 400 acres from the Village. The first trial was decided in his favor, as was the Village's appeal. Now the issue has been submitted to the Illinois Supreme Court. We don't know yet whether they will choose to hear the case.

Initially, this former Barrington Hills resident was planning an 18 hole golf course on the property ... but now that "doesn't seem to be economically viable." In other words, Mr. Duda thinks he can make more money by filling the land with homes, without furnishing the amenities that might ameliorate his development

tactics. He is planning an average of 1.1 acres per home ... far from our standard 5 acre pattern of development.

In addition, since he is planning such high density – apparently with assistance from McHenry County – there will be no room for the septic systems which are standard in Barrington Hills. Instead he is insistent on his "land application system" which is an alternative system of disposing of human waste on the land. In his initial concept, this effluent would have been used on the golf course – bad enough. But with no golf course, where will the "land application" be applied? The sad saga continues.

Let's hope the Illinois Supreme Court is willing to ask the same question and more....

## A MESSAGE FROM MARIA PAPPAS, COOK COUNTY TREASURER

- > You can now pay your property tax bills at any Bank One. 
- > Bank One has more than 250 locations in Chicagoland which are listed at [cookcountytreasurer.com](http://cookcountytreasurer.com).
- > This service at Bank One is free of charge.
- > Payments no longer will be accepted at LaSalle Bank.
- > Bank One is now THE bank for Cook County property tax payments.

## ERRATUM

Former Trustee Lorraine Briggs correctly points out a miscommunication that appeared in the Summer 2004 newsletter about the establishment of the first 9-1-1 system in Barrington Hills. The article stated that our first system was installed in 1978.

"Though legislation providing federal grants was approved in 1978, installation of the state-of-the-art 9-1-1 radio dispatch center in the Police Department began in 1989 following an April referendum approved by Village voters. Actual implementation occurred in the early 1990's."

Thank you, Lorraine.

## NEW STAR FOR COLDITZ

At the Monday, February 28, Board of Trustees meeting, Sergeant Joseph (Joe) Colditz was officially sworn in as the Police Department's newest Lieutenant, filling the vacancy created by the recent retirement of Lieutenant Al Schuld.

Joe, a native of Cary, began his career in law enforcement career following his graduation from Cary-Grove High School in 1989 – accepting a position as dispatcher with the Cary Police Department. Joe assumed the duties of police officer with Cary in 1994, a position he held until coming to Barrington Hills in October of 1998. With his demonstrated knowledge, dedication, and leadership, Joe was promoted to sergeant in the summer of 2000.

In addition to his regular duties of patrol supervisor, for the last 5 years, Sgt. Colditz has been a Hostage Negotiator for the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System Emergency Services Team (a cooperative, multi-jurisdictional tactical team), and is the assistant team leader of the Crisis Negotiation Team.

As Lieutenant, Joe's additional responsibilities include management of the Department's motorized fleet and coordination of the Department's comprehensive traffic safety program. He is also one of three officers State-certified as Child Safety Seat Technicians. During his tenure in Barrington Hills, Joe has received the Chief's Award for Meritorious Service, a Meritorious Conduct Award, and several Department Commendations.

Lieutenant Colditz resides in Algonquin with his wife, Susan.



*Newest Lieutenant Joe Colditz is sworn in by Grace Wytmar.*

## THE RIDING CLUB REFLECTS THE VILLAGE'S EARLY DAYS

Consider the horse. Strong and beautiful, the horse is a symbol of freedom and the open plains in America. The horse has also played an important part in the Barrington Hills community. Long before the Village was established there were horsemen here, riding local trails. The Barrington Hills Riding Club (RCBH) continues the tradition of early agrarian settlers to this area.



In those early days, the farmers rode the trails to check up on their cattle. Gradually, the habit of riding the trails in our area as a leisurely activity developed. In the late 1930's, the RCBH was formally established by a group of local people. A mounted patrol was formed from the club's membership so that local men could ride the trails and help to keep the countryside safe. Sometime later, the RCBH established the Riding Center on Bateman Road as a place where the local equestrian community could meet. Though the Riding Center has since been deeded over to the Barrington-Countryside Park District, the Riding Club is still involved in the management of the facility in an advisory capacity, as is the Fox River Valley Pony Club and Fox River Valley Hunt Club.

The RCBH today promotes and encourages our equestrian lifestyle. Our motto is "Neighbors Riding to Meet Neighbors." Our members are involved in many different facets of the equestrian sport, including the hunt, dressage, eventing, western riding, driving, and hunter/jumper disciplines. We are charged with maintaining the trails which wind through Barrington Hills, connecting various parts of the Village to each other, to Forest Preserve trails and to the Riding Center. However, we do much more than that. We sponsor clinics, host speakers, arrange charity trail rides and put on a small local show at the Riding Center, all of which enhance the unique countryside flavor of our Village.

The Barrington Hills Riding Club is open to all Barrington Hills residents, not just those who own horses, and can be reached through their website, [www.rcbh.com](http://www.rcbh.com), which is also linked directly to the Village's own website.

Riding Club of Barrington Hills

## REAL ESTATE TAX UPDATE

Thanks to a difficult but necessary decision by our Board and the wonderful support of our citizens, the Village is building up its financial reserves. While no one wants to pay increased property taxes, many of our residents are very knowledgeable about financial matters and have told me they support a prudent approach to Village finances. It is important to note that your Board has no new significant spending increases planned and that receipts in excess of expenditures will go towards bolstering our reserve, to the level recommended by our auditor, Ron Amen CPA of Lauterbach and Amen, LLP. Once that level has been reached, the Board will reassess the levy to address the budget for that year which may result in a property tax reduction.

Also, 2005 will see the Village begin the conversion process to GASB 34 which is a new accounting standard for municipalities.

Meeting this standard will require a lot of work by our Treasurer Joanne Sladek and our outside accounting firm. Before you yawn too loudly, please know that the end result will be a far more transparent financial statement picture that will be easy for anyone familiar with business accounting to understand. The current Byzantine system dates back generations and is as cumbersome to administer as it is indecipherable. Over the course of the next few years, we will work diligently on this project and will keep you updated as these changes occur.

Ms Sladek and I remain at your service should you have any questions or comments about Village finances.

Walter E. Smithe, Trustee  
Chairman, Finance

## IDENTITY THEFT – PROTECTING YOURSELF



Identity theft occurs every day – even in Barrington Hills. Criminals will use your personal information [e.g., your name, Social Security number, credit card number, etc.] to steal from you, or to commit other crimes for which you may even be blamed.

Identity theft is a serious crime. People whose identities have been stolen can spend months or years - and sometimes thousands of dollars - cleaning up the mess thieves have made of their good name and credit record. Victims may lose financial opportunities, be refused loans, or even get arrested for crimes they didn't commit.

### Protect yourself

Identity theft is a crime that cannot be prevented by the police department – only you can protect yourself from this type of crime. The most common ways in which these criminals get your personal information are by:

- Stealing wallets or purses
- Stealing incoming & outgoing mail
- Using the Internet
- Posing as telemarketers
- Searching garbage
- Buying personal data

### Properly dispose of the following types of documents – Shred if possible

- Bank statements
- Charge receipts
- Expired charge/credit cards
- Insurance forms
- Unsolicited credit card offers
- Medical forms
- Social Security mailings

### Computer security

People are using the Internet more and more on a daily basis. Many types of activities require use of a password. Never use the following types of passwords:

- Your mother's maiden name
- Your middle name or your children's names or nicknames
- Your birth date or that of your children
- Your anniversary
- The last four digits of your Social Security number or home telephone number
- Your address
- Any pet names

Use combined numbers and letters instead of the poor password choices mentioned above that thieves can easily discover.

### If you are victimized

Contact the police department as soon as possible. Many credit agencies require a police report. In addition, investigating officers will assist you in minimizing losses.

Fredrick Clauser, Chief Barrington Hills Police Department  
Fritz Gohl, Trustee

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE BARRINGTON AREA

The League of Women Voters is a nation-wide, nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose candidates but does support issues and legislation after member study and agreement. Membership is open to all citizens of voting age and associate membership is available for young people and non-citizens.

The Barrington Area group was established in 1939 and early on worked to bring pasteurization of milk to the community.

In the 1960's and 1970's, we promoted coordination and cooperation of the area governments and supported the development of the Barrington Council of Governments (BACOG). Our study of Juvenile Vandalism led to the establishment of the Home & School Committee at the Barrington High School as a viable communication channel for students, parents and school staff. The Community responded to this study with development of a Youth Network Council established to act as a forum for youth-support and youth-education groups and the Alliance of Barrington Communities for Drug Education (ABCDE).

In the 1980's, we worked to establish curbside recycling in Barrington. This has gradually expanded into area villages. Citizens for Conservation awarded us the William H. Miller Conservation Award in 1989 in recognition of our leadership in this area. Our study of community childcare brought about the establishment of the Kids Enrichment Experience Program

(K.E.E.P.), a program for latchkey children. Our study of Library operations resulted in a number of recommendations to The Barrington Library Board.

The LWV formed the Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee in the 1990's which established common issues of concern in an effort to determine ways for many units of area government to work together using existing and shared resources. We brought together interested citizens and providers of senior services to form a Senior Coalition that works to improve services for seniors in the Barrington area. Our Committee for Choice has expanded its effectiveness by establishing a Regional Coalition for Choice. Our study of Development Impact Fees culminated in the adoption of a model ordinance by most of the Barrington area villages.

Throughout these many years, we have sponsored candidates forums and annually published and distributed without charge our Public Officials Directory that lists national and state officials as well as officials of the many local governments in our area. A regularly updated version of our Directory is included on our website (<http://bakhome.northstarnet.org/League>) along with information about our League. Also we have successfully promoted inclusion of candidates for local governmental positions on the League's DNet ([www.dnet.org](http://www.dnet.org)). For information about joining the League, visit the website mentioned above, or call Lorraine Briggs at 847-381-3931.

Edith Auchter, President  
Barrington League of Women Voters

## WHISTLE-BLOWERS?

What's a whistle ban and do we want it?



In 2003, the Federal Railroad Administration adopted an aggressive train-horn rule that requires locomotives to sound their horn at every crossing. Villages and cities could become exempt by establishing a "quiet zone" if their crossings met certain safety criteria.

This new practice was supposed to go into effect on October 28 of last year. Implementation was postponed until January 10, 2005, due to the extreme public outcry. Also, on January 26th, eleven members of the Northeast Illinois Congressional Delegation sent a letter to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regarding continued concerns with the pending rules. And the protests have continued, further postponing the implementation until April 1.

The Village of Barrington Hills, with five grade crossings is following this Federal regulation closely, trying to decipher complex and changing railroad crossing criteria. In addition, the Northwest Municipal Conference, with which Barrington Hills associates, is coordinating a regional effort to create a total horn-free corridor along the entire Union Pacific Northwest line from Chicago to McHenry. A similar corridor approach has been proposed for the EJ&E rail line.

Robert G. Abboud, Jr., Trustee  
Chairman, Roads and Bridges

## YOUR FEEDBACK IS WELCOME

What do you think about residents operating a customer-based, sales-oriented business out of their Barrington Hills residence? (By "customer-based" we mean customers regularly going to a home as a place of business.) And to attend to those customers, employees are used who are outside the immediate family. Furthermore, the Village Code states that no accessory building shall be used for a "home occupation."

Your Village is currently in litigation trying to stop violators of these specific provisions of the Village Code. Is it worth the legal fees to enforce our Village ordinances? Their neighbors certainly think it is.

What do you think?

Send your comments to the Editor at  
[home@megsinet.net](mailto:home@megsinet.net).



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## VILLAGE HALL UPGRADES



On a daily basis some 30,000 cars pass the Barrington Hills Village Hall. To some drivers it's a landmark. The building has occupied this location for some 30 years. However, just as your home requires upkeep and maintenance, so does the Village Hall and grounds. Beyond the ordinary maintenance issues, technological advances also require us to act, and of course all of this must be done within our budgetary constraints.

This past fall the telephone system of the Village Hall and Police Department completed a merger of analog signaling to computer based telephony. This upgrade allows for increased 911 capabilities with all six wireless carriers, and a feature we have come to expect in these modern times – voice mail.

In early Fall, an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was installed in the Alexander MacArthur Meeting Room. It was placed in this room as it is the most publicly used room in all of Village Hall. This room hosts all Village meetings and even serves as a polling place. The New England Journal of Medicine has found that chances of surviving a cardiac arrest increase three fold if a shock from a defibrillator is delivered within eight minutes. Hopefully, there will never be a need for it, but please know that it is available.

In the last Newsletter, we discussed the canopy addition to the south side of the building. We had originally hoped that this project would be completed by year end, but unfortunately we have had to delay the start of this project until the Spring of 2005. Just as many construction projects do, it started to become more complicated (and, of course, more expensive) than originally planned. Therefore, we are working through the winter with our architect and contractor so that once the weather breaks in the Spring we will actually commence with this improvement.

Julie McKeivitt, Trustee  
Chairman, Buildings and Grounds