

Directory

**Village of
Barrington Hills**
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

Web address with e-mail
www.barringtonhills-il.gov
www.vbhcomm.info

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,
6:30 PM

Equestrian Commission
1st Monday of the month,
7:00 PM

Development Commission
1st Monday of the month,
5:00 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

Board of Health
3rd Wednesday of the
month, 7:30 PM

**Communications
Commission**
4th Monday of the month,
5:30 PM

Police Pension Board
4th Monday of the month,
9:00 AM

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

Robert G. Abboud
President

Fritz Gohl
Pro-Tem

Theodore L. Horne
Trustee

Steve Knoop
Trustee

Julie McKeivitt
Trustee

George L. Schueppert
Trustee

Walter E. Smithe
Trustee

News from Village Hall

Celebrating 50 Years



February 2007

FROM THE DESK OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Fellow Residents:

Welcome to the New Year. As we enter into 2007, the Village is healthy and vibrant. Our health is a direct result of the many residents volunteering their efforts, as well as the efforts and dedication of our employees. Here is a short list of the many activities currently being addressed.

We continue to develop strong relationships with surrounding municipalities and our county governments. These relationships are particularly helpful with land use and transportation issues.

The Village Board and the staff spent a significant amount of time developing the financial program for 2007. Specifically, we have changed the fiscal year from a May 1 to April 31, to a Jan 1 to Dec 31 calendar year. This change helps the Village plan and utilize funds more efficiently, e.g. Public Safety, and Roads and Bridges – the two largest components of the budget. Changes in our budget process, assignment of a new auditor, and the nomination of a new treasurer, also gave us the opportunity to take a careful look at our pension programs. From this review, we made substantial adjustments to ensure our pension programs are being properly funded so as to remain healthy long into the future.

The Village is actively looking at a variety of mechanisms for reducing costs relative to health care and benefits. These costs represent a significant fraction of the Village budget. Controlling these costs will help hold down property taxes.

The Village continues to actively address land use issues and defend its zoning and brand. There are three major land use cases underway at present:

- Duda I – Submitted to the Illinois Supreme Court - petitioner was a foreign LLC
- Duda II – McHenry County Court for



disconnection – scheduled for trial in June of 2007

- Iatarola – Cook County Court for disconnection – scheduled for trial in March of 2007

The Village is continuing to prosecute these cases in a cost effective manner as well as looking for solution opportunities. In both the Duda and Iatarola cases, the Village has put forward solutions which protect the Village and its residents, and has the backing of the surrounding municipalities and associated counties. I will be sending out more information on these cases in a separate mailing.

The Village is actively working on a solution to the school boundary issue which divides the Village between Districts 220 and 300. I will be meeting with both School Board presidents to try to identify suitable solutions.

Through our legislative efforts, the Village is working on new State legislation which will significantly assist in both land use / disconnection and school boundary issues.

Many of you are aware that the Village has received an application for a cell tower installation from the Barrington Countryside Park District located at the Riding Center. Our Zoning Board of Appeals is reviewing this Special Use application and taking public comment. It is important to remember that the Village is NOT the applicant in this process. Your Village Board has no opinion on the

continued on page 2

application as we have not received a recommendation from the ZBA on the present application. While the Village does have an interest in improving cellular performance based on the very strong response of our recent survey, and public safety, cell tower installation is only one of many possible solutions being evaluated. The Village Board maintains the strongest protection of the character and landscape of the Village.

This year, ground and surface water protection will become a dominant issue in the region. The Village is already participating in a number of efforts designed to address the long term effects of zoning and planning on this precious resource.

The Village has been active in assisting with horse trail impacts. I want to remind everyone regarding the importance of the horse trail system to the overall property values in the Village. If you have trails on your property, I encourage you to contact the Barrington Hills Riding Club to help with trail maintenance. You can also contact Dan Lundmark, Chairman of the Equestrian Committee, to answer questions you may have. Keeping the trails open and viable is important to maintaining the overall character, property values, and brand of our community.

As you can see, a lot has been happening. This issue of the news letter will give you more detail about these activities.

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.

Our Communications Committee is making extensive use of the electronic medium – WEB, E-mail, Blog, etc. While we will continue to use the paper based news letter for some time, I encourage you to sign up on the Village WEB site for receiving your news letter by E-mail or WEB as this saves the Village thousands of dollars in processing costs. Most important in our communication efforts is providing effective channels for 2-way communication so our residents can participate and be involved in the governing of the Village.

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

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FAQs

“What is the Development Commission doing?”

The Development Commission is beginning to contact owners of larger tracts of land in Barrington Hills to determine whether or not there are any anticipated changes in the status of their properties. The village is offering its services, initially through the Development Commission, to assist landowners anticipating a change. For landowners wishing to maintain their property status quo, the Development Commission can assist in exploring creative means (i.e., conservation trusts) that may provide incentives for keeping land undeveloped.

“Why was the Development Commission established?”

The commission’s primary objective is to provide a service to our residents. On the other hand, any feedback the Development Commission can provide to our Board of Trustees is useful to them in their monumental task of predicting and planning for future population growth in the village. For example, when should the trustees begin to provide for the need for more police and fire protection? Not only are the obvious costs of additional salaries and equipment factors, the associated costs of pensions, insurance and support staff must be considered. Road maintenance, traffic control, permits and all the other things village government deals with on a daily basis will be magnified with population increases.

“Can the Development Commission affect zoning changes?”

No. The Development Commission has no authority to take action either for or against any landowner within the

regulatory jurisdiction of the village. Its members are not elected officials and serve only at the behest of the Board of Trustees. The Development Commission will, however, act as a liaison between landowners desiring a zoning change and village officials. Heretofore property status changes from residential in Barrington Hills have been virtually out of the question. In light of several attempts to de-annex property from the village, the village is willing to consider land use changes on a case-by-case basis when such a change would serve to protect our boundaries and reinforce our current minimum 5-acre, residential zoning throughout the village.

“Who are the members of the Development Commission?”

Commission members are all landowners in Barrington Hills who respect their neighbors’ privacy and, most of all, their right to own and enjoy property. Any inquiries initiated by the Development Commission are strictly intended to offer assistance to residents and to provide helpful information to those fiscally responsible for sound village management for all of us.

The Development Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 5 PM in the Village Hall. Meetings are open to the public and you are all welcome to attend.

The Development Commissioners are

David Buckley, Sr., Chairman	Betsy Bramsen
Eve Perry, Secretary	Bill Mattran
Chuck Prettyman	Greg Samata

COMMUNIQUÉ FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Welcome to 2007 !

The Communications Committee is celebrating our first full year of service to the community. We hope that you have been happy with the job we have done. Some of our accomplishments are newsletters reaching you three times a year and the vbhcomm.info website that is updated weekly with facts that you can use NOW. We do not have a counter on the site so please let us know what you think of the site, and what type of information you would like to see. Our email is vbhcomm.info@comcast.net.

In December, the Committee hosted a Holiday Open House that featured the very talented Madrigal singers from Barrington High. Every time I see one of their performances I am in awe of not only their voices, but of the dedication it takes to belong to a group like this. Congratulations to the performers, their teacher and last but not least the parents that are behind the scene. A huge thank you to Maureen Prettyman for chairing the event. Everything was beautifully done. We had a lot more residents attend this year which was GREAT. Thanks for coming. We were happy to have met you.

This coming year holds a lot of fun and exciting events for our Village. As you might know, we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our incorporation. Mrs. Patty Meroni is the chairperson. The events that are planned cover a six month period of time and offer something for everyone. Please plan on joining us !!



Shortly you will be receiving your notices to renew your Village parking stickers. The reason I mention this is we will be unveiling our new Village sticker. Longtime resident Susan Hanson came to the Board of Trustees and offered to work on a new design. The final copy is beautiful! It is totally unique to our Village and we are also using it on the commemorative license plate celebrating the Village's Anniversary.

Please let us know if you are happy with our work. We would love to hear from you! vbhcomm@comcast.net.

Best wishes,
Beth Mallen, Chairperson
Communication Committee

Communications Committee Holiday Open House



Left to Right: Dennis Trzuskowski, Butch Borgmann and President Abboud



Madrigal Singers from Barrington High



Left to Right: Beth Mallen, Communications Committee Chairperson and Maureen Prettyman, Open House Chair and Communications Committee Member



President Abboud talking with Barrington Hills Residents



Left to Right: Michael Mallen, Chief Murphy, Kevin Colosia

Barrington Hills 50th Anniversary

Having grown from a sleepy farming community with homes dating from 1836 to our present “special place to live”, Barrington Hills is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. From those of you who have lived here for years (or your entire lives), to our newcomers, and everyone in between, we invite you to join in various events being planned this year to celebrate our Village, its founders, and the special way of life which we fight so hard to maintain.

Events will be scheduled throughout the year so everyone can participate given our residents' varied interests and schedules. Meet your neighbors, new and old, as we join together in celebrating our community.

If you have a special memory, a favorite moment or activity, please share it with us as we embark on our trip not only down memory lane but in celebrating our unique lifestyle in Barrington Hills.

50th Anniversary Events



May 20 **Annual Barrington Hills Open House**
Village Hall & Barrington Hills Police Department

June 9 **Barn Tour**
Join us for an evening of fun, refreshments, and equestrian demonstrations at the hugely popular Barrington Hills Barn Tour, the first since the Barrington Horse Show 1995 Tour. Visit some of the area's most amazing barns featuring beautiful indoor arenas for dressage and jumping, viewing rooms, and astounding barn facilities.

June 30 **Civil War Re-Enactment Celebration, Dedication and BBQ – Barrington Hills Village Hall**

On Saturday, June 30, 2007, plans are underway for the dedication of the Village Hall grounds and American Flag stand by an Encampment of Civil War re-enactors. It may not be readily apparent but at this time of celebrating the history of Barrington Hills, the role of the area in the Civil War is a noteworthy event. To the west of the Village Hall, in the Cemetery of Barrington Center Church (Old Sutton and Dundee Roads), rests a red granite boulder brought from the banks of Flint Creek. On it is affixed a bronze tablet stating the names of those who served in the Civil War from Barrington Township. Some two hundred individuals dedicated themselves when called upon by President Lincoln to give “the last full measure of devotion”. Those serving in the 9th Illinois U.S. Cavalry fought in the Battle of Franklin wherein some 9,500 casualties occurred in what is referred to as “the bloodiest hours of the American Civil War”. But their names are not just transcribed on that tablet. Throughout Barrington Hills, roads still bear the family names of those who served such as Hawley, Otis, Helm and Bateman. A link therefore exists across time between those who have a commitment to place and its preservation through the rule of law. And so the arrangements are being taken to re-affirm on the grounds of the Village Hall what transpired in the area, still found but now celebrated. Please watch the calendar for more details.

August 13 **Family Day Outing**
Barrington Hills Country Club –
Lunch, golf, tennis, swimming and dinner.

Sept. 8 **Kalaway Landowners Polo Match**
Sponsored by
The Riding Club of Barrington Hills,
Oakwood Farm

Sept. 14-16 **Concours d'Elegance**
Barrington Hills Conservation Trust

The three-day Barrington Concours d' Elegance *Legends and Legacies* will feature 100 of the world's finest and most rare historic, classic, sports, and performance racing cars. *Legends and Legacies* will be held on the grounds of the spectacular Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington.

Barrington Hills 50th Anniversary cont.

A welcome dinner on Friday evening for exhibitors and honored guests kicks off the festivities. Saturday's events include a morning road rally and a lovely dinner celebration featuring fabulous food, wine and entertainment. The weekend will culminate with a spectacular display of legendary automobiles on the golf course grounds.

Legends and Legacies is a result of the collaborative vision of the event's three hosts and beneficiaries, Barrington Hills Conservation Trust, Hospice of Northeastern Illinois and Cowboy Dreams, who believe in the strength of partnership and who work diligently to preserve and promote some of the most important legacies of the Barrington area: compassion, conservation, and community involvement. All proceeds of the benefit will be divided evenly between these three nonprofit organizations.

So save the date and plan to join us at Makray for this extraordinary philanthropic event, the first of its kind in the area!

Nov 17 Barrington Hills Gala Celebration Sanfilippo Estate

Our tribute to Barrington Hills, its history, founders and the many residents who have strived over the past 50 years to preserve our open space, 5 acre zoning, rural atmosphere and the many other factors that have made Barrington Hills a special place to live, especially as we go into the 21st Century.

Date TBA Countryside School Reunion

As the year progresses, we will send more information and invitations. Meanwhile, a complete list of our celebration events can be found on our website at: bhcommunications@comcast.net or by requesting a detailed copy from the Barrington Hills Village Hall (847-551-3000). We welcome your help with these events. Meet new people, make new friends and help to make our 50th Anniversary Celebration a huge success!

We hope you will all join us in celebrating our 50th Birthday!

Patty Meroni, Chair
50th Anniversary Celebration

50TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE PLATES

As part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration, the Village will be offering special event license plates to promote and commemorate this important milestone. Special event plates are produced by the Illinois Secretary of State and may be displayed for 60 days on passenger vehicles, B-trucks, motorcycles and recreational vehicles weighing 8,000 pounds or less. The display dates for the 50th Anniversary plates are September 8th through November 8th. The below artwork was chosen for the plate and unanimously approved by the Communications Committee and Village Board. A limited quantity of plate sets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at a cost of \$50.

Alternatively, residents may "pre-order" plates through March 5th and guarantee availability by forwarding \$5 per desired plate set to the Village Clerk, with the balance due upon delivery. Checks should be payable to the Village of Barrington Hills and be accompanied by relevant contact information.



TRUSTEE UPDATE—

Fritz Gohl, Trustee
Public Safety

What should you do in case of a medical, biological or weather related emergency?

Our Police Department or Communications Committee will do their best to alert the community about a public emergency if one arises. If possible, please check the web site or radio for information. You could be asked to leave your home or to stay in your home, depending on the circumstances of the emergency. If you are asked to stay in your home, we recommend that you prepare to have supplies on hand to last two to five days.

Following are some ideas for an emergency kit that might make your life a little easier: Battery operated radio, batteries, candles and matches, firewood, gas, kerosene, charcoal, portable stove and heater, Coleman lantern, first aid kit, bottled water, canned goods, prescription medication, pet and baby supplies, dry tack, deck of cards, games, reading material and a small generator.

Remember, if there is an emergency, all the areas around Barrington Hills could be experiencing the same problem as our Village. So residents might not be able to find these supplies once an emergency has begun. Public services might also be disrupted. So, although we do not expect any such emergencies, it would behoove us all to be prepared. Remember, you could be on your own.

Theodore L. Horne, Trustee
Health, Environment, Buildings and Grounds

What you might want to know about the smoke free ordinance considered by the Barrington Hills Board of Health

What is being proposed?

The Board of Trustees has asked the Board of Health to consider the issue of a smoking ordinance and offer it a recommendation. The Board of Health has not yet considered any specific ordinance text. It has seen a model ordinance from the Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights and has also the Cook County smoking ordinance. The Board also has seen the text of ordinances from the Villages of Barrington and Skokie and from the City of Highland Park. The Village has many options to consider.

Why now?

In June of 2006, the State of Illinois made an amendment to the Clean Indoor Air Act (410 ILCS 80/) through Public Act 94-0517, which allowed municipalities and counties to regulate smoking in public places. Previously, the State of Illinois specifically prohibited municipalities from regulating indoor air quality. The law also expanded the types of places which could be regulated under the act.

As a result, many municipalities and counties began to exercise their new authority. In addition, the Counties of Lake & Cook have contacted our Village and asked that we look into the issue. There has also been some movement towards consistency throughout the area when it comes to smoking policies.

Who can be regulated?

Public places as defined by 410 ILCS 80/3c of the Clean Indoor Air Act can be regulated by municipalities. Also, the Clean Air Act was recently amended to allow the regulation of "any enclosed indoor area used by the public or serving as a place of work if the area does not fall within the definition of a "public place" under this Act."

Properties in Barrington Hills that could potentially be affected include several churches, businesses in an industrial park along Northwest Highway, the Barrington Hills Country Club, the Barrington Hills Riding Center, the Jesuit Retreat, Countryside School, a day care center and auto shops on the west side of town.

What if the county in which I live passes a smoking ordinance? What happens then?

The Clean Indoor Air Act allows non-home rule communities (these would include Lake, Kane, and McHenry Counties) to regulate smoking only in their unincorporated areas. It allows home-rule counties (Cook County being one) to regulate smoking anywhere within their borders.

Cook County has passed a smoking ban, which will take affect March 2007. It exempts private clubs, but does not exempt bars or restaurants. This ban will affect the Cook County portion of the Village. However, the ordinance allows the Village to pass a smoking ordinance which will supplant Cook County's, even if it is less restrictive.

What are the current policies?

Most establishments in Barrington Hills already prohibit smoking indoors. However, many of do not have formal policies. Some establishments do limit smoking in certain areas, while others do not prohibit smoking indoors at all.

When is a decision likely?

Members of the Board of Health have expressed a desire to come to some conclusion on the issue before the Cook County ordinance takes affect in mid-March. Upcoming meetings include January 17th, February 21st, and March 14th. The meetings start at 7:30 PM.

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

Theodore L. Horne, Trustee cont.

Are my thoughts on this issue welcome?

Absolutely! The Village has not received much public input and would like much more. Your thoughts and concerns will be forwarded through the Office of the Deputy Village Clerk, Dolores Trandel at the following:

clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov

P: 847.551.3000

F: 847.551.3050

Specific questions can be directed toward Neal Waltmire, Planning and Zoning Coordinator. He is the staff person who has been assigned to this issue. He can be reached at the same phone and fax as above and also at nwaltmire@barringtonhill-il.gov.

Steve Knoop, Trustee Planning and Development Commissions

Since the last newsletter, four new subdivisions have come before the Plan Commission. Two of the subdivisions are of minor nature and consist of essentially a large lot being divided into two separate lots. All received favorable recommendation from the Plan Commission.

Also as part of the four, Harris Builders submitted a proposal for a 14 lot subdivision on the east side of Barrington Road and north of Palatine Road. Because the property is adjacent to a large marsh, the State of Illinois was concerned that the new subdivision could lead to the possible contamination of the marsh. Harris Builders, at the request of the Village, has negotiated with the Village of Barrington for Barrington to supply sewer and water to the site. In addition, because the site is isolated from the remainder of the Village and adjoins smaller sized lots, the Plan Commission recommended for approval a variation from the 5 acre minimum zoning. This development was also important as it facilitated enacting the first ever boundary agreement between the Village of Inverness and Barrington Hills.

On December 18th, the Village Board approved a subdivision based on the recommendation of the Plan Commission on a four lot subdivision on Old Hart Road. This subdivision is part of the former Wamberg property and maintains 5 acre zoning.

The Plan Commission also conducted hearings as required by law and recommended to the Village Board that the building code be modified to institute regulations relating to elevations for grading around the foundation of new homes to be built where the existing homes have been torn down. This modification of the Building Code was based on the recommendation of the Village Engineer.

Finally, the Plan Commission is considering issues involving lighting within the Village. The beauty of the nighttime sky as well as increasing violation of neighbor's privacy and nighttime enjoyment is being threatened by the use of more significant house and tree lighting which is being pushed by contractors. This type of activity is certainly changing the rural character of the Village and is scheduled to be discussed.

We welcome input on these topics on our regular scheduled monthly meetings.

Julie McKeivitt, Trustee Roads and Bridges

For the past few months the majority of our Roads and Bridges efforts have gone towards making sure we are keeping the roads free of snow and ice to ensure the safe travel of our motorists. As you may recall in 2005 we entered into an intergovernmental agreement with Cuba Township making them responsible for snow removal and ice control on all Village roads. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our level of service please feel free to contact me. Additionally if there was any damage done to your property by the plows please contact the Village so that Cuba Township can assess and/or correct the problem.

At the December Board meeting an ordinance was passed lowering the speed limit on all Village maintained roads to 25 mph. The implementation of this policy will occur in the next few months. As you recall public hearings were held on this issue back in September. Thanks to all the residents who took the time to participate. I must admit I was not a believer in lowering the speed limit when we first started this process back in June, but once I took my emotions out of it and looked at the engineering and safety data, it became apparent to me and the majority of the Board that this was the responsible thing to do. Did you know that a vehicle traveling 40 mph will still be going 36 mph when they hit a person who suddenly appears on the street 100 feet ahead of them? The average driver going 25 mph would be able to come to a full stop within 100 feet.* Additionally there are a number of characteristics of our Village roadways which are unique and can make traveling at a high rate of speed dangerous. Examples of these characteristics are narrow pavement widths, limited or no shoulders, vertical and horizontal curves in the roadway, vegetation overhanging the roadway, hidden driveways, etc. Beyond the safety of our motorists, the safety of our recreational road users was a concern. One of the defining characteristics of our Village is the strong equestrian community; so one can expect to find horse back riders on the road along with joggers, bicyclists, and walkers. All of these users are forced to use the roads at times due to our lack of sidewalks. You will be hearing more from us on this issue as we get closer to implementing this change. As always please feel free to give me a call at 847-458-4540 to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

* A.J. McLean, "Vehicle speeds and the incidence of fatal pedestrian collisions", Federal Office of Road Safety, Australia

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

**Walter E. Smithe, III, Trustee
Finance**

The finance committee of your village board has been busy these past few months. During the search and probationary period for the new treasurer, trustee George Schueppert very kindly stepped up and assumed the responsibilities of the office and for this the village owes him a debt of gratitude. Trustee Schueppert was able to step down when Rosemary Ryba was sworn in as the new treasurer for the village at the October board meeting and our congratulations go out to Mrs. Ryba who has been doing a great job in her challenging new position.

Also the finance committee has, with the unanimous approval of the board, begun the process of changing the village fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year. While this change requires a significant amount of effort the end result will alleviate numerous timing issues that have bedeviled the finance committee for the past 50 years, such as having to levy for taxes many months in advance of budget preparation. This year the budget process and levy process coincide for the first time and this will take a lot of the guess work out of the whole process. Your trustees went through the entire arduous budget process twice this year and the finance committee commends them for their foresight, diligent hard work and support throughout this transition.

Approved at the December meeting of the board of trustees was what I believe to be the 51st balanced budget of the Village of Barrington Hills. The village is facing extraordinary inflationary pressure in several key areas, particularly wages and health insurance costs. The trustee's and village staff worked together to cut costs where possible while maintaining President Abboud's commitment to an accredited best in class police force, a consistent long term approach to road and bridge maintenance, defending the village zoning and land use policies, fully funding the police pension plan and continuous improvement in village services. All of the above translates into an increase in the tax levy of just over four percent. Your trustees pay our taxes also and you can be assured we are careful that the money is well spent.

On our village website at www.barringtonhills-il.gov you can request the audited financial statements for the village for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2006, or you can pick up a copy at village hall. These statements show the village in sound financial health. As of the end of December 2006 we have completed a "stub" year of only eight months duration so the next set of financial statements for this short year will be available in a few months and subsequently our fiscal year will coincide with the calendar year. You will notice that the report was made by the new village auditor, Virchow, Krause and Company, LLP. The finance committee has been impressed with their work on the audit and the assistance they provided during the treasurer transition. You will notice that as we adapt to GASB 34 provisions our financial statements are becoming more user friendly, with straightforward language, graphs and less of the jargon that made past statements difficult to understand.

Mrs. Ryba and I remain at your service should you have any questions or comments about village finances. Walter E. Smithe, Trustee 847-382-8867 iii@smithe.com or Rosemary Ryba, Village Treasurer 847-551-3002 treasurer@barringtonhills-il.gov

**George L. Schueppert, Trustee
Building, Zoning and Insurance**

Over the past several months, residents have attended meetings of the Zoning Board of Appeals and have, as a result, asked for clarification of the duties and procedures of the ZBA. Nearby is a summary by Jon Knight, Chairman of the ZBA, of those matters. Of particular note, it is important for residents to know that the ZBA is a rules-interpretation board and does not set policy on zoning for the Village. That is the duty of the Village Board of Trustees. In any event, please read Chairman Knight's summary so that you can become informed about the ZBA should you have reason to send a petition to it or wish to speak on matters before the Board.

As mentioned in our prior newsletter, the ZBA is considering an amendment to the Village Code to address forestation matters. A public hearing was held in December, and the Board is reviewing ordinances from other communities in the area in order to gain an understanding of which aspects of such ordinances may apply to Barrington Hills. A draft ordinance for ZBA consideration is in the process of being prepared. Residents are invited to offer any comments to the ZBA in writing through the Village Clerk, or to offer such orally at future meetings of the ZBA (keeping in mind that the public hearing has been held and comments should be limited in light of the Board's other business at future meetings). It is hoped that a draft ordinance can be recommended to the Village Board of Trustees in March or April of 2007.

Other matters before the ZBA include the issue of permitted external lighting, the need for fire sprinklers in private residences, and whether or not to amend the Village code to permit larger homes to be built on residentially zoned property than the code currently allows.

OVERVIEW OF THE BARRINGTON HILLS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)

**Jonathan J. Knight, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals**

- The ZBA serves two main functions: (1) Administrative: interpreting zoning ordinances and (2) Legislative: making recommendations to Village Board or other Governmental Bodies.
- The ZBA is composed of 7 residents appointed by Board of Trustees, with terms of 1 to 7 years. One for one (1) year, one for two (2) years, one for three (3) years, one for four (4) years, one for five (5) years, one for six (6) years, and one for seven (7) years. Board Members are volunteers and serve without compensation.
- ZBA meetings by statute are always open to the public and all issues brought before the Zoning Board of Appeals are reviewed without bias or preferential treatment, and are conducted in a non-antagonistic manner.
- Issues typically involve Variances, Special Uses, Map and Text amendments. (Text amendments involve changing the zoning statutes, whereas map amendments involve changing the zoning of a parcel).
- Petitioners are entitled to be heard by the ZBA, whose "due process" is required to be fair and equitable and is not arbitrary or capricious.
- ZBA meetings can be legal, fact-finding proceedings or can be held for informational purposes. When sworn testimony is given and is subject to cross-examination, hearings by legal definition are adversarial.
- The ZBA makes findings of facts based on the testimony of expert and lay witnesses. Decisions must be based on facts presented to the ZBA in an open meeting.
- The ZBA's decision-making process follows the standards set forth in the Village Code.
- The ZBA has authority by Village statute to grant Variances within prescribed limits. However, it can only make recommendations to the Village Board regarding Special Uses and Map and Text Amendments. Village Board may approve or deny the recommendations of the ZBA.
- Decisions on Variances require the concurring votes of five Members for approval. Decisions on recommendations to Village Board require four concurring votes for approval.
- The ZBA does welcome comments from the public, as there are often circumstances or questions that should be brought to the attention of the ZBA so that nothing is overlooked in the questioning of those bringing petitions before the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- The ZBA does not enjoy the luxury of advocacy. Decisions are not based on a popular vote or by private lobbying of Board Members. Board Members by statute must be open and un-biased in their consideration of petitions before them.
- It is an absolute invasion of privacy of any Board Member and inappropriate for a Village resident or non-resident, to distribute to the public at large the email address or fax number of a Board Member in the hopes of influencing that Board Member by an influx of information on a pending issue. Information must not be distributed privately to Board Members.
- All information that any member of the public wishes to transmit to Zoning Board Members must be submitted through the Village Clerk:

Village Clerk
Village of Barrington Hills
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, Illinois 60010-5199
Phone: 847.551.3000
Fax: 847.551.3050
clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov

- A copy of the ZONING REGULATIONS booklet may be purchased at the Village Hall. VILLAGE CODE is available on the Village Website at: [http://66.113.195.234/IL/Barrington Hills/index.htm](http://66.113.195.234/IL/Barrington%20Hills/index.htm)

RURAL (FIRE) ADDRESS SIGNS

Barrington Hills residents receive fire protection and emergency medical service from one of the five following agencies:

- Algonquin Fire Protection District
- Barrington-Countryside Fire Protection District
- Carpentersville Fire Protection District
- East Dundee Fire Protection District
- Fox River Grove Fire Protection District

Due to the Village's rural addressing system each of these fire protection districts has adopted a standardized addressing system to enhance their ability to locate your home in an emergency. Accordingly, every residence should have one of the below signs posted in close proximity to the driveway. In cases of common driveways, a sign should be posted at the street designating the range of addresses on the common drive and then signs for each individual private drive. The Police Department maintains a database of these addresses, commonly referred to as "fire grids", and equally relies on them to efficiently locate structures in emergency situations. Accordingly, it is imperative that your fire address sign be clearly legible, clear of snow and landscaping, and that you correct and/or report any issues with it.

Please complete the Fire Grid Sign section on the reverse side of the enclosed Resident/Business Information form. Should you have any questions about this program or your address sign, please contact Communications Supervisor JoAnne Gumprecht (jgumprecht@vbhpd.net) of the Police Department.



THE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE!

The police department maintains a secure resident database containing vital emergency, premises, and contact information. In order to provide you with the best possible service, it is crucial that this information is current and accurate. Please complete and return the enclosed Resident/Business Information form via mail or facsimile.

Information provided is considered confidential and for police department use only.

SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW...

Police Assistant Nicole Mosta attended Northwood University . Her most recent employment was a systems engineer with United Air Lines but has always had a keen interest in community and police affairs. She is currently taking criminal justice courses. Nicole volunteers with a local search & rescue unit. One of her dogs is a Shepard mix and is certified in human remains detection with the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA). She is currently a member of both the National Association Search and Rescue (NASAR) and the NNDDA. Nicole has also volunteered to train therapy assistance dogs for Paws with a Cause (PAWS) and currently has a black Labrador . She is familiar with the Barrington Hills area, having been a member of the Barrington Hills Riding Club and involved with the Lakewood Polo Club. Nicole rides both trail and performs dressage on her thoroughbred. She resides in Lake County .



TRAFFIC

Information gathered from last summer's police department citizen survey indicated that a significant number of residents have traffic related concerns. In an effort to better address and alleviate such issues, the Department created a "Traffic Unit" in September of 2006.

While all patrol officers are expected to perform traffic education and enforcement duties, they are also responsible for criminal patrol and responding to various incidents and calls for service that may arise during their duty tours. Relieving traffic unit officers of these quintessential police duties allows them the unique ability to narrow their focus and direct all effort towards enhancing traffic safety utilizing proactive problem solving strategies.



Currently, the Traffic Unit is staffed with only one officer; however, due the overwhelming success of the program, plans are already underway to add a second officer to the unit later this year.

The Police Department has always been attentive and responsive to resident concerns and complaints about traffic issues and believes the creation of this dedicated unit will provide for an evolutionary change in how traffic-related concerns are received, addressed, and mitigated.

CELLULAR UPDATE

At the Village Board meeting on Oct. 23, Trustees approved a resolution that recognizes the need for improved cellular service within the Village, and contemplates the possibility of several additional cell sites in identified search areas within the Village.

In mid December, Verizon "turned up" a new cell site atop the water tower on Algonquin Rd. in Fox River Grove (near Algonquin Rd. School). This may provide some improvement to Verizon subscribers residing north of Spring Creek Rd., or traveling in the far northwest corner of the Village.

The Zoning Board has voted to re-hear the application for a cell tower to be constructed at the Riding Center on Bateman Rd.. As of this writing, the ZBA will consider the matter at a special meeting to be held on Feb. 21 at Countryside School. Following a ZBA recommendation, it is expected that this Special Use permit request will then go before the full Village Board at a date to be determined.

Kevin Colosia
Chair, Technology Committee





Village of Barrington Hills
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

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BACOA TO OFFER AARP INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE, HELP WITH TELEPHONE TAX REFUND

BARRINGTON, IL – *December 9, 2006* – The Barrington Area Council on Aging is once again offering the AARP Income Tax Assistance Program—and will also help seniors apply for a telephone tax refund.

A trained AARP volunteer will assist seniors with their taxes on Thursday and Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon at the BACOA office at the Prairiewood Building at The Garlands of Barrington, 6000 Garlands Lane, Suite 100, Barrington. Barrington Bank & Trust will provide tax assistance on Saturdays at 201 Hough St. BACOA will making appointments for both locations.

Volunteers will also assist seniors—even those who are not filing income tax forms—to apply for the IRS one-time telephone tax refund. The refund is a one-time payment available on 2006 federal income tax returns, designed to refund previously collected long-distance federal excise taxes. It is available to anyone who paid long-distance taxes on landline, cell phone or Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service. The IRS will refund taxes on long-distance service billed for the period after Feb 28, 2003 and before Aug 1, 2006. The refunds will range between \$30 to \$60, based on the number of exemptions claimed on the tax return. .

Assistance is by appointment only and will run from February 1 through Thursday, April 13.

Appointments fill quickly, so call as early as possible to schedule an appointment. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call BACOA at (847) 381-5030.



The Barrington Area Council on Aging is a private, not-for-profit organization. Its mission is to promote the independence, dignity, and well-being of older adults and their family caregivers in the Barrington area.