



News from Village Hall



June 2010

From The Desk Of The Village President

There are a large number of issues going on simultaneously here in the Village. I thought I would give you a summary of some of the major ones we are tackling.

Taxes: The spring property tax bills have recently been issued, and I believe there is a significant problem with the tax computation in some, if not all, tax bills. My tax bill in McHenry County shows a 30% increase. The Village changed their latest levy by only 4.73% to address increases in the costs of goods and services. The total property tax levies were \$6,268,839 in 2008, and \$6,565,291 in 2009. Yet, at least some tax bills are showing 25%+ increases from last year to this year. We are working with the various counties that compute and issue the tax bills to address this problem, and to ensure the correct tax bills are issued. If you have a tax question or concern, please contact Village Treasurer Rosemary Ryba at (847) 551-3002 so we can track the scale of this problem.

Security: I have asked Chief Murphy and the Barrington Hills Police Department (BHPD) to make a thorough review of property crimes in the Village over the last 10 years to



identify patterns in recent crime trends. This is an effort to identify potential vulnerabilities in the layout of our properties. BHPD is looking at all aspects of security, including alarm systems, lighting, gates, etc.

BHPD also offers individual property assessments for no charge. Please contact Chief Murphy at (847) 551-3006 if you would like a security assessment of your home and property.

Canadian National Railway (CN): Over the last several years, the Village has been working closely with CN to address a wide array of issues, including safety, noise, traffic, and the environment. We have signed an agreement which will create a working partnership between us and CN to continually manage these issues and protect our residents. I want to thank the other Barrington area and regional communities that worked closely with us on these issues and we continue to support them, including Barrington, which has different issues to address than we do.

The major items in the agreement include cameras to be installed at all crossings, with the images relayed back to our police dispatch, so we can monitor blocked crossings and improve emergency response. Track oilers are being installed and will be maintained to reduce noise on curves. Training will be provided to our first responders for accident mitigation. Enhanced regulatory compliance monitoring will be provided by the Surface Transportation Board. The bridge and dam system at Flint Creek (which holds up Hawthorne Lake) will be re-engineered and rebuilt. Most significantly, all the land on which the CN tracks lie will be annexed into the Village, stretching from Hoffman Estates to Barrington.

For the CN issue, the Village has spent \$42,117 on

continued on page 2

Family Fun at the FRVPC Horse Trials

From June 25 - 27, the Barrington Countryside Park District Riding Center at 361 Bateman Road will be the site of the nationally recognized 2010 Fox River Valley Pony Club Horse Trials. It is a wonderful opportunity to bring the family and enjoy three full days of spectacular equestrian events. Horse Trials, also known as eventing, is the most exacting, exciting, and fulfilling of all the equestrian sports. See the grace and harmony of dressage on Friday, the rigors and thrills of cross-country on Saturday, and the power and pageantry of show jumping on Sunday. Admission is free for spectators. VIP Sponsorship and admission to the Sponsor's Tent at the cross country water jump is available. Vendors will be on site with food and beverages. More information can be found at the Horse Trials website: www.frvpchorsetrials.org



Katlyn McMorris at the 2008 FRVPC Horse Trials

Want to start getting your newsletters electronically? Help us get a little greener and reduce mailing costs? Just send an email to clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov, put "Newsletter Sign-up" in the subject line, and include your name and postal address. Look for your next issue in October!

The Shape of Things to Come

Orange road construction signs seem to be taking over the village this summer, as two long-awaited IDOT projects are now in full swing.

- Resurfacing of County Line Road, from the Cook/Kane/McHenry County Line to Old Hart Road began in early May, and is expected to last through June.
- Safety improvements to Route 62 (Algonquin Road), from Route 25 east to Route 68 (Dundee Road), began in mid May and are also scheduled to continue through June. The scope of the project includes rumble strips, grading and shaping shoulders, pavement marking, traffic signal modernization and other work.

Residents who normally travel on these thoroughfares should consider alternate routes, expect traffic delays, and allow plenty of extra time for their commutes. Go slow and obey the flaggers, and remember that only hands-free use of cell phones is permitted in construction zones in Illinois. Check with IDOT's website www.dot.il.gov for construction updates.



It's construction season.

From The Desk Of The Village President continued from page 1

engineering assessments, legal costs, and contributions to TRAC, The Regional Answer to CN (mainly to assist Barrington's concerns). The value to the Village of the mitigation will far exceed \$400,000.

Lighting: On March 17th, 2010, the Illinois State House passed HR 0884, "Responsible Nighttime Lighting". The resolution was introduced by Representative Renée Kosel of Mokena (Republican 81st District). It was passed with heavy Republican support including co-sponsor Representative Mark Beaubien of Barrington Hills (Republican 52nd District). Mark has served in the House since 1996, and is considered one of the leading experts on the State Budget.

HR 0884 "expresses the support of the House of Representatives for improved night preservation practices in the State of Illinois and encourages municipalities and State agencies to research and adopt suitable outdoor lighting practices." It contains many of the ideas from the Plan Commission document which was completed late last year. In particular, it states: "WHEREAS, The State of Illinois recognizes the need to define limits and protect the State's residents and business owners from the trespass of excessive and misdirected artificial outdoor illumination from adjacent properties..." It also makes a series of recommendations about environmental impacts, energy conservation, reduction of halo on the night sky, and directs municipalities to adopt outdoor lighting practices to be consistent with these standards. You can find the complete text of HR 0884 at <http://www.ilga.gov>.

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is continuing its efforts to evaluate the Plan Commission report and determine whether a change to the current Village ordinance structure is warranted for lighting in our existing zoning code. I have suggested that they look at several communities around the country that are similar to ours, recognizing our unique environmental issues and the need to address safety and security issues. I would expect that a recommendation from the ZBA will come out sometime in the June time frame.

I have received a lot of constructive feedback from many residents about this issue, and I thank you all for that. Unfortunately, there are a few who are disseminating incorrect and misleading information which is not helpful to the Village process. Additionally, there have been some cases of residents being harassed, resulting in

response by our police department. I appreciate that there are a few of you who are particularly intense on this issue. Please respect the rights of everyone to express their views without your retribution. Also, if you have signs that have been out in the Village for months, consider being respectful of your neighbors and the environment, and take them down once you think you have made your point. I can assure you that no one is going to prevent you from speaking your opinion, addressing your security concerns and having security lighting, or taking away your liberty.

Finally, a few of you have commented that the Village "can't tell me what to do". As a community, we live by zoning laws that are quite detailed and date from the inception of the Village. Our zoning code works to balance the rights of each resident, while protecting the privacy and environment of a neighbor, with as small a government structure as possible. These codes have been modified over time to reflect changing issues and technology. The codes include health and safety, land use, and environmental controls. I want to assure you that the process involving lighting is being conducted within that same democratic public framework. You can see the entire Village zoning code at <http://www.barringtonhills-il.gov/govindex.html>. Look to the left of the page for "Village Code".

Cellular Antennas: Most of us are aware that cellular coverage in the Village is spotty at best. Over the last year, after public comment and debate, the Village signed an agreement with American Tower Corporation to install 21 distributed modular cellular antennas. These antennas are small and located atop existing wooden utility poles. They look like a CB antenna. The project is expected to be completed in late July and should substantially improve cellular coverage for our residents and for our police and village operations. These antennas are connected by a fiber optic link that spreads the signal throughout the Village and terminates at the Village Hall.

This installation was performed at no cost to the Village. The Village will receive 4 strands of dark fiber for us to use in the future, a new large gas emergency generator, power transfer switching and control software, removal of one of our older diesel generators and removal of a diesel fuel tank, and improved infrastructure at the Village Hall.

Legislative: The Village is working closely with the other

continued on page 7

Community Corner



Thrive with Native Plants

Barrington Hills residents were instrumental in volunteering at Citizens for Conservation's (CFC) highly successful Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale held in May. This year's sale was chaired by Ginger Underwood. She was ably assisted by Janet Agnoletti, Tom and Edith Auchter, Sarah Hansen, Joe Riha, Jo and Josie-Dee Seagren, Karen Selman, Wynn Anne Roggeveen and Melissa Washsow. Many gardeners from our village supported the sale by purchasing native plants for their home landscapes.

Native plants provide many advantages for the environment because they do not require fertilizers or pesticides. Additionally, their deep, fibrous root systems firmly anchor soils to help prevent erosion and conserve water. They reduce air pollution by removing carbons from the air. Once established, native plants do not require watering, and they provide much needed food and shelter for birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

Easements protect land

One of the most popular conservation tools across the United States is the conservation easement, a legal agreement between a property owner and a land trust, such as Barrington Area Conservation Trust (BACT). An easement allows the land to remain in private ownership while permanently restricting the type and amount of future development and activities permitted on the property to protect the land's scenic and conservation values.



These easements can provide substantial income, estate, and property tax benefits to landowners. All Barrington Hills property owners who own more than 15 acres will be receiving a special mailing about conservation easements this summer. BACT will help you explore your land protection options. Go to www.bactrust.org or call (847) 381-4291.



Upcoming Community Events

June 25-27	FRVPC Horse Trials	www.frvpchorsetrials.org
July 12	Concours D'Elegance	www.barringtonconcours.org
August 29	BHPD Open House	www.barringtonhills-il.gov
September 11	Kalaway Cup Polo Matches	www.barringtonhillspolo.com
September 25	Ignite the Night	www.fotfp.org

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

Beth Mallen, Trustee
Health, Environment, Buildings & Grounds
bmallen@barringtonhills-il.gov



Water derived from our shallow aquifers is an essential natural resource. BACOG's recent groundwater mapping project highlights the importance of developing good everyday practices at home for water use and conservation. Close to half of the water use for a typical home is for outdoor purposes, much of it wasted. There are several ways a homeowner can reduce this consumption, simply by collecting and re-using rainwater. Downspouts can be redirected away from sidewalks and driveways, and towards flower beds. Rain barrels catch and save rainfall which can be used later on gardens and lawns. Barrels are readily available from many county departments, conservation groups and garden centers.

The Board of Health met recently to consider if manure from local stables and agricultural operations might constitute a potential risk to underlying groundwater. Dr. Kurt O. Thomsen, hydrogeologist and consultant with BACOG, reviewed the issue and concluded that there is no significant threat of contamination to shallow aquifers.

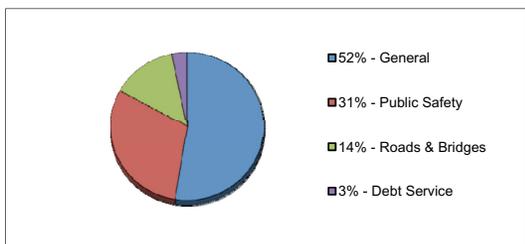


On May 1st, the Beautification Committee held its latest village-wide trash pickup event. Thank you to all the volunteers. The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County crew organized their own pickup on Old Sutton Road, so our crews were able to focus on County Line Road. In all, over 77 bags of garbage were removed. A special thank you goes to the hard working members of the Riding Club of Barrington Hills who have been especially supportive at our events. The Committee continues to work on projects throughout the Village -- near the Village Hall, at Countryside Elementary and Barrington High School. If you are interested in helping, please join us at an upcoming morning meeting, or e-mail green@barringtonhills-il.org

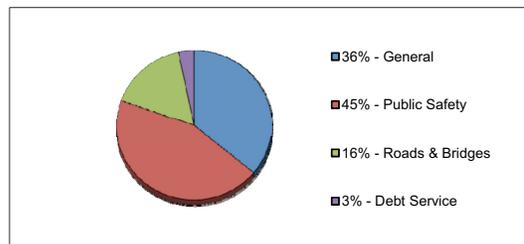
Walter E. Smithe, III, Trustee
Finance
wsmithe@barringtonhills-il.gov

The audit of village finances for fiscal year 2009 has been completed. These graphs show updated figures for 2009, after year-end adjustments were made. They break down revenue and expenditures by spending category, not by financial fund. This highlights how much the village spends every year on public safety, as money for this village department comes from several different funds.

Revenues



Expenditures



Joseph S. Messer, Trustee
Zoning Board of Appeals
jmesser@barringtonhills-il.gov



The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) has been considering the Plan Commission's petition to add a lighting ordinance to the Village Code. The ZBA has held several public meetings regarding the subject, most recently on May 17 at Countryside School, where members discussed the draft ordinance. During the ZBA' April 22 meeting the Village's engineering firm, Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc. (GHA), presented the findings of their Impact Study on the proposed ordinance. The Study evaluated seven residences, which had been volunteered by their owners, for compliance with the proposed ordinance in terms of lumen emission and exterior fixture types. The Study also endeavored to estimate the cost of compliance through retrofitting non-compliant fixtures.

The Study found that none of the seven residences had issue with light trespass at the property line. However, only one of the seven residences was found to be in full compliance with the proposed ordinance. The primary areas of non-compliance in the other six residences were: unshielded lumens per acre, unshielded landscape lumens, and driveway fixture lumens. In some cases, compliance could be achieved merely by replacing existing light bulbs with lower output

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

bulbs, without replacing entire fixtures. Estimated bulb replacement costs ranged from zero at the low end, to \$2,600 at the high end. In other cases, numerous fixtures would have to be removed completely and/or replaced with compliant fixtures. GHA did not attempt to estimate the costs of removing non-compliant fixtures, or purchasing and installing compliant fixtures, due to the variability in these expenses.

The ZBA will continue deliberations on the proposed ordinance at their next meeting on June 21. The proposed ordinance is available on the Village web site, as is GHA's Study. Residents are encouraged to review both documents and email their comments to the Village Clerk for dissemination to the ZBA and Village Board.

The ZBA will also be holding a special meeting on Wednesday June 23 at Countryside School to begin discussing possible changes to the Village Code concerning the regulation of Commercial Boarding of Horses.

**Fritz Gohl, Trustee
Public Safety**
fgohl@barringtonhills-il.gov



On April 12th, Barrington Hills hosted a luncheon for the five fire protection and emergency medical service districts which serve the village. Representatives of these districts were all brought together for the first time to discuss our Village's rural addressing system. We hope to adopt a standardized addressing system to improve their ability to easily locate your home during an emergency situation. All homes should have a fire grid sign posted near the main driveway entrance. Each district is designated by a colored sign: Barrington (green), East Dundee (red), Fox River Grove (orange), Algonquin (red), and Carpentersville (red). Our police department maintains a database of village addresses, which are assigned into "fire grids".

District representatives stressed the importance of residents keeping their grid signs clear of snow or vegetation so that the signs can be easily read. If your sign is not legible, or is missing or damaged, please contact JoAnne Gumprecht at the Police Department (847) 551-3006 for assistance in obtaining a replacement.

Fire officials also recommended that residences with locked gated entrances be equipped with a Knox-Box. A Knox-Box is a secure emergency access tool that gives first responders immediate entry to a building or property without using force. The steel box - installed near a property's front entrance or gate - allows paramedics or firefighters to quickly enter a building with a "master key" and administer assistance to those in need. Contact your designated fire protection district for more information.

Another challenge which fire department personnel face is gated entrances which are not sufficiently high or wide enough for fire equipment to pass through. As one of the Chiefs said, "if a garbage truck cannot get in, we can't get in either". That also means homeowners should keep trees and shrubbery trimmed back from the sides of driveways.

**Elaine M. Ramesh, Trustee
Roads and Bridges**
eramesh@barringtonhills-il.gov

Drainage management is one of the priorities of the Roads and Bridges Committee. We are taking an active approach to the ongoing maintenance of the systems which help transport stormwater in our town by beginning an annual program in 2010 for the inspection and clearing of culverts on an as-needed basis. Residents can assist with this process by keeping their drainage ditches and driveway culverts cleared of debris such as tree limbs and leaves.

During the spring rains, homeowners may notice an increase in storm water. While significant rainfall events can cause water to pond in unexpected places, sometimes the cause of excess/unexpected water is the actions of the homeowner -- making modifications, removing swales, filling in ponds, low spots, ditches or blocking water flow -- or by the actions of a neighbor. It is a good idea to consult with the Village Building Department prior to making any modifications to the lay of the land, or altering the natural flow of water, in order to avoid disturbing functioning features for surface water absorption which can negatively impact you or your neighbors. Depending on the size of the project, permits may be required before work can be done.



Stormwater flows during a recent rainfall.

The Village undertakes one major drainage improvement project each year, to stay within our budget. This year, drainage improvements will be completed on Three Lakes Road. Next year, the major project will be Chapel Road, a road which has experienced so much water flow that it has had to be closed during wetter weather. Please be aware that temporary road closures may be needed, so watch for barricades and signage.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Tour de Village?

Ah, the colors of spring... the red of the robins, the purple of the irises, the neon green of the spandex shorts. Spandex? Yes, packs of colorfully clad cyclists returning to our village are another sure sign of spring. That's why we should all take the time to remember some simple rules and tips for sharing the roadways safely.

- Motorists must leave at least 3 feet room when passing a bicycle, and must maintain that distance until safely past the overtaken bicycle.
- Bikes and horses should always travel in the direction of traffic and stay as close as possible to the right side edge of the roadway; pedestrians should walk facing oncoming traffic.
- On village-maintained roadways, bicyclists are only allowed to ride single file. Roads where side-by-side riding is not permitted are marked with the appropriate signage.
- Above all, be careful and patient. It may take a little longer to get where you are going, but enjoy the opportunity to admire the beautiful sights our village has to offer.
- For more information about bicycle laws and safety, consult the Illinois Rules of the Road or our village website www.barringtonhills-il.gov.



Share the road responsibly.

Three uniformed BHPD police officers can also be found on bicycles out on the roads. They will be riding with the out-of-town cyclists to make sure that all rules of the road are followed. And, no, they won't be wearing spandex!

Census Follow-up Continues



Sample Census ID Badge

In May, Census Enumerators began visiting residents who didn't mail in Census forms. They will be in the village during the week, including evenings and weekends, through the month of July. Remember, each resident counted through this critical operation can mean thousands of additional dollars to our community over the next 10 years.

- Census workers will conduct interviews at the door. They will not enter homes.
- They will have a Census ID badge with a Department of Commerce watermark and expiration date. The badge will not have a photo. The census taker may also be carrying a black bag with a white Census Bureau logo. If asked, they will provide you with supervisor contact information and/or the Palatine Census office telephone number (847) 221-1250.
- Contrary to some reports, they will NOT have hand-held computers.
- They will make multiple attempts to reach a resident, leaving a NOTICE of VISIT at the doorway that includes a phone number to call to schedule an appointment. Workers might also ask neighbors when the residents are usually home, or the best time to reach them.
- The Census Questionnaire asks for the number of people at a particular residence along with their name, age, birth date, gender, ethnicity, race and usual residence.
- Workers will not ask for bank account, income, credit card or social security information. Nor will they solicit for donations or contact you by email. They also will not ask for your citizenship status.
- However, the Census does conduct other surveys throughout the year, and it is possible other workers may be working in some areas and asking for more personal detailed information for unemployment, consumer expenditure or health surveys.
- The census taker who collects your information is sworn for life to protect your data under Federal Law Title. The criminal penalties for violating this oath are severe -- a fine of up to \$250,000, imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both.
- Information about Census takers can be found at: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/how/census-taker.php>

From The Desk Of The Village President continued from page 2

Barrington municipalities and surrounding counties to address a large number of legislative issues including: Pension finance reform, road speed limits, land use, cost containment, ground and surface water management, and police union issues.



Groundwater: Most of us take drawing a glass of cool water from our faucet or stepping into a hot shower for granted. Living in Barrington Hills, you know that your water probably comes from your own well. Those in Barrington proper know their water comes from the village municipal system, which also draws its water from wells drilled into the same local aquifers. For the last 200 years, we have been using this underground aquifer reliably and with little thought to sustainability ... until recently.

During the last several years, a number of well-executed studies have shown that we are stressing the ground water aquifers around the Chicago region. In fact, water supplies from all sources, including Lake Michigan and the Fox River are under stress.

The most notable studies are: the 3-Dimensional ground water mapping done by the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG); the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) regional water supply report; and the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) water supply report.

All of these reports point to the same conclusion-- the region is growing in population, and using water at a rate which is not sustainable. Thus, water supplies cannot be guaranteed beyond 2050.

These definitive reports are showing that we must begin to make changes to the way we use, recharge, and protect the aquifers that have supplied us all these years. Many people think the water we use is primordial, or comes from deep underground reservoirs of ancient glacial water. This is not the case in the Barrington area. Our ground water is supplied from surface water seeping and filtering into the shallow aquifers, typically 150' in depth. This water is anywhere from months to tens of years old.

Community leaders including mayors, members of industry, and specialists from government and academia have been meeting to discuss how we will address these issues. The focus is on water use and well management, wastewater management, and aquifer protection and recharge through low-density zoning and storm water management.

Problems like groundwater shortages will demand significant dollars and resources for research and management. The expense and expertise required is

beyond the capacity of many local governments. Additionally, aquifers do not respect political and jurisdictional boundaries, requiring communities to work together. Therefore, I expect that regional pacts will form made up of local jurisdictions. The model for this strategy is the Council Of Governments (COG), such as the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG). Several COG's may even join together to work on solutions specific to their own region.

BACOG has been active in this issue for nearly a decade, including working with other COGs. Most recently, BACOG has delivered a state-of-the-art ground water survey comprising some 100,000 local well logs covering 600 square miles, analyzing the ground strata every 5 feet from surface to bedrock.

The most important aspect will be to refrain from overly politicizing the issue. There will most certainly be the temptation for turf battles, accusations of conspiracy, and political action committees, much as there was over the fluoridation of municipal water in the '50s and '60s. While the science and technology will be daunting, the real challenge will be whether, and how, we choose to work together as communities with a common goal: plentiful clean fresh water today and long into the future.

Land Use: The McHenry County 2030 Land Use Plan was recently approved. This new comprehensive plan document has new language specifically recognizing the unique land-use methods employed by Barrington Hills and will impact surrounding land use just outside the Village. The importance of these efforts and changes cannot be underestimated. This new document will help address much of the harm caused by past and potential land disconnections. My thanks go to Trustee Elaine Ramesh, the other Trustees, and our neighboring Mayors who all worked together on this effort.

Well that's a quick overview of what's been happening. Please remember that our commissions and Board members are made up of your neighbors. The work our commissions are doing is difficult and they need your cooperative input. I commend their willingness and fairness to consider the quiet voices, as well as the shrill ones.

It is without question that our community is well-numbered with strong, independent, colorful, and committed people. That is why part of the long-term answer is to be considerate of your neighbors. Let's work together in preserving this unique community that is shared by us all.

I encourage you to continue to communicate directly with me and the Trustees. We need your feedback and ideas. I invite you to attend our regular Board and committee meetings and get involved. 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
 president@barringtonhills-il.gov

NEWS YOU CAN USE continued

Sometimes...you're not welcome



An example of proper signage

As temperatures begin to climb, so do the number of solicitors and unwanted visitors attempting to interrupt our residents' tranquility and peace of mind.

Posting a sign at the main entrance of your property which says "No Trespassing /No Soliciting", and **measuring at least 3" x 4", with letters at least 1/3" high**, is sufficient notice to legally sign a complaint against a person who disobeys the sign. If you do not have a sign, a person is considered warned when the property owner tells them to exit the property.

Individuals legally engaged in solicitation within the Village are required to obtain permits from the Barrington Hills Police Department (BHPD). While soliciting, they must wear the permit on their outer clothing at all times, displayed so that it may be easily seen and read. The permit will contain the picture of the individual and be issued by the BHPD, **not the company they work for.**

Persons engaged in religious or political speech (also known as proselytizing or pamphleteering) are not considered to be soliciting and do not require permits; however, this does not allow such individuals to unlawfully trespass onto your property. If you wish to be free from all types of solicitation and intrusions by uninvited visitors, the BHPD recommends a "No Trespassing/ No Soliciting" sign at your property's main entrance.

Although there have not been any reported cases of any additional criminal activity associated with door-to-door sales, the BHPD strongly cautions against admitting any stranger inside the home, and to call 911 if there is an emergency.

For additional information on exemptions to soliciting, please review the Village's "Solicitors" ordinance on the village website.

SAVE THE DATE

The annual Police Open House is scheduled for Sunday, August 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and be sure to join us for demonstrations, displays, giveaways, food and more for the whole family.



Scenes from last year's open house.

Communique From Communications

Survey says...

Last fall, the Communications Committee designed a survey which was sent to approximately ¼ of the homes in Barrington Hills to collect opinions on the methods that the village uses regularly to disseminate information to residents. The results from the 163 surveys which were returned have been analyzed, and have provided the Committee with valuable insights on how residents prefer to receive news specific to our community, and has helped us to develop better strategies for information exchange.



- Although nearly all respondents have a computer, 84% still prefer to receive their village information through newsletters or by e-mail sent to them, rather than through website postings.
- Within the newsletter, the most popular items were the President's Letter, Trustee Updates, and Community Corner, in that order.
- The top three topics they wanted to see more of in the newsletter were in the categories of: 1) quality of life issues, such as zoning, equestrian, environmental, 2) budget, real estate taxes, village finances, and 3) police and crime reports.
- 50% had visited the village's main website in the last year, and were mainly looking for information about zoning, codes, roads, meetings or contact numbers and addresses. Over 2/3 indicated that they found what they were looking for. (The complete analysis of the survey is available on our website.)
- The most positive comments made were about the Blackboard Connect-CTY service used for time-sensitive emergency notifications. Residents were uniformly enthusiastic about these messages, and they viewed CTY as an invaluable communication tool. (See page10 for more info.)

Again, many thanks go to the residents who completed surveys. If you have any comments or suggestions, please send us an e-mail at clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov

Spinning a new web

In response to a directive from the Village Board, the Communications Committee formed a sub-group last year, consisting of committee members, administration and police representatives with the goal of merging the three village websites under a single entity. The Website Integration Project Team has already initiated a new portal page (seen at right) at www.barringtonhills-il.gov, with links to the official government page, the village news and information page, and the police page. Work has been ongoing for many months to reorganize content between the sites, eliminating areas of overlap, in order to create a more streamlined and an even more user-friendly interface. In addition to a FOIA section which contains the most searched-for village documents, a new Calendar At a Glance feature has been added. Among the many options available, residents may now choose to sign up for alerts to specific types of meetings or events, and have that information automatically e-mailed to them, or updated via calendar subscriptions. Another option is the village's Twitter page, which acts as "headline news" to keep residents apprised of meetings, activities and news in and around our village. Nearly every "tweet" contains a link to a full version of the story.

We invite everyone to visit the web portal and experience the new enhancements.





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

FIRST CLASS
 PRESORTED
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 BARRINGTON, IL
 PERMIT NO. 102

Masthead photo and photos on pages 3, 5, and 7 by Pamela Cools.
Motorcycle photo and photos on pages 2, 4, 6 and 8 by Debbie Stone.

Printed on recycled paper  ©2010, Village of Barrington Hills

BLACKBOARD CONNECT-CTY



The 2009 Communications Committee survey found that a high percentage of residents use and appreciate this free emergency notification service. However, a significant number indicated that they still were not aware that they had to sign up to receive these alerts about road closures due to severe weather, traffic accidents, residential burglaries, etc. If you haven't registered yet, just search for "CTY" on the village website, and enter your preferred form(s) of contact – home, work and/or cellular telephone numbers, e-mail or even SMS messages. All information provided is kept completely private, and you can update it at any time. Why not take a minute right now to get extra piece of mind?

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, 5:30 PM
Police Pension Board
 4th Monday of the month, 9:00 AM

Board of Trustees

Robert G. Abboud
President
 Fritz Gohl
Pro-Tem
 Walter E. Smithe
Trustee
 Steve Knoop
Trustee
 Beth Mallen
Trustee
 Elaine Ramesh
Trustee
 Joseph S. Messer
Trustee