



# News from Village Hall



Fall 2014



## Letter from the President

As you may be aware, I asked for, and accepted the resignation of now former Village attorney Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella.

The reason I made this decision is very simple and straightforward. During my campaign I stressed my ongoing concern over the Village's high legal costs; after consideration and review it was time for a change. Working with the former attorneys for over a year, it became apparent that the Village needs a law firm that specializes in municipal law and zoning.

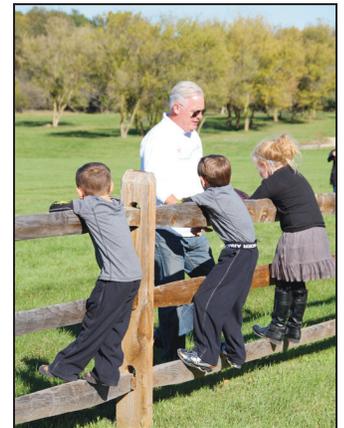
We deserve the benefit of municipal expertise at competitive municipal rates, utilizing taxpayer money as efficiently as possible. We need strong representation that will speak up and direct our boards, chairs, appointees and all elected officials. The Village Attorney is appointed to guide us on what we can and should do to protect the best interests of all of our residents and to avoid placing the Village and its decisions in jeopardy.

All members of Boards, Commissions and Committees serve our Village as volunteers. I thank each and every resident who is and who has offered their time. Each member brings unique experiences and expertise into their meetings. They assist in crafting solutions that our entire community can adopt and embrace. I expect this Village Attorney to provide guidance and expertise that will assure the legal process is followed to the letter of the law.

At the Village Board meeting in August, I temporarily appointed Patrick K. Bond of Bond Dickson & Associates as Village Attorney as allowed under statute (Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/3.1-30-5), until a permanent replacement is nominated, voted on and ultimately approved by the Board. I trust that the Board will welcome Bond Dickson as temporary council as they have been providing competent legal representation to our Village for several months on the Zoning Board of Appeals and as Special Counsel.

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On a lighter note, I'm excited for this year's fast approaching The Hills Are Alive festival. In the last few months the Village has seen many controversial issues before it, sometimes dividing us. The passion of our citizens is what truly makes our Village unique. The Hills Are Alive allows us to put aside our differences and come together to celebrate why we live in Barrington Hills. I hope you will join your fellow residents and neighbors at The Barrington Hills Park District Riding Center on October 25, 2014 noon - 5 pm.



### Public Safety Answering Point Consolidation Feasibility Study

The Village undertook a Public Safety Answering Point Consolidation Feasibility Study that was presented to the Board at the September meeting. The report outlines the costs, savings and procedure if the Village decided to move to a joint answering facility for 911. A Public Safety meeting will take place at Village Hall on October 7th at 10am to further discuss the report. We ask that any residents that have comments, questions or concerns please speak at the meeting or submit comments to [clerk@vbhil.gov](mailto:clerk@vbhil.gov) by October 6th. The full report can be found on the Village's website.

# Sears: Big News

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, for many years Sears has been suing Barrington Hills and South Barrington over the development covenants that exist on property they purchased in Hoffman Estates (“Sears Center Development”). Sears wanted them removed. The covenants made sense in the mid 80’s and have been effective in protecting and guiding the character, development and the environment of the area. The few lots that remain open are east of the Target Center and near the South Barrington Arboretum. The settlement agreement will allow Sears to develop the vacant lots, but would be restricted to the Hoffman Estates B4 zoning standards.

President McLaughlin and President McCombie of South Barrington, both newly elected in 2013, decided it was time for a new approach. Our Village Boards jointly met in June 2013 and again in July of 2014 to develop a coordinated strategy identifying their combined objectives. The Village Presidents met with Sears representatives four times over the last 12 months, without any attorneys present. With this direct, collegial, coordinated approach, we are happy to announce that after 13 years of protracted litigation, mediation, and arbitration has finally produced a settlement.

Barrington Hills, since 2001, has spent \$1.4 million on legal fees related to Sears and South Barrington has spent roughly \$500,000. Our attorneys estimated that the deposition expense for our court date in October alone would exceed \$380,000. And, this was a bifurcated trial on only count one of a three count complaint. The trial judge opined that we should expect 5-8 more years of litigation, on the first of three counts against our Villages. If we were to lose all three counts the claim against our Villages exposed us to \$15 million in damages.



Our Board, after taking this into consideration, weighed the high cost of continuing legal action and concluded that a settlement was in the best interest of our Village and its tax payers.

The Villages of Barrington Hills and South Barrington have agreed to settlement terms, both Village Boards have approved and endorsed the agreement, as has Sears. Our Attorney will be tendering the settlement agreement to the Judge on September 29, 2014, effectively ending 13 years of litigation. For further details go to [vbhil.gov/news.html](http://vbhil.gov/news.html)

## DO YOU HAVE EXPIRED OR UNUSED PHARMACEUTICALS?

A recent study conducted by the United States Geological Survey showed that an increasing number of drinking water sources across the United States contain pharmaceutical components. The Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) advocates taking steps to protect the groundwater from contamination before it becomes a health issue. Flushing old and unused medication creates an easy avenue for groundwater contamination. Septic tanks and wastewater treatment plants are unable to remove all pharmaceutical components during the treatment process.

### Where can I dispose of my pharmaceuticals?

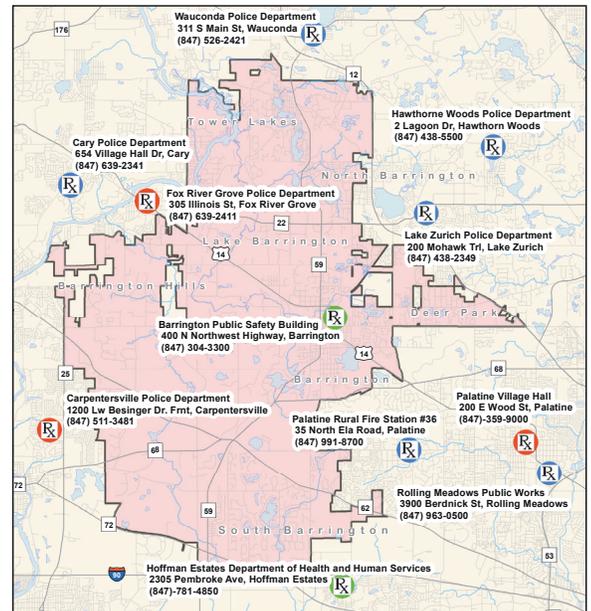
Dispose of your pharmaceuticals at a reputable take-back program. The Barrington Police Department, along with many other police departments and public service buildings in the BACOG area, collect unused and expired pharmaceuticals. The date and time of these collection programs vary among the locations.

The BACOG map gives the address, phone number, and collection schedule of each location. The red pharmacy symbols mark locations that only collect medications on DEA national drug take-back days. The next national drug take-back day is scheduled to take place the last weekend in October. The green symbols mark locations that accept medications monthly. Be sure to call the location before attempting to drop off and unused prescriptions as their schedules differ from one another. The blue pharmacy symbols mark the locations with medication drop boxes in their lobbies. Be advised, that those locations do not accept controlled substances such as narcotics. To properly dispose of controlled medications, you must bring them to a location marked in red or green.

Residents of the BACOG region are fortunate to have a number of collection facilities within close proximity. Please take advantage of them and help protect our drinking water.

For further information, please contact the BACOG office at 847.381.7871.

Medication Drop-Off Locations in BACOG Area



Legend: Red pharmacy symbol: Unused medication accepted on DEA national drug take back days; Green pharmacy symbol: Unused medication accepted on one day every month (call for details); Blue pharmacy symbol: Unused medication Drop-Off Boxes located in lobby (no controlled substances). Includes BACOG logo and contact information.

## Horse Boarding Text Amendments

Throughout the summer the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met regarding four text amendments submitted by Village residents for modifications to the Village Code pertaining to horse boarding regulations. The submitted text amendments can be accessed in the ZBA meeting packets found on our website. The first two submitted amendments “LeCompte” and “Elder”, had a public hearing on July 21, 2014 during which time residents had the opportunity to support, oppose or question those text amendments. Before the ZBA could meet to consider the LeCompte and Elder text amendments, two additional text amendments – the “Hammond” and “Drury” amendments - were received by the Village. The ZBA therefore chose to postpone deliberations on the first two text amendments and proceeded to hold a public hearing regarding the Hammond and Drury text amendments on September 9, 2014 at Countryside School. The ZBA received testimony from many concerned citizens during the public hearings on the amendments.

The ZBA held a meeting at Barrington High School on September 11, 2014 to deliberate on the four text amendments. The first item brought forward on the agenda was the LeCompte text amendment. ZBA member Kurt Anderson proposed revisions to the LeCompte amendment. The ZBA had lengthy discussion on the matter. Ultimately, the ZBA voted to approve the LeCompte amendment as revised by

member Anderson with a vote of 4-3 (Benkendorf, Rosene, Anderson, Freeman for; Wolfram, Stieper, Chambers against). Chairman Freeman asked for a motion to consider any of the other three amendments. No motion was made. Member Stieper then moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45pm.

The Board of Trustees met on September 22, 2014 where the revised LeCompte text amendment recommendation was brought forward. The Board discussed the text amendments and process questions at length. Ultimately a consensus was reached that the Board of Trustees would table action on the revised LeCompte text amendment. The Board requested that the ZBA consider several questions that arose during the Board’s discussion and address the three outstanding amendments.

The next ZBA meeting will be October 20, 2014, it is possible that the ZBA could convene a special meeting before then. All meeting notices are posted on the Village’s website. Please look there for any updates or meeting announcements.

Further details, including transcripts and the amendments, can be found on the ZBA’s web page at [barringtonhills-il.gov/committees/zba.htm](http://barringtonhills-il.gov/committees/zba.htm)

Please contact the Village at 847.551.3000 for assistance in retrieving these records.



## Heritage & Environs Committee News:

*Recycle First, Trash Last is the 2014 Motto for Barrington Hills!*

### Did you know?

You can now bring ALL Styrofoam to Village Hall for recycling

The Village is collecting unwanted shoes to be repurposed and recycled

All of these efforts help keep items out of our landfills and see them reused, recycled or repurposed!

If you would like to be more involved with the Heritage & Environs, please contact the village at 847.551.3000

## **BACOG PRIVATE WELL WATER QUALITY TESTING EVENT – NOVEMBER 2014**

### **Barrington Area Council of Governments Facilitates Private Well Water Quality Testing in November**

#### **Why is it important to test the quality of my well water?**

Most Barrington area residents drink groundwater that is drawn from the shallow aquifer system. The state requires public water supplies to be tested for a wide range of contaminants on a routine basis, but with *private* wells that serve just one or two households, there is no regulation that requires outside entities to test your well water. If you are a private well owner, that means you are responsible for making sure your home's water is safe to drink.

Households with private wells are advised to have a Level I test for bacteria and nitrate on an annual basis to detect these invisible, odorless contaminants. Bacteria and nitrate can result from animal or human waste or fertilizer components reaching the well water and can cause illness in humans. The Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) partners with the Lake County Health Department to make private well water testing fast, easy and inexpensive for residents – and to help make sure everyone tests for clean water!

#### **Pick-up Test Kits: November 10 - 13**

Homeowners can pick up a Level I well water test kit with instructions at a reduced price of \$10 per test kit at Village of Barrington Hills, 112 Algonquin Road, during regular office hours between Monday, November 10, and Thursday, November 13. Only cash or checks are accepted. Please have exact change or make checks payable to "Lake County Health Department".

#### **Drop-off Test Kit: ONE DAY ONLY - November 18**

Homeowners can *return water test kits on Tuesday, November 18, between 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm ONLY at The Garlands of Barrington*, 1000 Garlands Lane, Barrington. Water samples need to be tested within 24 hours of collection – that means your water sample must be collected right before drop off on November 18. Samples will be refrigerated and transported by BACOG to the Lake County Environmental Laboratory. The test results will be sent to homeowners within two weeks. Any homeowner with positive results for total coliform, E.coli bacteria or elevated nitrate levels will receive a phone call from the Lake County Health Department within 48 hours.

#### **Presentation: November 18 - 6:00 pm**

Drop off your sample at 6:00 pm on November 18 at The Garlands of Barrington and stay for a presentation. The presentation topic will be announced soon. Experts from BACOG and Lake County Health Department will also be available throughout the drop-off event to answer residents' questions about wells, groundwater and water testing.

For a list of the BACOG member government locations selling test kits and additional information about Level II and Level III testing, visit [www.bacog.org](http://www.bacog.org) or call (847) 381-7871.

## **Finance Report**

The 2015 budget process has begun. The Village follows a calendar year (January - December). At the August 26, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting, budget request worksheets were distributed. Committee members will review their departmental expenditures; then submit their proposals to the Village Treasurer. Vendors will be contacted to query on projected costs for the following year. Special consideration will be taken on levied items such as salt prices, buildings & grounds, road repairs, labor contract negotiations, litigation and audit costs. The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet in late October to review submittals by the Committee Chairs. Once the budget is accepted by the Board of Trustees, the levy will be adopted at the December, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting.

# HAUNTED The Hills Are Alive

2014 Fall Heritage Fest

Fall is here and we are looking forward to another hugely successful heritage festival here in Barrington Hills. This year's event, "The HAUNTED Hills are Alive" promises to be another spooktacular event! We are bringing back last year's favorites PLUS adding a few new devilishly delightful activities to keep you guessing as to what's around the corner!

The 2nd annual event will take place Saturday, October 25th, from noon until 5:00pm at the Barrington Hills Park District Riding Center. In full celebration of the season, we have designated this year to be a Halloween theme and all residents are encouraged to show up in costume. Scheduled activities include an obstacle course, balloon demonstrations, the annual chicken beauty contest, pony rides, hay rides, demonstrations from our Equestrian Clubs and facepainting. Live music and food will be enjoyed all afternoon. Sparky the Fire Dog as well as fire and police vehicles will be on hand. New to our devilishly delightful lineup this year is trick or treating throughout the event for ghosts, goblins and ghoulies of all ages!

Our community is blessed to have so many active and philanthropic residents. Non-profit organizations that are an integral part of our community will be on hand to share these missions, program information and successes. Come see what makes our Village so unique and such a wonderful place to call home!

This year we are also encouraging families to show off their creative skills and help make our Haunted Hills look colorful and bright! Pumpkins will be available at Village Hall for pick up the week before the event to take home, decorate as you choose, and bring back to the event for display!

Volunteers are needed to help make this year's event another monstrous success! If you are short on time, but still want to contribute to the festival, sponsorships opportunities are available. The Fest is completely funded by residents and donors with NO cost to taxpayers.

Last year over 800 residents attended our heritage festival to celebrate our community and our neighbors. We hope to see you all again for this family oriented, fun filled day! For more information or to volunteer or donate, please contact Anna at 847-551-3000 or apaul@vbhil.gov.

See you October 25 RAIN OR SHINE! (In case of inclement weather, we will be set up inside the riding arena.)



## Bicycle Planning

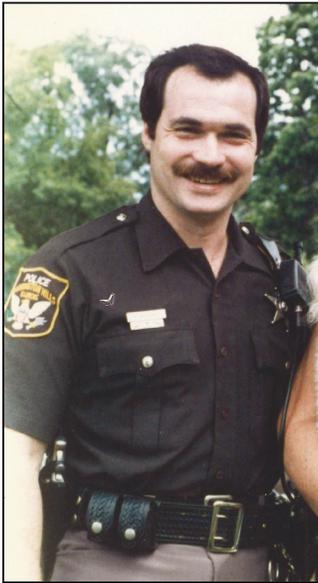
The Village has received a number of questions and concerns regarding a draft bike path plan that was prepared and discussed this past spring.

To determine the feasibility of adding a bike path feature to the Haegers Bend Road project for the potential of receiving federal construction funds, the Village Engineer was directed to prepare a draft Bikeway Corridor Study. The draft study was presented to the Plan Commission in April and discussed further in subsequent months. Two chief concerns emerged from these discussions: (1) many cited existing bicycle groups disobeying traffic laws and regulations, and (2) most residents were opposed to adding marked bike lanes or bike paths to Village roadways.

**In September the Village Board passed a resolution confirming that no bike paths, bike lanes, marked routes, or other bikeway elements would be added to the Village Roadway network.**



## Thanks Chief!



### Police Chief Murphy Retiring after 28 years of Dedicated Service

On October 31st, the Barrington Hills Police Department will bid a fond farewell to Chief Michael Murphy (Murf) as he begins his new life of retirement. Chief Murphy began his career in Barrington Hills on February 23rd 1986 and has served the Department as a Field Training Officer, Truck Enforcement Officer, Detective, Investigations Commander, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and as Chief of Police since 2005.

During his 28 year career, Chief Murphy has been a dedicated, hardworking, and loyal public servant. His strong work ethic and organizational skills have made the Barrington Hills Police Department (BHPD) a leader in the area. Throughout his career, Chief Murphy has been committed to helping the residents of Barrington Hills maintain the highest level of safety and security, including retaining the departments CALEA Certification. He has also been a motivating force in assisting BHPD employees in reaching their highest potential.

Chief Murphy's outgoing personality has made him an incredible ambassador for the Department at area functions. He has guided the Barrington Hills Police Department through some turbulent times and his steady and calm demeanor will be sorely missed.

On a personal note, I want to thank Chief Murphy for patiently field training me when I was a new police officer recruit back in 1989. His sense of humor made a nervous rookie's first few weeks on the job fun and enjoyable. For me, Chief Murphy has been a patient and understanding boss, a mentor, and more importantly, a friend. We will all miss his leadership, quick wit, and seemingly endless analogies!

**We invite all residents to join us for a coffee and cake reception to bid Chief Murphy farewell on October 31st from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.**

Rich Semelsberger  
Deputy Chief of Police



*At the September meeting the the Board of Trustees presented Tamera Huls a plaque in appreciation of her 20 years of service in our Police Department. Also honored was Village Treasurer, Rosemary Ryba, who earned the title of Certified Illinois Municipal Treasurer.*



## Join Friends of the Forest Preserves for...

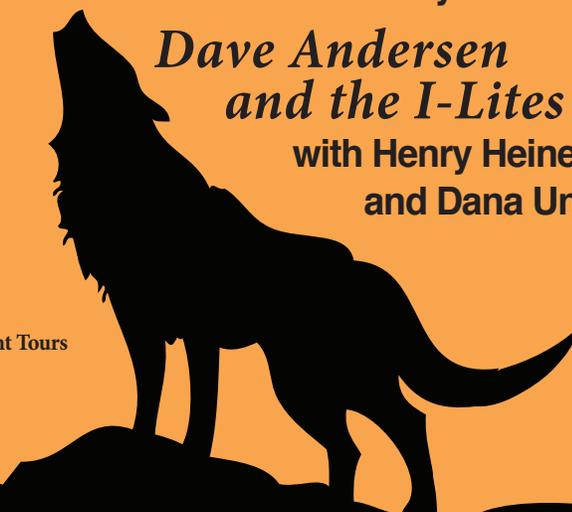
### TICKETS INCLUDE:

- Cookout Dinner from 5 - 8PM
- Beer and Wine
- Gigantic Bonfire
- Narrated Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides
- Birds of Prey
- Stargazing with Serious Telescopes
- Amazing Raffle
- Educational Flashlight Tours for kids

Live music & dancing under the stars by

*Dave Andersen and the I-Lites*

with Henry Heine and Dana Underwood



# Ignite the Night!

*A night-time fall festival with fun for all ages*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 5 - 10PM**

Spring Creek Forest Preserve / Barrington Hills Park District/ Barrington Hills

### Sponsors

Barrington Hills Park District • The Riding Club of Barrington Hills

### Tickets

\$45 in advance, \$60 at the door • \$25.00 for ages 13-20 • \$5 for children 12 and under  
Purchase event and raffle tickets online at [www.fotfp.org](http://www.fotfp.org)  
or call (312) 356-9990 - Tickets will be held at the gate

### Raffle

Beautiful Original Artwork • Native Plants/Trees • Sport & Camping Gear • Bulls Tickets  
Original Jewelry • Polo Lessons • Bikes • Skateboards • Dog Care • and much much more!



Event will take place rain or shine!!!  
**361 Bateman Road in Barrington Hills.**  
1/8 mile N. of Rt. 62 (Behind the Riding Center)



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

barringtonhills-il.gov

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## Directory

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

vbhil.gov

**Phone**  
 847-551-3000

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

**Director of  
 Administration**  
 Robert Kosin, AICP

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## CALENDAR

**October 4 5-10pm:**

**Ignite the Night, Spring Creek Forest  
 Preserve/Barrington Hills Park District**

**October 7 10am:**

**Public Safety Meeting, Village Hall**

**October 13:**

**Columbus Day**

**October 25 12-5pm:**

**The Haunted Hills Are Alive, Barrington  
 Hills Park District Riding Center**

**October 31 12-2pm:**

**Chief Murphy is Retiring! Join Us for  
 Cake and Coffee, Village Hall**

**October 27 6:30pm:**

**Board of Trustees Meeting, Village Hall**

**November 10-13:**

**Well Water Testing Kit Pick-up, Village Hall**

**November 11:**

**Veterans Day, Village Hall Closed**

**November 27&28:**

**Thanksgiving, Village Hall Closed**



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