

President's Letter

Spring is just around the corner and, as many of us plan for trips to Florida, Arizona, or a staycation at home enjoying our beautiful community, it is a good time to reflect upon renewal. First, the Village has reduced our tax levy again for the 3rd year in a row and dropped the burden from \$6.5 million in 2013 to \$5.3 million in 2017. We have also renewed and passed a 20-year border agreement with South Barrington protecting our Village property from disconnection and development. In addition to levy relief, we have renewed our efforts to invest those savings into our roads, police force, the aesthetics of Village Hall, and our new Village website and communications platform. With respect to our roads, we are increasing our paving schedule to 3.75 miles in 2017. Our Police Department and Personnel Committee has undertaken the interviewing of candidates to join our police force and we will be welcoming two new officers come summer, who are now attending the academy. Village Hall is benefitting from a much-needed makeover with a fresh coat of paint and carpeting throughout the interior. Our newly launched Village website is helping to make the Village more accessible to residents and to deliver services more efficiently, as well as promoting our community through area realtors. With change in mind, we also will be seeing departures taking place on our Board of Trustees this Spring as terms expire, two existing trustees retire, and others seek re-election. We would like to thank Trustee Mike Harrington for his service to the Village over the past four years. A special thank you to Trustee Fritz Gohl who will be stepping down after 4 terms (16 years) of service on the Board. Without the volunteer spirit of all who donate their time serving on boards and commissions, we could not operate as successfully as we do. As you may be aware, Village elections are upcoming and it is up to you, our neighbors, to determine who should represent the Village moving forward. Be sure to vote on or before April 4th 2017.



As always, I am grateful to have the privilege of representing you, my neighbors, as Village President and look forward to a bright future for Barrington Hills.

Sincerely,

President McLaughlin

August 13, 2017

**Barrington Honor Ride
&
The Hills Are Alive**

*TOGETHER at the Barrington Hills
Park District Riding Center*

Mark your calendars and
look for more details on
how to participate at vbhil.gov

SPRING TO-DO List

- Register to receive Village Alerts (vbhil.gov/alert)
- Register to receive alerts from your utilities (especially ComEd outage alerts, comed.com)
- Clean your gutters
- Clear debris from your culvert



LEVY REDUCED 3rd Year In a Row

VBH anticipates homeowners paying less in the Village's portion of property taxes this year, after trustees voted to lower the property tax levy for the third year in a row.

Village President Martin McLaughlin was pleased to announce the levy reduction, which is due in part, to administrative and departmental restructurings and consolidation of emergency dispatch services. The Village will request \$5.3 million in property taxes in 2017, down from \$6.1 million in 2016. The 2017 Village budget is \$7.5 million, down from \$7.9 million the prior year.

McLaughlin thanked the Board of Trustees for their work and support, and commented that he and "the board would like to see the counties, townships, fire districts, school districts, and the state follow their lead, recognizing the need for property tax relief."

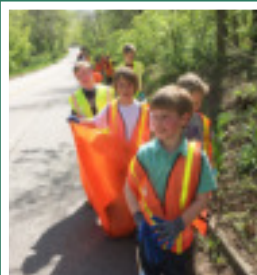
In 2013, the Village was faced with a budget of \$8.4 million, which has been reduced today to \$7.5 million. The Village over the same period has been able to increase cash reserves while also paving more streets per year than in the prior ten years.

BEING GREEN IN BARRINGTON HILLS

RECYCLE ELECTION SIGNS

Don't toss your old election signs. Recycle them at Village Hall.

When turning into the Village Hall driveway, continue straight to the Public Works building. You'll see a spot to place the signs. Signs need to be dropped off prior to Friday April 14th.



EARTH DAY Village Cleanup

April 22nd is Earth Day! Show your appreciation for your neighborhood and Barrington Hills by participating in the **Roadside Cleanup** on **April 22**. Get the kids, neighbors, friends and family and help clean up our roads. There is a lot of trash that has accumulated on the side of our roads this winter. **April 22** is the day to change that. Please spend a couple of hours to clean up your neighborhood and Barrington Hills.

Countryside School Green Club



Earth Day
RECYCLING DRIVE



April 22, 2017 | 9am-1pm
Countryside Elementary School Parking Lot
205 W County Line Rd

RECYCLE:

Corks, Wine & Champagne Bottles, Egg Cartons, Styrofoam, Used Clothing, Used Shoes, Batteries, CDs, DVDs, VHS, Cassette Tapes, Cell Phones, Cell Phone Accessories, All Electronics Except TVs

Proudly sponsored by Countryside Green Club and Signal Hill Chapter, NSDAR

Village Roads Closed To All Traffic Over 10 Tons.

Why does the Village “close” the roads?

This time of the year, the weather can wreak havoc on roads. Water seeps into and below roads; the freezing and thawing that follows can damage the road. With heavy vehicles, the roads take such a beating that not closing the roads could lead the Village to having to resurface them twice as quickly.

The bottom line is that we would have to spend a lot more tax payer dollars repairing and resurfacing roads if we did not close them to heavy vehicles.

Who decides when to close the roads?

The Board of Trustees passes a resolution based on our Village Engineer’s recommendation for date of closing.

How long are they going to be closed?

That depends on Mother Nature. Once again the Village Engineer will advise the Board when he believes it is the optimal time to restore the normal 18 tons (36,000 lbs.) weight limit. BUT it will not exceed 90 days, so the absolute latest the roads could be reopened is May 28th and we don’t anticipate having to keep them closed that long.

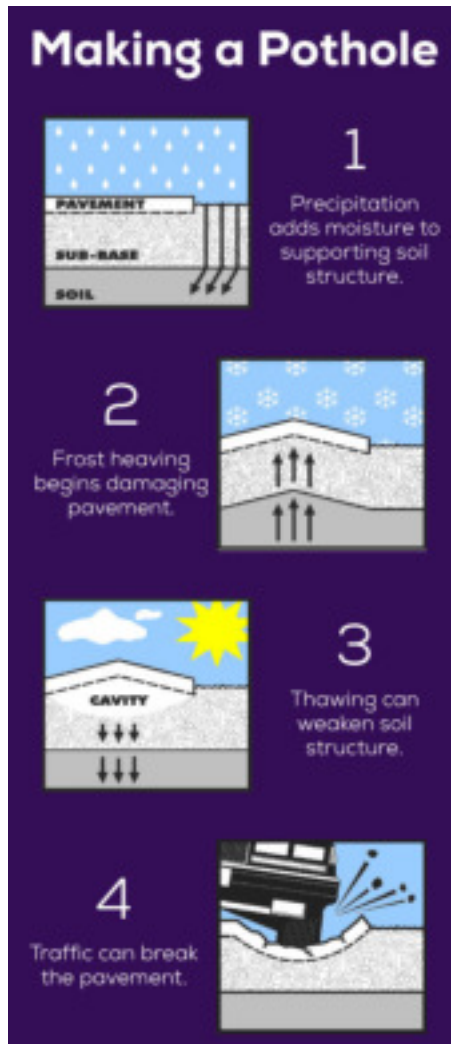


Want to know as soon as the restriction is lifted?



Find us on
Facebook

or check our website for updates.

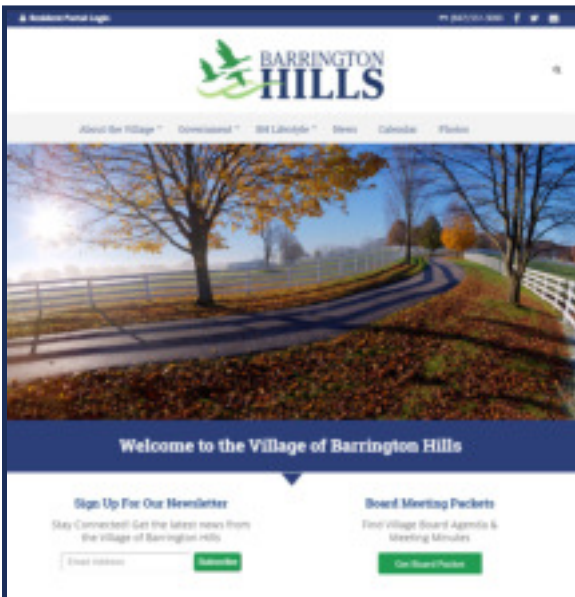


District 220 Boundary Discussion

Recently there have been articles reporting about the “Iatarola” property located at the northwest corner of Routes 59 and 72. This property was once in our Village, but in 2010 the property was disconnected and is located exclusively in Hoffman Estates. We have no authority over the parcel. However, we oppose this development. The recent discussion has been in regards to district boundaries, as the property is within Community Unit School District (CUSD) 220 and concerns have been raised by the District whether they could absorb the hundreds more students that could be added, specifically to Countryside Elementary. It is also within CUSD 300, Harper College, Elgin Community College, the Hoffman Estates Park District, the Barrington Hills Park District, the Barrington Area Public Library and Cook County. The Hoffman Estates review board rejected TIF district but more meetings are to follow. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to those entities, as well as the Village of Hoffman Estates for information.

Back to Home Occupation

In December the board voted 5-2 in favor of again including horse boarding under the home occupation ordinance (HOO). The HOO in a nutshell allows residents to run a business out of their home, as long as it doesn’t look like they are running a business out of their home. For example: excessive noise, traffic or signs would look like a business and would be in violation of the HOO.



VILLAGE LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

The Village is excited to have launched a new website in early 2017. The focus of the redesign was to make it easier for our residents to find what they need and to attract new residents to our Village. In 2017, we will continue to put our best foot forward for our own residents and for others visiting Barrington Hills. We know that first impressions are important, so we hope you take a minute or two to check out our new website celebrating what makes BH such a unique place to live and raise a family. Overall we hope to improve your experience with the Village and to better highlight why we love our community.

vbhil.gov

THE NEW LOOK

As part of our new look, we worked with a marketing firm to develop our new logo. Times have changed since our previous logos. While they were great in their time, we needed to make sure that our Village stays current, and current means SIMPLE. The new logo was designed with a set of criteria in mind: Readability & Scalability and Consistency.

On Readability and Scalability, the new logo was designed to be easy to read at all sizes. Logos today need to be able to scale and be easily read on everything from large signs and posters to computers, tablets, and phones; even if printed small, like on a business card or pen. Logos with small text and a lot of information or imagery, can be confusing and unreadable, especially at smaller sizes. We needed to simplify the logo to address these readability and scalability issues. Unfortunately, our previous logo became unreadable in smaller sizes. The new logo's focal point is simple, easy to read and is true to today's logo design standards. Your eye is quickly drawn to "Barrington Hills"; it can easily scale to a tiny size and still be readable (see logos below).



Consistency of the Barrington Hills look was the other key consideration. Throughout our village and at Village Hall, you will find various bronze signs and plaques with our earlier logo showcasing the three geese. To be consistent, we needed the new logo to make this element part of the design.

Thank you to all who have expressed interest in learning about our new Village logo. You can pick up a free logo magnet for your car at Village Hall.

Longmeadow Update

Despite our Village's opposition, planning for the Longmeadow Parkway continues. While we do not support the project, we do participate in discussions and meetings so that we can stay apprised of the status and to try to protect the Village and our residents' interests. We will continue to advocate against the Longmeadow Parkway while at the same time advocating for safety improvements and standards on our county and regional roadways. For more information visit the KDOT website at www.co.kane.il.us/dot/foxBridges/longmeadowPkwpy.aspx

PAVEMENT SEALANTS You Have Options!



With spring around the corner, many are considering sealcoating their driveway.

Did you know certain sealants can be harmful to your family's health?

Sealcoat products are used on driveways, parking lots and playgrounds to give a restored appearance. But some, such as coal tar-based products, contain components (PAHs) that are toxic to aquatic life and, with prolonged exposure, pose a risk of cancer in humans - especially children!

Sealants don't stay put! As sealcoat deteriorates, the flakes can be washed away by rain into bodies of water or onto lawns, or become dust that is tracked into homes by pets and people.

A great alternative is to use asphalt-emulsion or latex sealants which have far lower PAH levels and are widely available at the same cost. If you use a driveway sealant service, be sure to request one of these sealants.

To learn more, check out BACOG's website at: www.BACOG.org

CFC plant sale set for May 6-7

Citizens for Conservation (CFC) will hold its 21st annual Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale May 6 - 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The sale will be held in the Good Shepherd Hospital barn area at 450 W. Highway 22, Lake Barrington. Barrington Hills resident Ginger Underwood is chair of this year's sale.

Native plants provide many advantages for both gardeners and the environment, and buyers can choose from a huge selection of robust, hardy native plants, including perennials, ferns, sedges, grasses, shrubs and trees. As part of CFC's Milkweed for Monarchs campaign to encourage monarch populations, numerous varieties of native milkweed will be available at discounted prices.



**Pre-sale online ordering will be available
March 1-April 12 at www.citizensforconservation.org.
If you have questions please
call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283).**



GREETING HUTS

The Village wants to issue a big thank you to the Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club and the Barrington Rotary Charitable Foundation for their donation of greeting huts. You'll be seeing them at The Hills Are Alive this year.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE



Police Reminders for Spring

Spring is just around the corner and with the coming of warmer weather, the Barrington Hills Police Department (BHPD) would like to remind you of some important safety concerns.

WHY DRIVE 25?

It's the Law:

All Village roads have a 25 mph speed limit and are 'single file only' for cycling. **Be Alert & Drive 25.**

Equestrian Safety:

VBH residents have the right to ride their horses and horse drawn carriages down VBH roads. You never know when an equestrian will be around the next corner or over the next hill. Drive safely and be prepared to stop. **Be Alert & Drive 25.**

Natural Oasis:

Wildlife is no stranger to Barrington Hills. A deer, coyote or a hawk might jump, run or swoop in front of your car without notice. Please don't encourage the wild animals to congregate by feeding them. Keep your eyes on the road. **Be Alert & Drive 25.**

Pedestrian Safety:



The longer days and nice weather mean we'll all be outside more. The Village's uniquely beautiful roads attract resident and visitor: bikers, walkers, and runners. State law requires cars to give at least 3 feet of space to cyclists; please be patient and wait to pass cyclists until you are sure that there isn't any oncoming traffic. **Be Alert & Drive 25.**

Pet Safety:

To avoid a tragic pet accident, please ensure that they are safe, secure, and not able to wander off your property. Spring is a great time to survey your fences and pastures for openings. When motorists follow the speed limit many of these unfortunate accidents can be avoided. **Be Alert & Drive 25.**

"BHPD relies on the partnership we have established with our residents to provide a safe community for all. Please don't hesitate to call 911 if anything appears 'out of the ordinary' in your neighborhood. Trust your instincts; if it seems unusual, call us!" - Chief Richard Semelsberger

Police response non-emergency: 847.428.8784

Finally, BHPD would like to remind everyone to be courteous drivers. The Village is a beautiful community that beckons residents and visitors who wish to enjoy the incredible outdoor activities.

*We all need to share the road and experience has shown that being considerate of others is **always** a better alternative to 'road rage'.*

BARRINGTON HILLS HIRES NEW POLICE OFFICERS

On April 25th, 2016 the Barrington Hills Board of Trustees approved a Resolution authorizing a service agreement with Stanard & Associates for the purpose of testing candidates for employment with the Barrington Hills Police Department (BHPD). After an exhaustive process and reviewing the 59 applicants that had passed the written test, the Village of Barrington Hills has extended conditional offers of employment to two new police officer candidates.

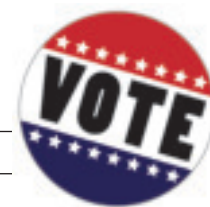


As of this writing, the two candidates are in the process of completing additional BHPD requirements before they begin their 12 week basic recruit training at the Illinois State Police Training Academy in Springfield. "I am very pleased and proud to be sending BHPD recruits back to the Illinois State Police Academy, a practice that began under Chief Robert (Bob) Lamb back in the mid-1980s", Chief Rich Semelsberger stated.

BHPD has been planning and working with the Village for some time now to not only add the two full time police officers, but also to fill two part time officer positions that were successfully negotiated in the current Police Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The Personnel Committee, Village President, and Police Chief interviewed candidates at the Personnel Committee's February 23rd meeting. They then made the determination as to which two candidates would be given a 'conditional offer of employment'. The two new police officers will be formally introduced to the Village Board at their ceremonial swearing in at the July 24th Board of Trustee meeting.

"We appreciate the opportunity to be part of the selection process," said Village President Martin McLaughlin. "These officers protect our families and we are pleased to have them join our CALEA accredited force".



- 03/19/2017** Last day to register to vote [online \(ova.elections.il.gov\)](http://ova.elections.il.gov)

- 03/20/2017** First day of **early voting**

- 03/30/2017** Last day to request a **mail ballot** (request to be received by noon)

- 04/3/2017** Last day of **early voting**

- 04/4/2017** **Election Day** (find your polling place vbhil.gov/vote)

Details of when and where you can register, vote, and early vote vary by county. Check vbhil.gov/vote for further guidance or call your county clerk's office.

Save the Date | September 30, 2017

A nighttime fall festival fun for all ages!!!

Citizens for Conservation invites you to the Spring Creek Forest Preserve and Barrington Hills Park District for a cookout dinner, horse drawn wagons with narrated restoration tours, native animals, raffle, live band, telescope viewing and the best bonfire ever! Stay tuned for further details.

CFC is looking for sponsors and raffle item donations. Contact Ginger Underwood ttonkajo@yahoo.com or 847-331-3568.

IGNITE THE NIGHT





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

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vbhil.gov

Phone
847-551-3000

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

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Trustee



CALENDAR

- 03/20 - Early Voting Begins | Check vbhil.gov/vote**
- 04/04 - Consolidated Election Day**
- 04/22 - Village Wide Cleanup Effort | Get your neighborhood involved!**
- 04/22 - Earth Day Recycling Drive 9am - 1pm
Countryside Elementary**
- 05/6-7 - CFC Plant Sale**
- 05/29 - Memorial Day | Village Hall Closed**
- 08/13 - Honor Ride & The Hills Are Alive 2017**
- 09/30 - Friends of the Forest Preserve : Ignite the Night**