

President's Letter



As we move through another busy and productive year, I'm excited to share some updates about what's been happening around the Village. So much of our progress comes from steady, behind the scenes work; projects that may not always grab headlines but make a real difference in how we serve our residents.

To begin, the Village continues its improvements to Village Hall. Over the past few years, improvements have been made to the parking lot, stairs and HVAC system. In 2025, the Village received a grant from the State of Illinois, which was applied to updating its administrative offices, the MacArthur Board Room and ADA accessibility.

This project is part of an ongoing initiative to improve safety, enhance efficiency of services, and make better use of space and resources. I am happy to share that the majority of the physical updates have been completed and now we are refining the final features.

I want to highlight that this has been accomplished with no increase in the Village's portion of the 2025 property tax. More information about the tax levy is on page 3, but it has been the Village's goal to keep the tax levy flat as much as possible while maintaining fiscal responsibility. This is not an easy task. It takes time, determination, and a conscious effort to evaluate what might be adjusted or streamlined, along with a commitment to explore technology to help us meet our goals.

The road program is a great example of this. A few years ago, the Village included in its road program the use of Reclamite, which is a pavement rejuvenator. This application has proven effective in extending the life of Village roads by reducing the frequency of needed resurfacing, saving the Village hundreds of thousands of dollars. Private road owners saved, too! They took advantage of "in the neighborhood pricing" offered by the service providers for both resurfacing their private road and the Reclamite application. Details of that program are in the following pages of this newsletter.

Another example of our commitment to disciplined fiscal responsibility is the use of adjudication hearings. Our village continues to hold adjudication hearings at Village Hall which allows us to resolve local ordinance violations efficiently and here in our community. By managing these hearings internally, the Village can address issues more quickly, consistently and keep costs down for the taxpayers.

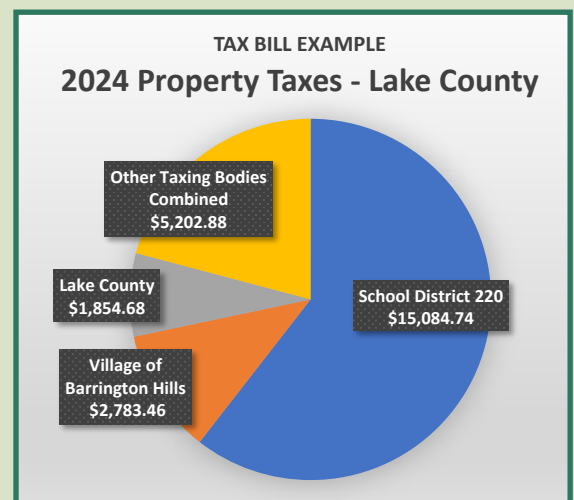
Mark your calendars to be a part of history on June 28, 2026—the Land We Love Run 5k/10k or 2-Mile Walk! In honor of America's 250th Anniversary, we're aiming for 250 registrants. Proceeds benefit Folds of Honor, a nonprofit organization that awards educational scholarships to the families of fallen or disabled military service members, as well as the Cuba Township Food Pantry. Be sure to visit the Pantry's website to bring wish-list items to the Run: cubatwpil.gov/food-pantry.

Details and registration are available at vbhil.gov/run. Rumor has it that registrants will snag exclusive event merch, but you must register to get it! Act Now! Registration is open! This event welcomes all age groups so bring your family, extended family, friends and neighbors to help us reach our goal!

As always, I am honored to serve as your Village President and my door is always open.

Respectfully,

Brian D. Cecola, President



UNPERMITTED FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL IN BARRINGTON HILLS

Residents are reminded that the use or discharge of fireworks is illegal. Only Village-permitted fireworks conducted by a licensed, pyrotechnic professional may be displayed. Any fireworks displays without a permit are subject to fines of up to \$2,500 per infraction.

Fireworks pose serious dangers to humans and animals.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2024, at least 14,700 people were treated in emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries, most commonly burns to the head and hands.

Fireworks also have a negative effect on both wild and domestic animals. Sudden explosions and bright flashes can cause intense fear in wild animals, prompting them to flee their natural habitats. This flight can lead to road crossings, collisions with vehicles, and injuries from obstacles in unfamiliar terrain.

Dogs experience sounds at a much higher intensity; studies suggest that up to 50% of dogs are afraid of fireworks. Common reactions include hiding, pacing, shaking, crying, or attempting to flee.

The Village's Equestrian Commission highlighted that horses, in particular, often have a dangerous reaction. Horses are biologically wired to react quickly to perceived threats. Loud explosions, flashing lights, and unfamiliar smells trigger an instinctive panic response. Once startled, a horse may bolt in any direction without regard for fencing, terrain, or obstacles.

These reactions can result in serious injuries to the horses including broken legs, lacerations, tendon injuries from fences or stalls, or head and neck trauma from crashing into walls or gates. Escaped horses may enter roadways, creating dangerous situations that can injure both the animals and motorists. Even when no visible injury occurs, fireworks can cause significant stress that may trigger additional health complications.



Let's be cognizant of all Barrington Hills residents—*human, pets and wildlife*—and protect them from the threats of unpermitted fireworks. When the Village issues a fireworks permit, a notification will be sent through the Village's alert system prior to the scheduled event. To report illegal fireworks, please contact the Police Department by calling 911 at the time the activity is occurring.



Sign up to receive Community Alerts at bhpd.net or scan the QR code.



The newly updated Police Department website is now live, offering a cleaner design, improved accessibility, and a smoother overall experience. It's never been easier to stay connected to our public safety initiatives, access helpful tools, and find the information you need.

Visit bhpd.net to explore convenient online services, including:

- House Watch Requests
- Alarm Information
- Premise Alerts
- Pet Information
- Child Safety Seat Inspections
- No Trespassing/Soliciting Signs

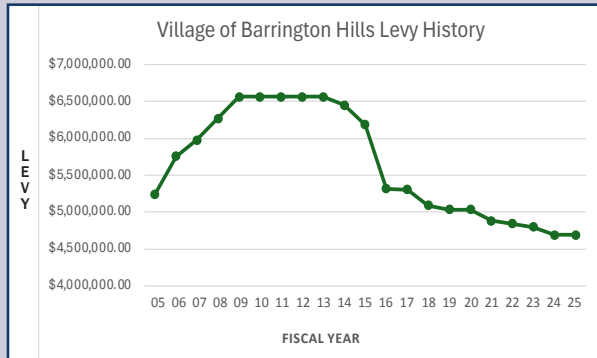
**DISCOVER EVERYTHING THE NEW SITE HAS TO OFFER AND
MAKE THE MOST OF THESE EASY TO USE RESOURCES.**

NO TAX INCREASE FOR 15TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Village of Barrington Hills Maintains Its Fiscal Responsibility for Residents!

At its meeting on December 15, 2025, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the levy for Fiscal Year 2025 with no increase and no new taxes for the Village’s portion of property taxes. This action continues a longstanding commitment to prudent financial management and marks the 15th consecutive fiscal year in which the Village has held the line on property taxes.

“We are incredibly pleased and proud to be able to continue this trend for our residents,” said President Brian Cecola. “We don’t know how much longer the trend will continue but we remain committed to the time and effort needed to analyze spending, taking advantage of technology, and delivering quality services, all with the goal of minimizing the impact on property taxes.”



After discussing the Village’s proposed 2026 budget, available funds, and fiscal health, it was noted that the levy has been level or decreased for the past 15 years. When averaging the levy over a 20-year period, the Village’s levy is still down 5%, making it an impressive two decades.

The unanimous vote reflects the Board’s dedication to fiscal discipline, responsible budgeting, and consideration for its residents. Through careful planning, conservative spending, and long-term financial strategies, the Village has been able to maintain essential services, preserve its rural character, and invest in infrastructure without increasing taxes.

2026 ROAD PROGRAM

This year, the Village is planning to resurface the eastern portion of Spring Creek Road and Rock Ridge Road. In addition, we will continue our Road Preservation Program by applying Reclamite to newly repaved roads and providing a second application to roads that are approximately 4–5 years old. This penetrating sealer has proven to be effective in extending the lifespan by:

- Reversing the brittleness caused by aging
- Reducing the permeability of the road
- Keeping the asphalt binder flexible, preventing cracking and raveling



These combined results increase the road’s durability, reducing the frequency of having to resurface.

Are You a Private Road Owner?

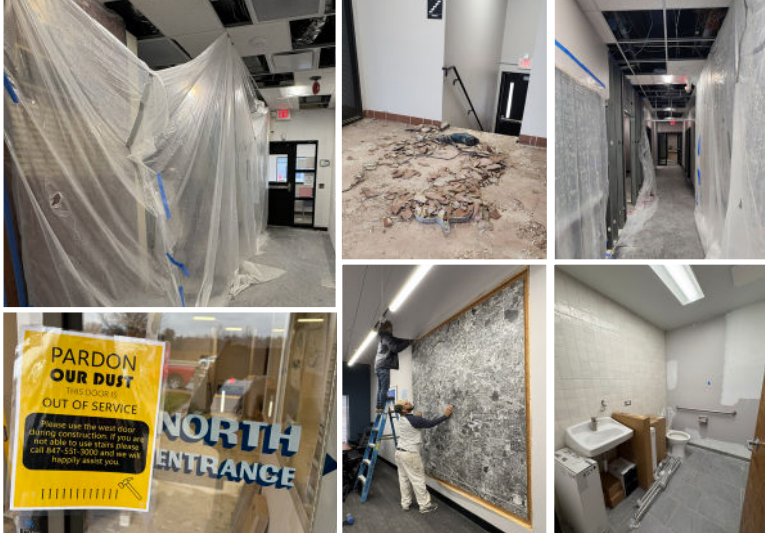
The Village contains over 24 miles of private roads within its boundaries. For the past several years, the contractor selected to execute the Village’s road program has offered to provide resurfacing quotes to private road owners.

Because the contractor is already mobilized and working in the area, private road owners can often benefit from cost savings as compared to hiring a contractor independently. The construction machinery used for road resurfacing is not used for resurfacing driveways, so unfortunately, this offer does not apply to driveways.

If you are interested in receiving a quote, email your name and the private road needing resurfacing to village@vbhil.gov. A return email will be sent to you containing the awarded contractor’s contact information with instructions, typically in late March or April.

BARRINGTON HILLS YEAR IN REVIEW 2025

VILLAGE HALL RENOVATIONS BEGAN



BOARD UPDATES

Darby Hills sworn in as IL State Senator, 26th District
Marsha McClary sworn in as Trustee
Re-elected to Serve Another Term (L-R):
Trustee Ekstrom, President Cecola, Trustee Riff, Trustee Strauss



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



POLICE DEPARTMENT

New Hires: Officers Jenry Valdes and Kevin Del Re
Promotion: Sergeant Ryan Hackbarth
Retired: Sergeant Ron Riedel and Detective Ron Ruffin

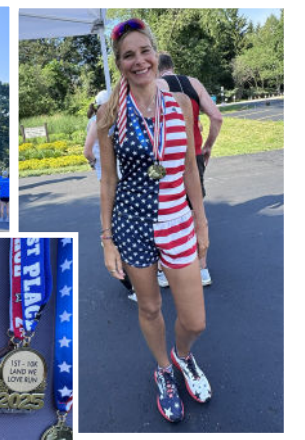
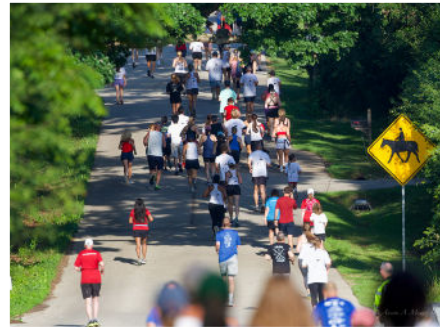


BARRINGTON HILLS YEAR IN REVIEW 2025

FALL FEST 2025



THE LAND WE LOVE TO RUN 5K/10K



KEY DATES FOR THE MARCH 17, 2026 GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Register to VOTE

- 3/1/26** Last day to register to vote by online application
- 3/2/26** First day of early voting
- 3/12/26** Last day to request a mail ballot, including military and overseas voters
- 3/16/26** Last day of early voting
- 3/17/26** Last day mail ballots can be postmarked
- 3/17/26** Election Day

- Check your voter registration status at <https://ova.elections.il.gov/>
- If you have moved or legally changed your name, remember to update your registration.
- The new USPS policy will affect all of your postmark-sensitive mail, including your mail-in ballots. Take your mail to the USPS retail the clerk to apply a manual postmark.

BARN FIRE SAFETY

Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District

Barns are an important part of life in Barrington Hills, but they also present unique fire risks due to electrical systems, stored hay, equipment, and livestock. Fires in barns can spread quickly, putting animals, people, and nearby structures in danger. Taking steps ahead can reduce the risk and improve safety.

FIRE PREVENTION

- Have barn electrical systems permitted and professionally installed; protect wiring from rodents.
- Use enclosed, dust-tight light fixtures and keep heat lamps and heaters away from hay and bedding.
- Store only dry hay to prevent spontaneous combustion and maintain good ventilation.
- Allow equipment to cool before storage and keep fuels and chemicals in approved containers.
- Prohibit smoking and open flames in or near barns.
- Install and regularly test smoke or heat detectors designed for agricultural buildings.

IF A BARN FIRE OCCURS

- Call 911 immediately and provide the exact address.
- Make sure the fire grid sign at the end of your driveway is legible and unobstructed.
- Do not attempt to fight large fires—your safety comes first.
- Meet firefighters if possible and share information about animals or hazards.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

- Have an evacuation plan and identify a safe area away from the barn.
- Keep halters, lead ropes, or carriers near exits for quick access.
- If animals cannot be safely evacuated, leaving doors or gates open may give them a chance to escape.

AFTER THE FIRE

- Do not re-enter the barn until fire officials declare it safe.
- Contact your insurance provider and consult a veterinarian for animals exposed to smoke or stress.
- Review your fire safety plan and make improvements as needed.



The Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District is proud to serve our community and encourages residents to take time now to prepare. Prevention and planning can save lives—both human and animal.



EMAIL YOUR REQUEST FOR A NEW/REPLACEMENT FIRE GRID SIGN TO:
TMOREY@BHPD.NET

RECEPTACLES AT VILLAGE HALL

WEST LOBBY OPEN 24 X 7

Shoe Recycling • Safe Drug Disposal • Library Drop Box



RECYCLING RESOURCES



paintcare.org batteriesplus.com batteriesplus.com

For specialized recycling events and items requiring alternative recycling, visit algtwsp.com/recycling

Algonquin Township Road District has kindly extended their recycling dropoff services to all Barrington Hills residents, with the exceptions of TVs and styrofoam.

*TV & Monitor dropoffs require proof of Algonquin Township residency.

*Styrofoam is no longer accepted.

WASTE-BIN REMINDERS



1 Recycling bin lids are required and should stay closed.



2 Waste bins can only be out 24 hours before and after pick up.



3 Drainage culverts and channels should be free of litter and obstacles.

What Do These Things Have in Common?



Construction



Tree/Brush Removal



Site Development



Renovations



THEY NEED A BUILDING PERMIT!

AVOID THE FINE AND CALL: 847-551-3003 or EMAIL: build@vbhil.gov



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

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

For the most up-to-date info:




vbhil.gov



+ 
Nextdoor

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**Village of
Barrington Hills**

112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199
village@vbhil.gov

vbhil.gov

Phone

847-551-3000

Village Hall Hours

Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees

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President

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President Pro-Tem

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Thomas W. Strauss
Trustee

Jessica Hoffmann
Trustee

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Trustee

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Registration Open
LAND WE LOVE RUN

America

250

JUNE 28

5K/10K
2-Mile Walk



registration and
more information
vbhil.gov/run