

View to the Village

25 East State Street, North Aurora, IL 60542
www.vil.north-aurora.il.us

Happy 175th North Aurora!

August 2009

Village President's Report - Dale Berman



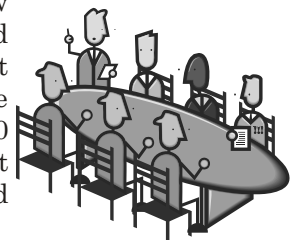
Have you been to the Fox River Island Park recently? If not, stop by to see the new playground equipment provided by the Fox Valley Park District. Then stroll across the bridge to see the newly installed river overlook behind the Village Hall. What a great way to view the beautiful surroundings of this area! These parks are available for everyone to use and appreciate so be sure to stop by and enjoy the new playground and the overlook!

There is so much going on in North Aurora these days! The construction of the new Police Facility is right on target. The old parking lot on the property has been removed and the area has been graded, with the layout for the police facility foundation underway. We are very excited to see the progress of the construction on this site. Progress is also being made on street resurfacing in North Aurora: I.D.O.T. will be resurfacing sections of Route 31 (Lincolnway) and Route 25 (River Road) as well as the Village's local road program which will include the Oak Street access and Sycamore Lane. New watermains have been installed on Sycamore as well and all home hookups have been completed. Are you remembering to shop locally? The Village of North Aurora depends on dollars spent in North Aurora to ensure that our sales tax revenue goes towards Village services. The Village's sales tax revenue is down 15% which is not only challenging for the Village but also hard on our local retailers, so please remember to shop locally! Fall clean-up day is right around the corner, on Friday, September 18, 2009 as outlined the Public Works reminders on page two.

Some issues and concerns that have been brought to my attention lately include weeds and tall / overgrown grass: the Village has been notified of many instances of overgrown weeds and tall and/or overgrown grass in yards and empty lots throughout the Village. Code Enforcement personnel are working on these numerous complaints, and since these issues cannot be resolved overnight, I ask that residents be patient, as the process takes time to remedy. Another concern is the reports of skunks and coyote seen in our Village, as well as other wildlife such as geese, raccoon, possum and deer. I have a large rabbit family residing in my backyard. Even though these animals are valuable members of our wildlife community, they can be a nuisance. Many of these wild animals seem comfortable living in North Aurora, but if you have a problem with recurring appearances of a wild animal, you can contact the Kane County Animal Control at 4060 Kesslinger Rd., Geneva, IL - 630-232-35855 for further information or contact a wildlife trapper, many of whom have listings in the yellow pages and on the internet, for assistance in ridding your property of any uninvited guests. And lastly, I urge you to visit our website www.vil.north-aurora.il.us and review the new Video Tour Book of our wonderful Village. Take the time to review the latest information on what's happening in the Village, especially with NOARDA - the North Aurora River District Alliance, which has done an excellent job with improving our riverfront. A special thank you also goes to the North Aurora Lions Club for their contributions to beautifying our riverfront as well! There is a lot going on in North Aurora – so don't miss it!

Village Committees Established

The Village President has established Committees for the following areas: Public Safety, Development, Finance, and Public Facilities. Each of these committees will have three Trustee Liaisons and will provide the Trustees with the opportunity to have more involvement in the day-to-day operations and activities of the various Village departments. Department heads will work with the specific Trustees assigned to their committees to review upcoming issues prior to making any formal recommendations for Village Board discussion and approval. The Public Safety Committee is scheduled to meet the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.; the Finance Committee will meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.; the Development Committee has scheduled meetings for the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.; and the Public Facilities Committee will meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. As always, any meeting consisting of more than two Trustees is a public meeting and the public is welcome to attend any of these Committee Meetings.



Water Conservation from the Water Department

We drink very little of the millions of gallons of water that are treated every day for drinking. Less than 1% of all the water produced by water treatment facilities is actually used for drinking. Though statistics vary from family to family, the statistics average out pretty reliably. Did you know that 26% of household water used gets flushed down toilets; showers & baths use 20%; kitchen and bathroom faucets use 15%; washing dishes consumes an additional 3%; the laundry room uses 23%; and leaks claim 13% of the water used in the home? Studies show that indoor water consumption can be reduced by almost 30% with the use of water efficient fixtures, water efficient dishwashers and efficient clothes washing machines.



- Verify that your home is leak-free. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a water leak somewhere in your home.
- Repair all dripping faucets by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at the rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons of water per year, which can add to the cost of your water/sewer bill.
- Check for toilet tank leaks by adding a few drops of food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, the food color will appear in the toilet bowl within 30 minutes. Check the toilet for worn out, corroded or bent parts. Most replacement parts are inexpensive, readily available and easily installed. (Flush the toilet as soon as you are done testing, since the food coloring may stain the tank.).
- Take shorter showers. Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low flow version. Some units are available that allow you to cut off the flow without adjusting the temperature knobs.
- Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face. Brush your teeth first while waiting for the water to get hot, then wash or shave after filling the basin.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run for a cool glass of water.
- Retrofit wasteful household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors.

Conservation doesn't mean sacrifice, it just takes being conscience of conserving water anytime you use it.

Watering Restrictions Remember to abide by the North Aurora Watering Restrictions - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. only for all residents using automatic sprinklers or sprinkler systems.

Public Works Reminders

Waste Management Fall Clean-up Day - The Village of North Aurora's annual Fall clean up day has been scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2009. Regular garbage and yard waste will require stickers as usual, however, all other items large or small will be removed for FREE. Waste Management guidelines require that all items must be contained in either cans or bags up to 32-gallons in capacity and not exceeding 50 pounds. Bulk items such as carpet rolls should be tied in bundles 4'x 2' not exceeding 50 pounds in weight. Please note, items that are not properly prepared will not be collected and will require proper preparation and stickers for collection on the next scheduled collection day. No hazardous waste or electronics will be picked up. Please use the following guidelines for their disposal. Household Hazardous Waste can be dropped off free of charge every Sat. & Sun. (except holidays) between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Naperville Fire Station located at the corner of Rt. 59 & Brookdale Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-88) For information call (630) 208-3841. Electronic Equipment and Books can be dropped off free of charge at the Kane County Circuit Clerk Building at 540 S. Randall Road, St. Charles, IL. For dates and times please contact Kane County at 630-208-3841 or www.recycle@co.kane.il.us.

Parkway Tree Replacements - Replacement of dead parkway trees will occur in October during the Village's once a year fall planting. This year the Village is limited to replacing 50 trees on a first come first serve basis. For those residents who wish to have a water bag for their new tree, you can contact the Public Works Department in the spring. It will be the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure the water bag is filled when empty. If your have a parkway tree that needs to be replaced or trimmed please contact the Public Works Department at 630-897-1457 ext. 260.

Street Lights - Street lights on wood poles are repaired by ComEd and repairs can be called into the Village or to Com Ed at 1-800-334-7661. Prior to servicing an area, repair services are held until there are a number of service requests in one area so please report streetlight outages as soon as possible to the Public Works Department at 630- 897-1457.

Sewer/Sump Line - Please call the Village **FIRST** if you should ever experience a sewer back up in your home. This will enable the Public Works Dept. to check the main sewer line for any trouble prior to residents calling a plumber. Calls after hours/weekends should go to the police department at 630-897-8705 where they will have someone paged.

Mailboxes - Please ensure your mailbox is sturdy enough to uphold the pressure of snow coming off the plow prior to our upcoming winter season. Damage done to a mailbox under these circumstances is the responsibility of the homeowner to repair and/or replace. Mailboxes or other supporting structures must be installed 9" to 12" from the edge of the street pavement or curb and 42" to 48" from roadway surface.



Community Development News and Information

Are you a Good Neighbor? Building Strong Neighborhoods is our mission along with improving the quality of life in the Village of North Aurora. Picture yourself in a "good neighborhood". What does it look and feel like? Does it look like your neighborhood? Ask yourself ... "Do my neighbors consider me to be a Good Neighbor"? It is at times of crisis and at times of enjoyment when we most value our neighbors. Make sure that your neighbors know who you are and that you establish a good relationship with them so that you can share your phone numbers in order to contact each other in case of an incident or emergency. Start by being a good neighbor yourself; help foster good neighborliness in others. Treat others as you would want to be treated. Simply introduce yourself and meet your neighbors before problems occur. The following is merely a list of a few suggestions on how to establish and maintain good neighbor relations.

Some Good Neighborly Things You Can Do: Obtain building permits prior to starting renovations; Keep the exterior of your property neat and clean; park vehicles on the driveway and not on the grass or blocking sidewalks; RV's, boats and campers may be parked on the driveway in front of the house Friday thru Monday only; Prohibit your dog from excessive barking, keep them from roaming the neighborhoods and clean up after pets; Store excess trash and debris in approved containers; and Keep your grass cut on a regular basis and landscape maintained. Being a "Good Neighbor" enhances communication between you and your neighbors, reduces crime, eliminates blight and maintains property values. By doing your part, the Village of North Aurora will continue to be a wonderful place to work and live. The Code Enforcement Dept. is available to assist you any way possible. Feel free to call us at (630) 897-1457 ext. 231.

Public Information Announcements

Important School District 129 News

Remember, the first day of school for all West Aurora School District 129 Schools is Wednesday, August 19, 2009! Contact the School District Office at 630-301-5000 for further information. Make sure your kids don't miss their first exciting day!



News from the North Aurora Police Department

Back to School Safety Tips - The summer has ended and a new school year begins. For some children it is a time to return to their classroom, renew old friendships and meet new friends. For other students it means going to a different school, excited and eager to make new friends or perhaps with some reservations. As they are heading back to school, it is important to help the children get to and from school safely; here are some safety tips for our residents when walking, driving, or bicycling with their children to school:



- Work out a safe route to your school with your children and always walk with a friend, never alone.
• Never talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers.
• If you see anyone doing anything that makes you uneasy, tell your parents or a teacher.
• Always cross at the corner. Parents should set an example for their children.
• Be sure to observe the speed limits in school zones when driving.
• Drop off children in a safe place and do not stop in traffic to discharge your children, avoid congested traffic areas.
• Never call your child to your car from the opposite side of the street. Always cross at the corner.
• If you have special needs contact someone at the school and alert the police department to assist you.
• If you ride your bike, always wear a helmet and lock your bike with a sturdy lock.
• Children should ride on the sidewalk until a parent or guardian feels that they can safely ride on the street..
• Children should stop before crossing the street and look LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT for cars.
• Watch out for cars coming out of driveways and stop if there is a car.
• Set a good example when riding on the street, always ride on the right side - the same as cars.
• Follow all traffic laws as they apply to bikes as well as cars: Bicycles need to stop at stop signs and at red lights .
• Children shouldn't ride at night. Anyone riding at night needs lots of lights and should wear light colored clothes.

For further information and interactive safety learning tips parents may log onto http://www.mcgruff.org.

North Aurora Fire Protection District - (630) 897-9698, Chief Steve Miller



North Aurora Fire District News - Annually, the North Aurora Firefighters Association awards three \$1,000 college scholarships to Village of North Aurora high school seniors. The successful recipients for this year are Michele Bauer, Jordan Heiss, and Kelsey Phelps. Congratulations to the winners! The firefighters will be participating again this year in the MDA Fill the Boot Campaign for Muscular Dystrophy on August 14-15, 2009. Last year, \$2,600 was raised on the streets & the Firefighters Association donated an additional \$400 to meet the goal of \$3000. This year's goal is \$6,000. Please help support the Association and this very worthwhile cause by making a donation. Our annual Budda's Brotherhood golf outing is being held on September 26th this year. Over the years, our golf outings have raised over \$100,000.00 for Burn Camp for Children. Last year, and from now on, the profits are being donated to Budda's Brotherhood to benefit firefighters with cancer. As you may recall, we lost our brother Marco "Budda" Ordaz last year at 29 years of age to Leukemia. For information or to make a donation, please call Station #1 at 630 897-9698.

Messenger Public Library - (630) 896-0240, G. Kevin Davis, Director

Library Updates - Library Parking Lot Expansion Project

The Messenger Public Library parking lot for patrons and staff will be under construction during the month of August due to a parking lot expansion project. The Library will remain open for business in August during the expansion project, however, the parking lot may be closed entirely or be partially inaccessible to the public throughout the month of August. Alternative parking will be available at the New Hope Lutheran Church locate to the west of the Library. Construction will begin on Monday August 3rd and is due to be completed by September 3, 2009. The project will add a total of sixteen (16) additional parking spaces for library patrons and staff with thirteen (13) new spaces being added to the east end of the patron parking lot; three (3) new spaces being added to the employee parking lot and two (2) current parking spaces being converted to 15-minute parking spaces. The parking lot expansion is due to the increased use of the library since it opened in February of 2003. In an April 2009 survey, 80% of Library users approved of the project. The project was awarded to Kendall Excavating and Septic LLC of Yorkville, IL following Library Board approval at a Special Board Meeting held on July 20, 2009. The patron lot bid was \$34,429.55, and the staff lot bid was \$14,202.72 for a total construction cost of \$48,632.27. Funds to pay for the project will come from the Library Special Reserve Fund for Building Projects and Maintenance. Questions and/or comments should be directed to G. Kevin Davis, Library Administrator at 630-896-0240 or via e-mail at director@northaurora.lib.il.us. Information and updates on the parking lot expansion project will be posted on the Library website at www.messengerpl.org.



Village of North Aurora Directory

Village Hall Main Line (630) 897-8228 website: www.vil.north-aurora.il.us
 Regular Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm

Village Board Contact Info

President Dale Berman	(630) 897-8228, ext. 226	dberman@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Trustee Chris Faber	(630) 896-1376	cfaber@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Trustee Mark Gaffino	(630) 897-8228, ext. 801	mgaffer4@comcast.net
Trustee Mark Guethle	(630) 897-8228, ext. 800	mguethle@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Trustee Mike Herlihy	(630) 892-2292	mjhtrustee@comcast.net
Trustee Vince Mancini	(630) 897-8228, ext. 805	vc Mancini@sbcglobal.net
Trustee Bob Strusz	(630) 897-8228, ext. 802	rstrusz@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Village Clerk Lori Murray	(630) 897-8228	lmurracy@vil.north-aurora.il.us

Department Head

Department	Telephone Number	Email Address
Wes Kornowske Admin.	(630) 897-8228, ext. 233	wkornowske@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Scott Buening Comm. Dev.	(630) 897-1457, ext. 228	sbuening@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Bill Hannah Finance	(630) 897-8228, ext. 225	bhannah@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Mike Glock Public Works	(630) 897-8228, ext. 230	mglock@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Paul Young Water	(630) 897-2662, ext. 229	pyoung@vil.north-aurora.il.us
Tom Fetzer Police Dept.	(630) 897-8705	tfetzer@vil.north-aurora.il.us

Fire Protection District, 2 N. Monroe, North Aurora, IL 60542 (630) 897-9698
www.nafd.org

Messenger Public Library, 113 Oak St., North Aurora, IL 60542 (630) 896-0240
www.northaurora.lib.il.us

Village Meeting Schedule

Combined meetings for Village Board and Committee of the Whole

	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>
Village Board & Committee of the Whole	3	21	5
7pm @ Village Hall	17		19
	31		
Plan Commission	4	1	6
7:30pm @ Village Hall			19
Library Board	13	10	8
7pm @ Messenger Public Library			
Bold means joint Plan Commission meeting with C.O.W.			

The Village Board and C.O.W. Meetings are held in the Village Hall Board Room (unless otherwise noted) at 25 E. State St., North Aurora, IL 60542