



# View to the Village

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

Village of North Aurora

February 2009

## Village President's Report - John Hansen



It appears that we have experienced one of the wettest winters on record so far, with the potential for more to come. Please be assured that the Village has prepared for a harsh winter and our salt inventory is comparably strong. As we all know, the economy appears to be on shaky ground right now. Not only are local businesses affected, but the Village of North Aurora is as well. With declining sales tax revenues come serious fiscal pressures on the Village's finances. The Village relies on sales tax revenues to finance necessary operating expenses such as police and public works in addition to major capital projects. For this reason and many others, we must remember that shopping locally does make a difference. Some of the most financially successful municipalities are those that have diversified their tax base in such a way that good jobs are available, entertainment opportunities exist, and exceptional municipal services are provided without having to rely as heavily on the property tax. So please, we cannot stress enough, if you are planning a dinner, please dine in North Aurora. If you are planning a day of shopping, please keep your sales tax dollars in the Village which you reside. Unfortunately we have received news that the Saturn Dealership within the North Aurora Auto Mall has closed until the economy warrants a comeback. In all, the Village is feeling the pinch much the same as the school districts, and other taxing districts serving you. As a result, budgets are being reviewed with an eye on not lowering our service delivery standards. The Village will continue to use your tax dollars in the most efficient and effective ways possible. On a more positive note, the Village's first Riverfront Enhancement Project, the River Overlook, is ready to begin construction as soon as the weather permits. The Oak Street Bike and Pedestrian Bridge is on the Illinois Department of Transportation's March bid release schedule which equates to an April construction start, and police facility construction is expected to begin in late May 2009. An exterior rendering of the police facility's design can be found on page 3 of this newsletter under the Police Department subheading. In all, the Village of North Aurora continues to march forward with major public improvements as a result of past, and current, sound financial planning and tax base diversification. Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, and please continue to shop local!

### **DID YOU KNOW.....**

In the Village's Randall Highlands/Crossings Developments, there are a number of shopping and eating opportunities! Between the two, the following venues are provided: Camille's Restaurant, the Turf Room (which also features an Off Track Betting Facility), and Mother's Restaurant. The developments also offer daycare at the Goddard



School, a nail salon, pet grooming and pet medical care as well as hair salon suites available for rent in the Camille's building. Randall Highlands is located at the southwest corner of Randall Road and Orchard/Mooseheart Roads, while Randall Crossings is located just to the south of Randall Highlands off Randall Road. Please shop local!

### **North Aurora Local Business Directory**

The Village of North Aurora has developed a local business directory webpage in an effort to encourage residents to shop and do business locally. The site address is <http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/business-directory/index.htm>, or you can visit the Village homepage at [www.vil.north-aurora.il.us](http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us) and click on the "Village of North Aurora Local Business Directory" link located below the homepage news items. Business participation is completely voluntary as letters, emails, and phone calls were issued to every Village business on record requesting a company logo, contact information, and a short summary of the products and/or services provided. As of this newsletter, 79 businesses are being advertised on the page, which is an increase of 34 businesses since the December newsletter. Updating the page is an ongoing process, so, if you are a business, or a resident with a suggestion, please send your information or your suggestion to Wes Kornowske, Assistant to the Village Administrator at [wkornowske@vil.north-aurora.il.us](mailto:wkornowske@vil.north-aurora.il.us), or call (630) 897-8228, ext. 233 and we will submit your information for inclusion on the site, or implement your suggestion for improvement. Thank you for doing business and shopping locally!

### Notice of Change in Water Billing Date



The Village is changing the bill date and due date for water bills from the 15th of the month to the 5th of the month effective in April. The April water bills will be issued on April 5th instead of April 15th and will be due on approximately May 5th, instead of approximately May 15th. **Please make note of this change, especially if you pay your bill automatically with AUTOPAY or have scheduled on-line payments with your bank through the internet.** Thank you for your cooperation, and please call the Village Water Department at (630) 897-2662, ext. 223 with any questions or concerns.

### Riverfront Project Update

The Village of North Aurora Riverfront Project is moving forward. Bids for the Overlook project were accepted on February 3rd, and construction is set to begin when the weather allows. In addition, the Riverfront Committee is exploring the possibility of forming a separate tax exempt Riverfront Organization for the purpose of soliciting donations and contributions for the project and planning Riverfront activities.

### Winter Public Works Reminders

**Mailboxes** - If a mailbox is hit during snow removal it will be replaced at the Village's expense if the plow is responsible for the damage. Damage to a mailbox by snow coming off of the plow will be the responsibility of the homeowner. All replacement mailboxes will be standard metal with a treated 4x4 post. If a decorative or different style is desired, the extra cost will be the responsibility of the homeowner. Mailboxes or other supporting structures must be installed 9" to 12" from the edge of the street pavement or curb.

**Snowplow Damage** - Any damage to your lawn caused by the Village's snowplows will be repaired as the weather warms and the ground thaws. Please contact the Public Works Department at (630) 897-8228, ext. 260 as soon as you discover snow plow damage to your property.

**Street Lighting** - Please report street light outages to the Public Works Department at 630-897-8228, ext. 260. Street lights on wood poles are repaired by Com Ed and can be called into the Public Works Department or Com Ed at 1-800-334-7661. Repair services delay repairs until there are a group of calls, so please contact the Village Hall as soon as you notice an outage.

**Sewer/Sump Line** - Please call the Village FIRST if you experience a sewer backup into your home. This will enable the Public Works Department to check the main sewer line for any blockages prior to calling a plumber. If you experience a backup, please call (630) 897-8228, ext. 260, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 4:30pm. After hours and weekend calls should be made to the Village Police Department at (630) 897-8705.

**Yard Waste** - The first pickup for yard waste is **Friday, April 3rd**. Kraft paper bags and stickers are required for the entire spring and summer yard waste season which runs from April through November. Leaves will only be picked up free of charge in October and November.

**Spring Clean Up Day** - The annual Spring Clean Up Day has been scheduled for **Friday, May 8th**. Regular garbage and yard waste will require stickers as usual, but all other items, large or small, will be removed for FREE with no sticker required. The Waste Management guidelines for what will be picked up for free are as follows:

- Discarded items for Spring Clean Up collection must be contained in either cans or bags (up to 32-gallons capacity) not exceeding 50 pounds, or tied in bundles 4' x 2' not exceeding 50 pounds in weight.
- Bulk items such as sofas or tables are exempt from the above container and weight requirement for collection on clean up day.
- Items not properly prepared will not be collected on spring clean up day and will require proper preparation and stickers for collection on the next scheduled collection day.
- All household hazardous waste may be dropped off free of charge at:  
 Naperville Fire Station  
 Corner of Rt. 59 & Brookdale Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-88)  
 Weekend drop off 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
 (630) 208-3841

## Public Information Announcement

### The U.S. Census Bureau is Hiring for the 2010 Census

The United States Census Bureau is now hiring for the 2010 Census. If you are interested in one of the many part-time positions being offered by the Census Bureau in connection with the 2010 Census, please call the Census jobs hotline at 1-866-861-2010 immediately. The Census Bureau will be accepting applications until they have acquired enough to meet their quota for applicant pool size. As of the writing of this newsletter they have not yet reached that quota and encourage the submission of applications.

### Code Enforcement Reminders

Some parking issues have been on the increase over the past few months, and as a result we need to revisit some of the ordinance imposed parking restrictions.

- All vehicles parked on Village streets must be moved every 24 hour period.
- All vehicles must be moved off of the Village streets after a 2” snowfall (violating this ordinance results in a ticket and tow).
- All vehicles parked within the Village limits must have current plates, whether parked on the roadway or driveways.
- Utility trailers are not allowed in front driveways within residential districts. They can be parked on a paved surface on the side of the garage. Please remember that paving on the side of your garage now requires a permit.



*With regard to the winter season, please remember that:*

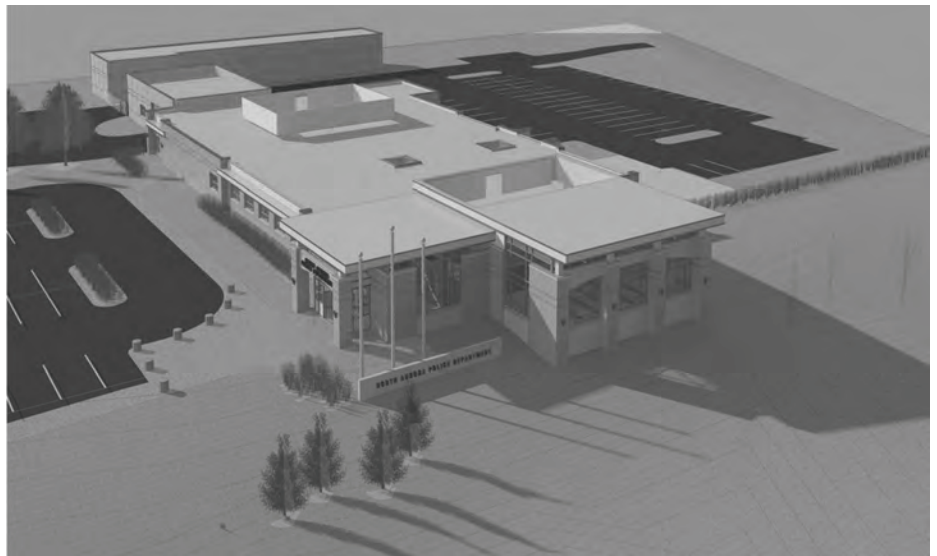
- Dumping, shoveling, or blowing snow into Village streets is not allowed and will result in a ticket. Blown or dumped snow in the streets delays snow removal by Village employees.

Thank you for your assistance in keeping the Village looking good, and please contact Village Code Enforcement at (630) 897-1457, ext. 231 with any questions or concerns.

## News from the North Aurora Police Department

### New Police Facility Progress

The Village of North Aurora’s new Police Facility Project is moving forward smoothly. The Facility will be located at 200 S. Lincolnway (the northwest corner of Route 31 and Airport Road). On February 2nd, the Village Board of Trustees approved the Design Development package submitted by the Village’s contracted architect - Wold Architects and Engineers; construction manager - Berglund Construction; and technical advisor - McLaren, Wilson, & Lawrie. An exterior rendering of the facility looking from Route 31 is inset. Current schedules estimate that bid packages will be released in late April 2009, with a late May 2009 construction mobilization, and July 2010 facility completion.



### Police Department News and Notes

There has been more snow than usual this year and it may not be over. We have had many violations of our snow parking ordinance again this year. Please remember, it is illegal to park any vehicle on the street at any time after a snowfall of 2 or more inches until the snow has been plowed or removed by the Village. Violators may be ticketed and / or towed.

Spring is just around the corner – hopefully. Have you ever gone out for a walk on a nice spring night with your family only to find a car parked in a driveway blocking the sidewalk? It’s not that hard to go around it, but if the grass is wet, or if you have a child in a stroller it becomes a problem and a safety hazard. It is and always has been illegal to park across any sidewalk (even if it’s your driveway). Violators may be ticketed.

Spring is an active time for con-artists stopping by your home with super deals on seal coating your driveway or foundation or repairing your roof. Please let us know if it happens to you. These con-artists mainly prey on seniors in our Village so remind your neighbors and loved ones to be on the look out. Also, remember to keep your front doors locked when working in the back yard and back doors locked when working in the front yard.





### North Aurora Fire District News and Notes

You may have recently read that the Fire Protection District was awarded a Department of Homeland Security Federal grant to hire six new full-time firefighters. We applied for the grant at a time when there was a significant amount of new commercial projects proposed and new homes were being built at a rapid rate. All indicators pointed to the need for additional firefighters/paramedics to meet the probable increase in emergency response that accompanies new development. The federal share of the grant is \$650,280 and the District share would amount to \$1,299,119 over five years. After five years, 100% of the employee salaries and benefits would be the burden of the District's budget. Now, eighteen months after the submittal of the grant application, the economic climate has virtually halted any type of significant growth and subsequent new growth tax dollars. District Trustees and staff performed an in-depth evaluation of our current staffing, budget, response trends, and future capital needs. The Board came to a unanimous decision to reject the grant and its financial burden at a time when the economy simply does not warrant such a financial commitment. The District Trustees are contemplating additional cuts that could be made, but not any that would adversely effect emergency response.

In other news, the Fire District took delivery of a new Med Tech Advanced Life Support ambulance in January. The cost of the new ambulance was \$145,117 and was paid for entirely by non-resident user fees (see inset picture of two firefighter paramedics equipping the new ambulance). The new unit replaces the 1998 ambulance as a first run response ambulance. The District will keep the older ambulance in service for times when a third ambulance is necessary or when maintenance is occurring on the other two. The District now boasts two Advanced Life Support ambulances, two Advanced Life Support fire engines, and one Basic Life Support ambulance for emergency medical responses.



### Library Updates

**Library Board of Trustee Elections on April 7th** - Please remember to vote on **Tuesday, April 7th** in the Illinois Consolidated Election. North Aurora residents may register to vote at the Library. The last day to register is **Tuesday, March 10th**. North Aurora residents will not only be voting for the Village President, and a couple Trustee positions but also vote to select four people to serve in four vacancies on the Library Board of Trustees. For further information on the April 7th election, please visit the Kane County Election website at [www.kanecountyelections.org](http://www.kanecountyelections.org).



### Village of North Aurora Telephone Directory

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

Department Head	Department	Telephone Number
Sue McLaughlin	Administration	(630) 897-8228, ext. 226
Scott Buening	Comm. Dev.	(630) 897-1457, ext. 228
Bill Hannah	Finance	(630) 897-8228, ext. 225
Mike Glock	Public Works	(630) 897-8228, ext. 230
Paul Young	Water	(630) 897-2662, ext. 229
Tom Fetzer	Police Department	(630) 897-8705

**Fire Protection District, 2 N. Monroe, North Aurora, IL 60542 - (630) 897-9698** ([www.nafd.org](http://www.nafd.org))  
**Messenger Public Library, 113 Oak St., North Aurora, IL 60542 - (630) 896-0240** ([www.messengerpl.org](http://www.messengerpl.org))

#### Village Trustee Contact Info

President John Hansen	(630) 897-8228, ext. 232
Trustee Dale Berman	(630) 569-0042
Trustee Mark Gaffino	(630) 897-8228, ext. 801
Trustee Mike Herlihy	(630) 892-2292
Trustee Max Herwig	(630) 897-6610
Trustee Linda Mitchell	(630) 897-8952
Trustee Bob Strusz	(630) 897-8228, ext. 802

### Village Meeting Schedule\*

	Feb	Mar	Apr
<b>Committee of the Whole</b> 7pm @ Village Hall	23	2 16	6 20
<b>Village Board</b> 7pm @ Village Hall	23	2 16	6 20
<b>Plan Commission</b> 7:30pm @ Village Hall		3	7
<b>Library Board</b> 7pm @ Messenger Public Library			

**Bold means joint Plan Commission meeting with C.O.W.**  
**\*Feb/Mar/Apr C.O.W. & V.B. meetings will be held on the same night.**

