



View to the Village

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

Village of North Aurora

August 2008

Village President's Report - *John Hansen*



Autumn is right around the corner and the Village of North Aurora is keeping busy with a number of important projects. From designing the new Police Station, to finishing up the Oak Street widening, to implementing Riverfront Enhancements, North Aurora is definitely pushing forward at a steady pace. Please be advised that Village Hall office hours have been expanded to 8:00am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Also please remember that Village Hall will be closed for business on Monday, September 1st for the Labor Day Holiday. Moving on, the Village is still experiencing substantial growth in retail openings. Best Buy, located within the North Aurora Towne Centre, and across from Target, is scheduled to open on October 3rd, and Dunn Brothers Coffee, off of Orchard Road across from the Auto Mall, is scheduled to open on September 5th. The Village continues to add quality retail establishments for residents to enjoy and I encourage you to please shop North Aurora. The North Aurora Towne Centre is growing in diversity year to year, with the opening of the Best Buy, Bath and Body Works, Discovery, JC Penney and all of the other great inline stores, you can enjoy quality shopping in your own backyard! I also want to say thank you to all those who volunteered their time for the North Aurora 4th of July Fireworks show and North Aurora Days. The 4th of July Fireworks drew a huge audience from all over the Village, and anyone who attended the North Aurora Days Festival at the future police station site on Saturday night knows that there was standing room only. It is great to see so many of our community members coming together for Village events. Thank you for all of your support and remember to shop local!

North Aurora Police Station Project Update



The Village of North Aurora Police Station Project is moving forward on schedule. Within the past month, the Village entered into contracts with Palatine based Wold Architects/Engineers, and Berglund Construction out of Chicago. The schematic design phase of the project, which includes determining building layout and site configuration, began on July 24th and is expected to last through October. The design development phase, or actual design of the building, will begin immediately after the Village Board has approved the schematic design and is expected to be complete by January of 2009. This total design schedule, barring any delays, will put the Village in a position to bid out the necessary work in February/March of 2009 and begin actual construction in late Spring or early Summer. The total proposed size of the one story facility, to be located on the Northwest corner of Route 31 and Airport Road (5.3 acres, see top left), is 29,802 square feet, which is a substantial improvement to the cramped 4,596 square feet the Village's Police Department is operating out of today (see inset picture). More project updates will be provided as this major Village initiative progresses. For more information, or specific questions regarding the Village's Police Station Project, please call Village Hall at (630) 897-8228, ext. 233.



North Aurora Riverfront Enhancement Project Update

The implementation of the North Aurora Riverfront Viability Study is underway. For this fiscal year (June 1st through May 31st) the Village Board has budgeted \$220,000 for enhancements to the property adjacent to Village Hall, which has been designated as Quadrant 2 of the 4 Quadrant Riverfront Area. \$110,000 of the \$220,000 total project budget will be financed by the Kane County Forest Preserve's Riverboat Trust Grant Program. The improvements that the Riverfront Committee is moving forward with, include a Riverfront Overlook, which will consist of a cantilevered structure overlooking the eastern part of the dam, appropriate landscape restoration and the introduction of signage within the Quadrant 2 project area. In addition to the \$110,000 grant from the Riverboat Trust, the Village was awarded a \$50,000 Kane County Riverboat Grant for specific environmental improvements within Quadrant 2. These environmental enhancements are in the planning stages, with actual work not taking place until Fiscal Year 2009/2010. The complete Riverfront Viability Study can be downloaded off of the Village website at <http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/riverbend/index.htm>. Please call Village Hall at (630) 897-8228, ext. 233 with any questions or concerns.



Code Enforcement reminders

The Code Enforcement Division is here to assist you with Municipal Code related matters, so please contact us if you have any questions after reading this article. After feeding your lawn, please remember that lawn sprinkling is only allowed between the hours of 6:00pm and 9:00pm, however, hand watering is authorized outside of these hours. Please also remember that grass must be cut prior to it reaching eight (8) inches in height to avoid a ticket. To summarize the warm weather related Ordinances, here is a snapshot:



- Water and lawn sprinkling is allowed 6:00pm to 9:00pm, seven days a week, not applicable to hand watering.
- Lawns must be kept under 8” in height, this includes weeds.
- Projects for which permits are required are as follows: decks, fences, window replacements, sheds, reroofs, changing electrical service, basement remodels, additions, and soffit and fascia coverings. Before you start a project, it is best to check with the Community Development Department as to whether a permit is required.
- No trucks with a plate designation above “B” are allowed to park in residentially zoned areas of the Village.
- Campers, boats or other RV’s can be parked on front drives Friday through Monday only.
- Grass clippings in the gutters or on the roadway are prohibited. The debris clogs the storm sewers. Please report clogged storm sewer basins to Public Works (630-897-1457) if you come across one.
- All vehicles parked in the Village (on the street or in the driveway) must have current plates, and must be parked on impervious surfaces only, i.e. no parking on grass. Parking on the street is limited to 24 hours (move vehicle within this period)
- Please also begin assessing issues with your property that may require maintenance. This could include replacing missing address numbers (4” in height), replacing windows, or repainting. Code Enforcement has been directed to pay extra attention to those types of property maintenance issues.

Please call the Code Enforcement Division at (630) 897-1457, ext. 231 with any questions or concerns.

Local Road and Tollway Construction News and Notes



I-88 Tollway Rebuilding and Widening - The I-88 Tollway project is moving forward on schedule. However, there a couple of ramp closures coming up that residents should be aware of. The Tollway is planning on switching over the currently closed off-ramps. Starting August 29th, the eastbound off-ramp at Route 31 will reopen and the eastbound off-ramp at Orchard Road will be closed on September 2nd. Please visit the Village website at www.vil.north-aurora.il.us for more information.

Oak Street Widening - The past three months have been very productive for the Village’s Oak Street contractor, Benchmark Construction. The month of August should be busy as well. The completion of the north lane, and the traffic switchover to the south lane (still westbound ONLY) is tentatively scheduled for the last week in August. Completion of the south side storm sewer, and the north side sidewalk and parkway restoration is also set for this month. Please exercise extreme caution when traveling on Oak Street. Workers and motorists are in very close proximity during working hours and there is a lot of heavy equipment moving in and out of the closure. Also, please remember that traffic will remain westbound only throughout the duration of the project which is scheduled to be substantially complete at the end of October. The North Aurora Police Department will continue to make patrolling and enforcing construction zone speed limits on Oak Street a major priority. Please visit the Village’s Oak Street webpage at <http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/oakstreet/index.htm> for more information.

Local Roads and Watermain Projects - By the end of August or early September, the North Aurora 2008 Watermain Replacement program will have completed watermain replacements on Long Avenue, the lower west portion of Sharon Lane, Spruce Street, Smoketree Lane, and North River Road. Individual resident service lines are in the process of being replaced and are also scheduled to be complete by mid September. The 2008 Local Road Program is tentatively scheduled for an October completion. By October, underground storm sewer, sidewalk, and curb and gutter will be complete on Long Avenue, portions of Harmony Drive, and Kingswood Drive. Spruce Street repairs, between Banbury Road and Laurel Drive, consist of pavement replacement and will be complete within the same timeframe.

Public Information Announcement



Kane County Help for Homeowners Free Clinic

On Saturday, September 6th, from 9am to 1pm, the Joseph Corporation, with generous support from the Kane County Board’s Riverboat Fund Program, will be hosting a free clinic on the home buying process and avoiding foreclosure at the Kane County Government Center (719 Batavia Avenue, Building A, Geneva, IL). Information on housing rehab/repair programs, first time homebuyer assistance, and property tax exemptions for homeowners in Kane County will also be available. Please RSVP by calling 630-906-9400, seminars will be offered in both English and Spanish.

Public Works and Water Department Reminders and Updates



FREE Fall Cleanup Day - The annual Fall Cleanup Day has been scheduled for **Friday, September 19, 2008**. On this day, regular garbage and yard waste require stickers as usual, but all other items, large or small, will be removed for FREE. Items for disposal must be contained in either cans or bags (up to 33 gallon capacity) not exceeding 50 lbs, or tied in bundles 4'x2' not exceeding 50lbs in weight. Bulk items such as sofas or tables are exempt from this regulation on clean-up day. Items not properly prepared will not be picked up, and will require a sticker for the next regularly scheduled collection day.

Hazardous Waste Disposal - Drop off hazardous waste free of charge at the Naperville Fire Station, located on the corner of Route 59 and Brookdale Road (1/2 mile south of I-88). The station is open for disposal from 9:00am to 3:00pm every Saturday and Sunday (excluding holidays). Please call (630) 208-3841 with any questions or concerns.

Electronic Equipment and Books Recycling - Drop off electronic equipment and books free of charge at the Kane County Circuit Court Building located at 540 S. Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174. for dates and times of drop off please call (630) 208-3841 or email questions to recycle@co.kane.il.us.

Parkway Tree Replacement - Replacement of dead parkway trees will occur in October during the Village's fall planting. It will be the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure that the water bag is filled when empty. If your parkway tree(s) need to be replaced or trimmed, please call the Village Public Works Department at (630) 897-1457, ext. 260.

Street Lights - Street lights on wooden poles are repaired by ComEd, however, if a street light has failed, residents can call the Village during regular Village Hall hours (M-F, 8am - 4:30pm) at (630) 897-1457, if the outage is noticed outside of Village Hall office hours, please call ComEd at 1-800-334-7661.

Sewer/Sump Line - Please call the Village FIRST, if you experience a sewer backup in your home. This will enable the Public Works Department to determine if the problem is in the main sewer line. Calls for service after Village Hall hours, or on weekends, should go to the Police Department at (630) 897-8705 and they will page the on-call public works employee.

Water Rate Increase - Effective with your enclosed water bill is a water rate increase of approximately 2.5%. This rate increase was implemented to fund on-going increases in Water Department operating and maintenance costs, especially the electricity costs associated with running the Village's water facilities.

News from the North Aurora Police Department - Chief Tom Fetzer

Back to School Safety Tips



Summer has just about ended and a new school year is approaching. As the students are heading back to school in the mornings, roads become crowded with pedestrians, and cars in the rush to work and school. It is important to help the students get to and from school safely, so here are some tips :

1. **Walking** - Work out a safe route to your student's school, have your student walk with a friend, remind him/her not to talk to strangers or accept rides from unknown persons, and always cross at the corner.
2. **Driving** - Observe school zone speed limits, drop off students in a safe place or avoid traffic congested areas, do not stop in traffic to drop students off. Never call your student to your car from the opposite side of the street, and if you have a student with special needs, please contact the school and the Police Department to assist you.
3. **Biking** - Always wear a helmet and lock your bike.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Officer Robyn Stecklein at (630) 897-8705, or email at rstecklein@vil.north-aurora.il.us.

Police Department Forms Page

Please see the Department's new webpage designed as a popular police form clearinghouse. The web address for the forms page is: <http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/police/forms.htm>. Please call (630) 897-8705 with questions or concerns.

Police Department's "Do Not Solicit" List

The Village Board approved an amendment to the Solicitation Ordinance that allows for the creation of a "Do Not Solicit" list. This list will be created and updated by the police department and posted on the Village's website for solicitors to download. The list will only show addresses that do not want any solicitors to leave information or knock on the door. Residents should be advised that solicitor's do include such organizations as Girl Scouts, or any other organization that solicits door to door. To get on this list, residents can download the appropriate form from <http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/police/forms.htm>, or call (630) 897-8705 with questions. The form must be filled out completely, signed by the appropriate individuals and returned to the North Aurora Police Department (25 E. State St., North Aurora, IL 60542) before that address can be included on the list.



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

Fire District News and Notes
 On May 30, 2008 the North Aurora FPD Board of Trustees passed an ordinance to increase the number of its Board members from 3 to 5. Mr. Fred Coppes and Mr. Kevin Fatten have been selected by the Kane County Board Chairman to fill the positions. They will be sworn into office in September. Both Fred and Kevin have been serving on the Fire Commission prior to their selection and are very familiar with District policies. In addition, The FPD has purchased the vacant lot next to Station #2 on Bennett Drive. The purchase was part of a land auction that was held for several properties in the Tanner Trails subdivision. The District plans to improve the lot and leave it as green space with no plans to build on the lot. Closing is set for August 8th and improvements will begin upon completion of the purchase.

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

Library Updates
Coming in the fall: THE BIG READ/Fox Valley Reads Hemingway! - The Messenger Library in partnership with the Oswego Library District and Aurora Public Library will be sponsoring THE BIG READ. This fall, the Fox Valley area will be reading Ernest Hemingway's A Farewell to Arms. For further information on this National Endowment for the Arts supported grant program, visit the Fox Valley Reads website at www.foxvalleyreads.org.
Fall 2008 Newsletter - The fall edition of the Library Messenger will be mailed to all North Aurora residents the week of August 25th. Copies will be available at the Village Hall or Library. The Newsletter can also be viewed and printed from the Library website at www.messengerpl.org by clicking on the "Newsletter" link.
Library closed September 1st, and opening on Sundays this fall - The Library will be closed on Monday, September 1st for Labor Day. The library will be open on Sundays this fall and winter. The Library fall hours are Monday through Thursday 9am to 9pm; Friday and Saturday 9am to 5pm; and Sundays (beginning September 7th) 1pm to 5pm
September is National Library Card Sign-up Month - If you have not already, please come to the Messenger Public Library and register for a Library card. The Library provides you with access to a world of information that can enrich, entertain, and inform. Please contact the Library for further information on obtaining a card at phone number 630-896-0240.
Register to Vote at the Library - The last day to register to vote for the November 4th election is Tuesday, October 7, 2008. the Library has several staff members and volunteers on hand that serve as Deputy registrars. The Library has also been designated as an early voting site in North Aurora. For exact dates and times on early voting (late October) and for information on what you need to register to vote, visit the Kane County Election website at www.kanecountyelections.org.



Village of North Aurora Telephone Directory
Village Hall Main Line (630) 897-8228 (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)
Messenger Public Library, 113 Oak St., North Aurora, IL 60542 - (630) 896-0240 (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

	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>
Committee of the Whole 7pm @ Village Hall	18	15	6 20
Village Board 7pm @ Village Hall	25	8 22	13 27
Plan Commission 7:30pm @ Village Hall		2	7
Library Board 7pm @ Messenger Public Library		11	9

***Bold means joint meeting with C.O.W.**

