

# View to the Village

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

Village of North Aurora

October 2008

## Village President's Report - John Hansen



It certainly is autumn in the Village of North Aurora, and with that, the winding down of the construction season. Over the past few months the Village has undergone some major infrastructure projects that are sure to increase the quality of life for residents. For instance, the widening of Oak Street is at or near completion by the time you receive this newsletter. Approximately 2,700 linear feet of water main was replaced as part of the annual watermain improvement program, and a number of streets including portions of Long Avenue, Harmony Drive, Kingswood Drive, and the stretch of Spruce Street between Banbury Road and Laurel Drive were resurfaced. In addition to the pavement resurfacing, storm sewer replacement was also done. The Village strives to maintain its annual local roads and watermain programs to ensure that our infrastructure remains sound. The design of the new police facility, which will sit on the north west corner of Route 31 and Airport Road, is moving along smoothly. The Village is on the fast track with this important project, and will continue to work towards a late Spring 2009 groundbreaking. The police facility project will be financed through the issuance of bonds. Those bonds will be backed with sales tax revenue. The Village recently received notice that S&P has increased the Village's bond rating from A+ to AA- which reduces the cost of borrowing money for the project. The bond rating increase is partly the result of sound financial management and an economically diverse tax base. On the commercial development front, Best Buy (North Aurora Towne Centre) opened its doors to the public on October 3rd with a great first day customer turnout (see inset pictures of sales floor and customers waiting to enter). In addition to the opening of Best Buy, the Village has also been



informed that Mothers Restaurant will be taking over the former Wild Orchard restaurant on Randall Road. This will be Mothers second location, with their first being in Aurora. Mothers is an award winning restaurant and should prove to be a great dining option for Village residents. They plan to open on November 1st. On a side note, please mark your calendars for the 2nd annual Veterans Day ceremony to be held at the North Aurora Veterans Memorial on Tuesday, November 11th. The Veterans Memorial is located where Farview Drive and Willow Way intersect. The Batavia VFW Overseas Post Color Guard will be performing their salute at 3:00pm. As we approach Halloween (Village trick or treating hours are 4:00pm to 8:00pm on October 31st), and the end of Daylight Savings Time on November 2nd, please be careful driving around town as children and other pedestrians will be out and about. Thank you for continuing to support our local business and have a great fall season!

### Walk of the Snowmen

We need your help to decorate the North Aurora snowmen to ring in the holiday season for this year's North Aurora Walk of the Snowmen. Decorating of the snowmen, or a snow family, will take place at the Village Public Works Garage located at 314 Butterfield Road on Saturday, November 1st from 8:30am to 12:00pm. Paint and decorations, as well as the snowman cutouts will be provided. After the snowmen have been decorated and dried, they will be placed in Gazebo Park next to the Village Hall, all along Route 31, or, if you choose, in your own front yard. Please see the registration flyer inserted in this newsletter for more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Village Hall at (630) 897-8228. Come join the holiday fun, and get artistic!

### North Aurora Riverfront Project Update

The North Aurora Riverfront Project is making progress as the Village Board has preliminarily approved an overlook design for the east bank of the Fox River on the property adjacent to Village Hall. The overlook will consist of an approximately 960 square foot deck with a gazebo structure overlooking the River to the north. The design was refined by the North Aurora Riverfront Committee which continues to meet to implement the recommendations from the 2007 North Aurora Riverfront Viability Study. This project is partially funded by a \$110,000 grant from the Kane County Riverboat Trust fund. The Fox Valley Park District Board of Trustees will be reviewing the design on October 20th, and pending formal approvals from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, construction is expected to begin in the late Spring of 2009. Please visit the Village's Riverfront webpage at <http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/riverbend/index.htm> for project updates and to view an electronic version of the Riverfront Viability Study.



### Building and Permitting Updates

In an effort to maintain the highest standards of new buildings within the Village, the Village Board has approved a couple of significant changes to the Village's building codes. The most substantial amendment to the building code is the introduction of a driveway replacement and/or installation permit. This new permit requirement will ensure that the driveway installation or replacement is inspected with regard to storm water flow and other grading criteria. It is important to remember that the reason for this additional permit is to make sure that your driveway project is done correctly the first time to avoid costly fixes down the road. Some other changes relate to the plumbing code. These amendments pertain to plumbing venting, the types of piping allowed for various applications, and the use of safe pans. These changes will take effect on January 1, 2009. For more information regarding the Village's building requirements, please contact the Community Development Department at (630) 897-1457 or via email at [ngarrity@vil.north-aurora.il.us](mailto:ngarrity@vil.north-aurora.il.us)

### Fall/Winter Code Enforcement Reminders

With fall officially here, and daylight savings time ending on November 2nd (turn clocks back), it is getting colder and darker. Lately the Village has been receiving complaints regarding pet control. Please remember to have your pets leashed when you are walking them around the Village. It is also the pet owner's responsibility to control barking or other pet noise and pick up after the pet. With pets out of the way, please be advised that parking on Village streets during/after a 2" snowfall is prohibited, vehicles will be ticketed and towed. Vehicles can return to the street after Village plows have cleared the snow. When clearing your walks and driveways, please do not push or blow the snow into the roadway, this causes delays in snow removal and may result in a fine. Please call the Code Enforcement Division at (630) 897-1457 with any questions or concerns.

### Village of North Aurora Introduces Free Curbside Leaf Pickup

The Village of North Aurora has purchased a leaf vactor, and developed a pilot curbside leaf pickup program. This free service will take place during the months of October and November along residential streets where the trees are most mature. This program has been developed to compliment the free leaf pickup provided by Waste Management which takes place from October 1st through November.



#### Program Specifics

- Leaves must be on the parkway by 6:30 a.m. on your designated day. Residents are asked to rake their leaves into a row parallel to the street onto the parkway at least 1 foot back from the curb or edge of the road. Residents are also asked to keep the leaf piles less than 2 feet in height, and away from ditches, pipes, and culverts.
- Leaf piles with vehicles parked in front of them will not be picked up. Please avoid raking foreign materials into leaf piles as this may cause mechanical failure and employee injury. Inclement weather or a large volume of leaves could alter the schedule.

#### Zone Schedule (WEEKS OF)

- Zone 1, 3 – October 20th; Zone 6, 7 – October 27th; Zone 8, 10 and any remaining areas with large quantities of leaves – November 3rd.

#### Areas included in the Zones

- Zone 1 - HICKORY TO THE EAST, BUTTERFIELD TO THE SOUTH, ROUTE 25 TO THE WEST, DEE TO THE NORTH
- Zone 3 - BANBURY & HICKORY TO THE WEST, EAST END OF PINECREEK SUBDIVISION TO THE EAST, BUTTERFIELD TO THE SOUTH, JESSICA TO THE NORTH
- Zone 6 - SYCAMORE TO THE WEST, WILLOWWAY TO THE EAST, KINGSWOOD TO THE SOUTH, OAK TO THE NORTH
- Zone 7 - BASSWOOD TO THE WEST, WILDWOOD TO THE EAST, OAK TO THE SOUTH, PINEWOOD & MISTWOOD TO THE NORTH
- Zone 8 - RANDALL TO THE WEST, SYCAMORE TO THE EAST, PRINCETON TO THE SOUTH, OAK TO THE NORTH
- Zone 10 - MAGNOLIA TO THE WEST, JUNIPER TO THE EAST, OAK TO THE SOUTH, MAGNOLIA TO THE NORTH

If you have any questions regarding scheduling or zones, please contact the North Aurora Public Works Department at (630) 897-8228, or visit the curbside leaf pickup webpage at [www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/leafpickup.htm](http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us/leafpickup.htm).

## Public Information Announcement

### Kane County CodeRed Public Information System

Kane County has implemented a CodeRed Emergency Telephone Notification System. CodeRed is an ultra high speed telephone communications service for emergency notifications. The County Office of Emergency Management requests that County residents register their phone number for inclusion in the CodeRed database, all numbers will remain strictly confidential. For more information, or to register your phone number, please call (630) 232-5985 or see the Kane County Office of Emergency Management homepage at <http://www.kcoem.org>.

**Public Works News and Notes**



**FREE Leaf Pickup** - During October and November leaves will be picked up FREE of charge by Waste Management. No trash stickers are required, however the leaves must be contained in Kraft paper bags (no plastic bags allowed). Other yard waste will also be picked up during this period, however will require 1 sticker per Kraft paper bag or bundle of brush (tied in armloads no longer than 4 feet in length). Please remember that yard waste and leaves will be collected through November. Any yard waste after that time will not be picked up until April 1st. The Village also requests that you not rake or blow leaves into the streets as this causes catch basin flooding. If you are caught raking or blowing leaves into the Street you may be fined.

**Snow Removal** - The street rank order for snow removal is as follows, primary streets which carry traffic through subdivisions, secondary streets, cul-de-sacs, and finally dead end streets. Some of the Village ordinances residents should be aware of with winter approaching are as follows:

- It is illegal to park any vehicle on the street anytime after a snowfall of 2” or more, until the snow has been plowed or removed by the Village.
- No pushing, piling or dumping snow into the street.
- It is the homeowners responsibility to clear snow from the area around the mailbox for mail carriers.
- Only Village employees or Village approved contractors shall engage in snow removal from public streets.

**Salting** - Village crews will be applying anti-icing chemicals when the ground temperature is 15 degrees or higher. The salt brine assists in melting snow and black ice. As a result of the statewide salt shortage, Village crews will perform more selective salting and focus more on major intersections.

**Mailbox** - If a mailbox is hit during snowplowing, the Village will only replace it if it is hit by the plow. Damage to a mailbox caused by the snow coming off of the plow will be the responsibility of the homeowner. All replacement mailboxes will be a standard metal box on a treated 4 x 4 post. If a decorative or different mailbox is requested the extra cost of such will be the responsibility of the homeowner. Mailboxes or supporting structures must be installed no closer than 9” to 12” from the edge of the street pavement or curb.

**News from the North Aurora Police Department - Chief Tom Fetzer**



**Halloween 2008 Safety Tips**



**\*\*\*Trick or treating in the Village of North Aurora will take place on Friday, October 31st between the hours of 4:00pm and 8:00pm.\*\*\***

Halloween is one of the most thrilling nights of the year for children, and also one of the most dangerous. As kids hit the streets to trick or treat, the potential for unintentional injury rises. In fact, children are four times more likely to be hit by a car on Halloween than on any other night of the year, so please review the informational bullet points below and attempt to use some of the suggestions.

**For kids ages 12 and under**

- Adults should accompany children under age 12 on their trick or treating rounds
- Attach the name, address, and phone number (including area code) of children under age 12 to their clothes in case of separation from adults
- Teach your child his or her phone number.

**For kids ages 12 and older**

- Make sure your children have change for a phone call or let them borrow your cell phone in case they have a problem away from home
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar areas or along an established route
- Set a time for children to return home
- Restrict trick or treating visits to homes with porch or outside lights illuminated.
- Instruct children to bring their treats home before eating them, and inspect the treats carefully.

As you might imagine, Halloween is a very dangerous time for drivers and pedestrians. Typically, there is a significant increase in the amount of foot traffic throughout the Village on this night, so please exercise caution when driving through town. Adults should advise children that remaining on sidewalks and other designated pedestrian paths is the safest way to navigate through neighborhoods and avoid vehicles. Another way to reduce the risk of pedestrian injury is to decorate costumes, bags and sacks with reflective tape and stickers. This will assist motorists in identifying pedestrians and take the appropriate precautions. Have a fun and safe Halloween!



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



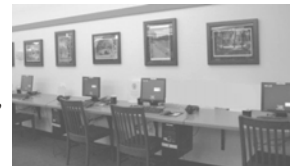
**North Aurora Firefighters Association Annual Turkey Raffle**

The North Aurora Firefighters Association Annual Turkey Raffle has been scheduled for Friday, November 21st, and Saturday, November 22nd, from 6:00pm to midnight in the maintenance building next to Station #1 (22 Monroe Street). Each year for over 40 years, the Association has been holding the raffle to raise funds for the Fire District. In the beginning, the funds were used to purchase equipment, but now they are distributed to several local charities and civic groups. Each night, turkeys, hams, steaks and pork chops will be raffled. Food and drink as well as a DJ will also be available for your entertainment. Please come out and join us for this fun family event!

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

**Library Updates**

**New Computer Resources Deployed at the Library** - This past summer the Library replaced all of the public computers with faster PCs that have more memory. At the same time, we increased the number of PCs available in the Adult and Youth areas of the Library. Funds to pay for this upgrade were provided by developer impact fees and the realization of additional property tax revenue as North Aurora has grown. For more information on this upgrade and/or all other Library services and materials, please contact us at (630) 896-0240, or visit the Library's website at [www.messengerpl.org](http://www.messengerpl.org).



**Library Closings** - The Library will be closed on the following days: Friday, November 14th; Thursday, November 27th; Wednesday, December 24th; Thursday, December 25th; Wednesday, December 31st; Thursday, January 1st.

**Annual Holiday Open House** - The Friends of the Messenger Public Library, the Library Board of Trustees, and Library Staff invite you to stop by on Sunday, December 7th between the hours of 1:30pm and 4:00pm for the Annual Holiday Open House. The afternoon will include music, refreshments, family holiday crafts, the Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club, and a visit from Santa. All ages are welcome!

**Messenger Library Board of Trustees Elections on April 9th, 2009** - The Messenger Public Library Board of Trustees has four Trustee terms that are set to expire in April 2009. Petitions to run for these seats must be filed with the Kane County Clerk's Office. Please visit the Kane County Elections website at [www.kanecountyelections.org](http://www.kanecountyelections.org) for more information.

**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning "Go To 2040" Regional Planning Public Meeting** - The Messenger Public Library will be hosting a public meeting for area residents on November 18th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm to gain input for CMAP's "Go To 2040" Regional Plan. The meeting will be facilitated by CMAP staff. More information regarding the regional planning process can be found at <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/>.

**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**

	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
<b>Committee of the Whole</b> 7pm @ Village Hall	6 <b>20</b>	3 17	1 15
<b>Village Board</b> 7pm @ Village Hall	13 27	10 24	8
<b>Plan Commission</b> 7:30pm @ Village Hall		4	2
<b>Library Board</b> 7pm @ Messenger Public Library		13	11

**\*Bold means joint Plan Commission meeting with C.O.W.**