



# View to the Village

25 East State Street, North Aurora, IL 60542

www.vil.north-aurora.il.us

Village of North Aurora

February 2010

## Village President's Report - Dale Berman



The snow and cold weather has kept our Public Works and Water Dept. staff busy with snow removal this season. Where to put the snow is always an issue. In some areas the snow can be loaded into trucks to be hauled away, however, most of the snow has to be piled up to eventually melt. I ask that residents please continue to be patient and considerate during the snow removal process, as our staff follows Village protocol when plowing and salting the roads.

Our annual water main replacement program has resulted in fewer water main breaks this season, however, there are sections of water main that still need replacing and breaks do happen, resulting in our crews digging and repairing in the frigid weather. If you notice any unusual water coming up from the ground, please report it to the Village Hall.

The new Police Facility is coming along nicely - on target and on budget! The relocation of the Police Department to their new facility later this year will allow for the re-design and construction improvements for the Village Hall. RMD and Associates of North Aurora have been selected to develop the re-design plans for the Village Hall and are meeting with Department heads and staff to review the changes that will need to be made. It is currently quite crowded in Village Hall and a little "breathing room" is being anticipated by all!

The Village Board and Staff are currently working on the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year Budget. A decrease in revenue is being anticipated, and we must find ways to adjust spending to meet this revenue forecast. This is no small task, but we are confident that we will be able to tackle this challenge as we continue to review the budget.

The Community Development Department has recently sent out a survey to property owners along Lincolnway/Rt. 31 regarding their opinions on the burial of utility poles along this portion of Lincolnway/Rt. 31. The burial of the utility poles have been discussed numerous times as a way to provide a facelift to this section of Route 31 in North Aurora. Staff is currently in the process of reviewing these surveys to compile results as discussions continue on this issue.

There are two new stores that have recently opened in North Aurora. This is an encouraging sign in these economic times! A new Sprint Store has opened at 201 Genesis Drive, and Pet Supplies Plus has opened at 180 N. Randall Rd. Also, coming soon is Children of America Daycare on Oak Street just west of the Walgreens. Be sure to stop by these new stores and check them out. Remember, supporting and shopping at your local businesses helps YOUR Village.

The United States Census Bureau will be conducting the 2010 Census this spring. The Census count is extremely important for all of us, as the Village receives state and federal funding based on our population. A short/low count means we won't get our fair share of those funds. The following are some very important facts that are dependent upon the participation of all residents when the Census Worker comes to call:

- The Village currently receives about \$115 a year per person from the State of Illinois in the form of shared income tax revenue, use tax revenue and motor fuel tax revenue
- These monies are critical in funding basic Village services such as police protection and street repairs.
- With a population of just under 16,000, this amounts to over \$1.8 million dollars a year from the State.

For every resident that goes uncounted, this funding will go to another community. Please see page two of this newsletter for further Census information and PLEASE be sure that you and your household are counted in April!

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**The 1st Annual North Aurora Community Parade** - The parade will be held on Sunday, May 16, 2010, at 2:00 pm. The North Aurora Mothers Club is teaming with the Village of North Aurora and the North Aurora Baseball Association, along with local organizations, to present this first ever Community Parade. The theme this year will be "Celebrating Good Neighbors". Following the parade the North Aurora River District Alliance (NOARDA) will be sponsoring a family focused fundraising event in the park. Anyone interested in participating in the Parade is invited to visit the North Aurora Mothers Club website at <http://www.northauroramothersclub.org/communityparade.html> for further information and to download an application. The deadline for applications is April 26, 2010. This is going to be a great community event that you won't want to miss. Check us out on Facebook at "North Aurora Community Parade".

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Public Information & Announcements

2010 Census - It's In Our Hands



During the U.S. Census, households will be contacted by mail, telephone or visited by a U.S. Census worker at your home who will inquire about the number of people living in the house. While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, however, you will not be asked for your personal information such as Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers nor will employees solicit donations. Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail or in person at home, however, they will not contact you by e-mail, so be on the lookout for e-mail scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an e-mail that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau. For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud visit the Better Business Bureau's website at www.bbb.org. Unfortunately, people may also be contacted by scammers who are impersonating Census workers in order to gain access to sensitive financial information such as Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers. Law enforcement in several states have issued warnings that scammers are already posing as Census Bureau employees and knocking on doors asking for donations and Social Security numbers. Just how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? The Better Business Bureau offers the following advice:

- If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.
- Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

When the U. S. Census Worker does contact you be smart and be safe but also, be sure that your residence is counted!! A correct count is imperative to our community in order to receive federal and state funding for local services that benefit you!

**2010 Census Workers Needed!** - The U. S. Census Bureau is recruiting part-time, temporary workers including: Crew Leaders, Census Takers, Assistant Crew Leaders, Office Clerks, & Recruiting Assistants. To apply for a census job, all applicants must take and pass a written Census Test and must also pass a background check. Two forms of identification are required for the testing session. Census Testing is currently being held in North Aurora at the Messenger Public Library at 113 Oak Street with the next testing date set for Sat. February 27th. Test times will be at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Please call 1-866-861-2010 or visit the Census website at <http://2010censusjobs.gov> for additional information & testing locations.

**Foam Recycling** - Did you know that **Dart Container** in North Aurora has a drop off center for recycling #6 foam containers, styrofoam cups and packing styrofoam? They can process the following polystyrene foam items provided that they are clean and delivered to one of their drop-off locations:



- Foam cups and containers. Cups do not need to be rinsed, but must be empty
- Foam egg cartons. Rinsed, single-layer, non-perforated foam meat trays
- Foam food trays/lunch trays. Must be rinsed-off with no food remnants
- Most packaging foam: molded forms and shapes; they cannot process flame-retardant material or packing peanuts

The polystyrene foam material should be placed in transparent plastic bags and tagged with your name and/or organization and phone number. There are two bins in front of Dart at 310 Evergreen Drive in North Aurora where you can drop of your foam for recycling. For more information contact Dart Container at 630-896-4631 or on the web at [www.dartcontainer.com](http://www.dartcontainer.com).

**Winter Gala Fundraiser** - The North Aurora Mothers Club will be holding its annual Winter Gala Fundraiser on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Fox Valley Golf Club in North Aurora from 6 pm to midnight. Join us for an evening of dancing and raffles! For ticket information go their website at [www.northauroramothersclub.org](http://www.northauroramothersclub.org).

**www.vil.north-aurora.il.us** - Have you visited the Village of North Aurora website lately? The Village of North Aurora website is a valuable resource tool for residents, developers, and businesses, as well as, new or prospective residents. The Village's website can provide you with many answers to the majority of your questions regarding Village issues and ordinances. Do you need to know the Village Board meeting schedule? Click on Calendars on the Village's homepage. Are you looking for information about your elected officials? Click on Village Government. Do you need a phone number for one of the local utilities? The numbers are on the Community Information page! Are you planning to start a building project and require information on building permits? Information and applications can be found on the Community Development page. You can even pay your water bill on line through the Illinois E-Pay system! Take some time to browse through our website...you may be surprised at all the information and answers that are available! Our website is an excellent tool to provide the information that you may be seeking so be sure to check it out! Of course, staff is always available to answer your questions and assist you in any way!



**Public Works Information**



**Spring Clean-Up Day** - The annual Spring Clean-up Day has been scheduled for Friday, May 7, 2010. This is a great time to be thinking of items to dispose of. More details to follow in the next newsletter.

**Garbage Pick up – Presidents Day** - Trash pick up will not be delayed due to Presidents Day, therefore, pick up will be on Friday, February 19th as usual.

**Yard Waste – First Pick-up** - The first pick-up for yard waste is **Friday, April 2, 2010**. 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.

**Memorial Bricks** - Bricks are available to purchase for the North Aurora Veteran’s Memorial located at Farview Dr and Willow Way. Please visit the Village Hall or the Village’s website for an application. Prices: One brick is \$75 or two bricks for \$125.

**FREE Mulch** - Contact the Village for location & availability. All mulch will need to be picked up and loaded by the resident. Delivery of mulch is not available.

**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 Dept. at 630-897-1457 ext. 260 as soon as you identify snowplow damage.

**Overhead Sewer Grant** - Overhead Sewer Grants are available for home owners who are eligible. Please contact Public Works at 630-897-1457 ext. 260 if interested.

**2010 Road Program** - As part of the road project this year the Village will replace sections of water main, storm sewer and repave the following streets: West State St., 100 block of Sharon, and Monroe St. Residents on these streets will be notified with a schedule prior to the work.

**News from the North Aurora Police Department**

**Prevent Vehicle Burglary** - In 2009, North Aurora had 113 reported burglaries from motor vehicles along. Approximately 71 of these vehicles were left unlocked. Most of these crimes occur because people leave car doors unlocked or leave valuables in plain sight. The most likely targets for theft are briefcases, purses, wallets, expensive sunglasses, watches, camera gear, MP3 players, PDAs, gym bags, sports equipment, auto parts, CDs, speakers, power tools, spare change, and mail. Vehicle burglaries are crimes of opportunity, and carelessness often results in vehicles being broken into; however, residents can minimize their chances of being a victim by taking a few simple steps. These steps should be used whenever you park your car, whether you are just “running in for a minute” on an errand or parking your car in the driveway for the evening:

- Keep all car doors and windows closed and locked – even if it’s a quick errand. About 30% of vehicle burglaries happen to vehicles where the doors were not locked or a window was down.
- Do not leave valuables or packages in plain sight in your vehicle. Valuables that are left in plain view automatically makes your car a target. If you must leave valuables in the car, secure them in the trunk.
- If your vehicle has a built in security system, use it. If you don’t have a security system installed, it is worth the investment - it may also qualify you for a discount on your auto insurance.
- Park your vehicle in an area that is visible to the public and well-lit at night. If possible, park your car in the garage. If garage parking is not available, then park your car in the driveway and install motion-sensor security lighting on your home.
- Never leave an electronic garage opener in the car. It can provide a thief easy access to your home. Keep a list of serial numbers (include make and model information) in a safe place for common electronic equipment that you keep in the car, such as CD players, stereo faceplates, MP3 players, etc. If your car is burglarized, please report it to the police department immediately.

In addition to protecting your own property from criminals, you can be a good neighbor by watching out for suspicious persons or activities in your area. The Police Department depends on the assistance of concerned, responsible residents to report suspicious persons or activities. If you see anything suspicious, call 9-1-1. Suspicious activity may include:

- A person looking into parked cars may be looking for a car to steal or burglarize if valuables are left in the car.
- The sound of breaking glass or a car alarm could indicate a vehicle break-in.
- Any vehicle driving without lights at night, cruising slowly, or following a course that seems aimless or repetitive is suspicious in any location. Occupants may be "casing" for a burglary.
- Persons walking around a neighborhood pulling on car door handles may be looking for unlocked vehicles to burglarize.

Residents are encouraged to call 9-1-1 immediately about all suspicious activity they observe. Don’t worry about feeling embarrassed if your suspicions are wrong; think instead about what could happen if your suspicions are right and you do not make that call. It is the Police Department’s job to investigate suspicious matters. Assistance provided by observant residents in spotting and reporting any suspicious persons or activities in their neighborhood is always greatly appreciated!



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

**North Aurora Fire District News** - Every year in the U. S. there are 16,000 collisions involving fire department emergency vehicles. These collisions result in over 1,000 firefighter injuries and 50 deaths. Many, if not most, of these accidents would be avoided if everyone would just *Move Right for Sirens & Lights*. Why, then, doesn't everyone just pull to the right? Many people panic. Some don't know or understand the law. Others simply don't adhere to the rules of the road. The law is very specific: Drivers must yield the right-of-way to an emergency vehicle. Firefighters work hard to avoid vehicle collisions by driving slowly when traveling against traffic, coming to a complete stop at intersections, etc. However, the cooperation of ALL vehicles on the roadway is essential. The following simple rules should be followed when you encounter an emergency vehicle whose lights are flashing, whether the siren is sounding or not. **DO** pull to the right and come to a complete stop. If you're traveling on a high-speed road or if there is no room to stop, slow down as much as possible. If you are in the left lane, **DO** pull over into the right lane as traffic in the lane to your right allows. If you cannot move to the right because of another vehicle, just stop. Your action will let the emergency vehicle driver know what you are doing and allow the driver to anticipate where to drive. When an emergency vehicle approaches you from behind while you are stopped at an intersection, **DO** stay where you are unless you can pull to the right. On a two or four-lane highway or street without barriers, both sides of traffic should pull to the right. If the emergency vehicle is traveling on the opposite direction of a divided highway or street, you do not need to pull over. If you are on a divided highway where traffic in front of you is at a standstill and you see emergency lights behind you, move to the right if you can; stay where you are if you can't. **NEVER** move into the center divide—you could be moving into the path of an approaching emergency vehicle.

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

**Library Updates** - Pop Open a Good Book - Join the 2010 Winter Reading Program - January 11 thru February 27 for ages 3 and up. Have fun and keep warm this winter at your library. Complete at least five squares on your Winter Reading log to get BINGO and be entered into a raffle. Pick up a reading log at the library today.



Computer Rx - Sign up for one-on-one help sessions in anything you need to get started: basic computer skills, setting up an email account, searching on the Internet, scanning photos. Learn how to use the computer your kids gave you for Christmas, or make a New Year's resolution to get a handle on the Internet, find solutions to your questions. Call or stop by the Adult Services desk for information and to sign up for a session.

Super-Coupons with Jill Cataldo - Thursday, March 25 7:00 -8:30 p.m.

Learn how you can maximize grocery savings & purchase hundreds of dollars worth of groceries for just pennies with "The Coupon Lady." Jill's dynamic, popular presentation will fill up fast; registration required.

ACT Test Prep - Kaplan - Saturday, February 20th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Registration will be open February 1-13

A representative from Kaplan will provide a proctored ACT practice test and return scores with analyzed results. Don't forget your #2 pencils, a healthy snack, and your 4-function, scientific, or graphing calculator. .

Macy's Museum Adventure Pass - Free Museum Passes are now available at your library (through August 2010). Visit [www.museumadventure.org](http://www.museumadventure.org) for further information.

**Village of North Aurora Directory**

Village Hall Main Phone No. (630) 897-8228 website: [www.vil.north-aurora.il.us](http://www.vil.north-aurora.il.us)  
 Regular Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Village Board Contact Info**

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

Department Head	Department	Telephone Number	Email Address
Wes Kornowski	Admin.	(630) 897-8228, ext. 233	<a href="mailto:wkornowski@vil.north-aurora.il.us">wkornowski@vil.north-aurora.il.us</a>
Scott Buening	Comm. Dev.	(630) 897-1457, ext. 228	<a href="mailto:sbuening@vil.north-aurora.il.us">sbuening@vil.north-aurora.il.us</a>
Bill Hannah	Finance	(630) 897-8228, ext. 225	<a href="mailto:bhannah@vil.north-aurora.il.us">bhannah@vil.north-aurora.il.us</a>
Mike Glock	Public Works	(630) 897-8228, ext. 230	<a href="mailto:mglock@vil.north-aurora.il.us">mglock@vil.north-aurora.il.us</a>
Paul Young	Water	(630) 897-2662, ext. 229	<a href="mailto:pyoung@vil.north-aurora.il.us">pyoung@vil.north-aurora.il.us</a>
Tom Fetzer	Police Dept.	(630) 897-8705	<a href="mailto:tfetzer@vil.north-aurora.il.us">tfetzer@vil.north-aurora.il.us</a>

**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.northaurora.lib.il.us](http://www.northaurora.lib.il.us)

**Village Board Meeting Schedule**

	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>
<b>Village Board &amp; Committee of the Whole</b> (7:00 pm @ Village Hall)	1	1 15	5 19
<b>Plan Commission</b> (7:30 pm @ Village Hall)	2	2	6
<b>Library Board</b> (7:00 pm @ Messenger Public Library)	11	11	8

**Bold date indicates joint Plan Commission meeting with VB / C.O.W.**  
 All meetings are held in the Village Hall Board Room (unless otherwise noted) at 25 E. State St., North Aurora, IL 60542 at 7:00 p.m.

The Village Hall will be closed Feb. 15 for Presidents Day.