

August/September 2002

Vernon Hills Village Voice

People Planning with Pride

The Official Newsletter of the Village of Vernon Hills



**Vernon Hills
Events Hotline
367-3725**

or

www.vernonhills.org/events

Inside...

- Old Village Hall Use
- Internet Access
- Register to Vote
- Nike News
- Trim the Trees
- Child Safety Seats
- PD/Fire Open Houses
- New Cultural Partners
- Thanks, Volunteers
- Charity Golf Outing

The Village of Vernon Hills

*President Roger L. Byrne
and the Board of Trustees*

*invite you, your family and friends to attend
the dedication ceremony for the*

Vernon Hills Village Hall

Sunday, August 25, 2002

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

290 Evergreen Drive

Vernon Hills, Illinois

*Tours throughout the afternoon
Light refreshments will be served*

From the Mayor...

Thanks for a Fantastic Summer

Summer Events Were Spectacular:

Summer is in full swing. We have wrapped up a wonderful 4th of July Parade, most of our Arbortheater Concert Series, and an impressive lineup of musical acts for Summer Celebration. I hope all of you took the opportunity to enjoy these events.

On behalf of the entire Village, I want to personally thank our Cultural Partners for their monetary support and thank all of the volunteers who gave untold hours of effort to make these events the fantastic family-friendly events that they are.

An Explanation About the July 17

Fireworks: A quick explanation and apology for those of you who left the Summer Celebration fireworks early. Because of a wind shift it was found that fragments of the fireworks shells were landing in populated areas. For safety reasons we needed a short intermission to change the direction of the shells. When the fireworks resumed, it was a spectacular show. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

Village Hall Open House: On the front cover is an invitation to all of our residents to attend the official dedication of our new Village Hall on Sunday, August 25. Parking will be available at the Village Hall parking lot, as well as across the street at the golf course lot. A brief ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. I and all the Trustees and staff look forward to seeing you and your family during this enjoyable — and historic — event.

Roger L. Byrne

Update: Old Village Hall Use

As the Village formally dedicates the new municipal center, planning continues in the use of the previous building, which is located next door.

Remediation efforts are underway to correct isolated mold contamination discovered in the lower level of the old building. This contamination, which was contained within a single storage room, stemmed from a broken fire suppression pump. Upon testing, it was determined that fairly minor efforts — including drywall replacement — would correct

the situation. Following completion of these efforts, the Vernon Hills Park District will begin using this space as a community center.

Library Location

On a related note, the Cook Library is in discussion with the Village with regard to housing a portion of that collection in the lower level of the new Village Hall. At press time, no decisions or schedules have been finalized.

Internet/Cable Service Status

AT&T crews continue working on infrastructure in order to provide increased services — for both TV and Internet access. Thanks to newly completed improvements, AT&T Broadband is now offering high-speed cable Internet service in Vernon Hills.

AT&T Broadband Internet (ATTBI) delivers multimedia content directly to a computer via a cable connection, cable modem and customized ATTBI

software at speeds many times faster than a regular phone line. ATTBI is available to both cable and non-cable customers in Vernon Hills. For details, call AT&T at 1-888-824-8156 or 1-888-824-8573.

The Village continues to work with vendors to provide additional Internet options. For assistance and further information, please contact Mike Storto at 847-918-3560 or mikes@vhills.org.

Exercise Your Rights...

Register to Vote by October 7

- Have you moved? Changed your name? If so, you must re-register to be able to vote!
- Will you be 18 years old by November 5? Are you a new U.S. Citizen? If so, you are eligible to vote in this year's General Election!

Voter registration is available at the Village Hall between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The last day to register for the November election is October 7.

To register you must provide two forms of identification, one of which shows

your current address (for instance, your driver's license, Social Security card, library card or checkbook).

Cook Memorial and Vernon Area Libraries also have registrars on staff, and offer weekend and evening hours. To make sure a registrar is on duty, consider calling ahead — 847-362-2330 (Cook) and 847-634-3650 (Vernon).

More information on voting, including sample ballots (once they're available), is available through the Lake County Clerk's Office, 847-377-2400 or www.co.lake.il.us/cntyckl/.

IN BUSINESS...

Here are a few of the recent business openings around Vernon Hills, as taken from the latest permit requests received by the Village Building Division:

- **Chiropractic Health Center** is at 131 Townline Road.
- **Myron Wolf, DPM**, has opened practice at 870 N. West End Court, Suite 202.
- **Mercury Insurance** is in business at 850 N. Milwaukee, Suite 203A.
- **Kiddie Kandids** is found at 295 Townline Road inside Babies R'Us.
- **The Limited** has moved to 313 Hawthorn Center.

OTHER BIZ NEWS...

You may have noticed that Hawthorn Center Mall is now called Westfield Shopping Town. The new name reflects its purchase by the Australian property group, Westfield. At this point, management reports that the most noticeable change will be the signs and some new marketing campaigns.

From the Building Division...

Hot Season for Home Projects



Despite the somewhat stagnant economy, the Community Development

Department continues to experience strong activity as residents invest in their property. Applications for home improvement projects picked up earlier this spring, and have remained strong ever since.

Department staff is committed to reviewing permit applications within fifteen working days, and asks that you consider the building permit process in your project schedule. By having the building inspectors involved in your project, the opportunity for nightmarish experiences will be greatly reduced. To provide a timely review, please provide

Nike Site and VHHS Sports Fields Shaping Up Nicely

Top Soil in Place

The Nike Recreation Area continues to take shape. Earthwork for the Vernon Hills High School Stadium site is now complete with all grading complete and top soil in place.

In fact, the top-soiling process took a page from the playbook of the pros. Based on the experiences of such places as Soldier Field, the Vernon Hills stadium field mix was modified to include screened top soil into which workers roto-tilled an inch of calcined clay. This change didn't add any cost, however it is anticipated that the extra effort will result in a better playing surface.

The next round of activity for the high school includes the construction of the actual stadium facility, as well as con-

struction of a baseball field, a softball field, soccer fields, and various track and field features.

The track surface, which will consist of a solid coat of polyurethane-bound rubber, will be completed later this summer.

The goal of the construction continues to be focused upon the successful hosting of the home game scheduled for the week of October 4th. The preceding home games will again be played at Libertyville High School.

Work also continues on the other parcels, including preparations for the Village's new baseball and softball fields.

A more detailed Nike Newsletter is available at www.vernonhills.org.

Traffic Signal Improvements

In other construction news, IDOT is installing new signal lights at the intersection of Milwaukee Road and Townline Road. The new system is designed to allow IDOT engineers to better coordinate traffic patterns and manage traffic flow. In addition, the new lights are expected to feature more sensitive turn-lane sensors, to help eliminate back-ups in the left-turn lanes.

Engineering Hotline

For the status of other projects, including the nearly complete Country Club Estates streets rehabilitation project, please call the Village Engineering Division at 847-918-3565 or the 24-hour Engineering Hotline at 847-918-3575.

PD Earns 3rd Tobacco Grant

For the third consecutive year, the Vernon Hills Police Department has received a grant from the Illinois Liquor Control Commission that will be used to fund increased enforcement of the sale of tobacco to minors. The \$2,940 will be used to pay the costs for the time an officer spends supervising three compliance “checks” at village tobacco licensees.

These enforcement checks, which are designed to ensure that minors are unable to purchase tobacco, consist of an officer working with an underage youth who attempts to purchase a

tobacco product. These checks are in addition to the department’s other year-round enforcement efforts.

History has shown that the majority of Village tobacco licensees consistently conform to the law. In fact, during the past two years, a total of 120 checks have been done in conjunction with this grant. Of those checks, 91 percent of the establishments were found to be in compliance. While this is a respectable result, the police department hopes that during the upcoming year the percentage will grow even higher.

In Service to the Community...

Child Safety Seat Inspections

Not sure if your child safety seat is installed correctly? The Vernon Hills Police Department can help!

For the past several years, increased emphasis has been placed on the use of child safety seats in all vehicles. While most people have a general knowledge of the issue, statistics show that as many as 80 to 90 percent of child safety seats are incorrectly installed. The many makes and models of child seats, coupled with the vast number of vehicle seat belt systems, tend to make installation confusing. In fact, it takes more than just buckling the seat into the vehicle to make it safe and effective. Because an improperly installed seat is of little or no value in preventing an injury in the event of a crash, it’s important to consult both the vehicle’s manual and safety seat instructions to insure that the seat is secure and safe.

Officer Deanna Newsom of the Vernon Hills Police Department is a trained Certified Child Safety Seat Technician. Upon request, she will check the instal-

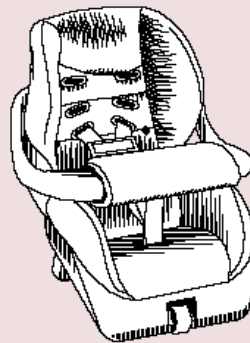
lation of your child seat. She will make any needed corrections as well as show you how to do it.

To schedule a safety seat check, call 847-362-4449 and ask for Officer Newsom. If she is not on duty, please leave a voice mail message, which she’ll return as soon as possible. (The department plans to expand the number of certified technicians in the near future.)

Take advantage of this expertise. It’s a free service you can’t afford not to use.

For more information on Child Passenger Safety, including product recalls, check the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s website, www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/childps.

NOTE: Countryside Fire Station also offers this service. Request assistance by calling 847-367-5511.



You’re Invited...

Vernon Hills Police Department Open House

Sunday, October 6 • 1 to 4 p.m.

754 Lakeview Parkway

For Information: 847-247-4888

Countryside Fire Station Pancake Breakfast and Open House

Sunday, October 6 • 9 to noon

600 N. Deerpath Drive

For Information: 847-367-5511

New PD Youth Program... It’s About Y.O.U.

The police department recently implemented an innovative new program that pairs police officers with youths from the community. The program is called Youth Opportunity Unlimited — or “Y.O.U.”

In the Y.O.U. program, an officer spends six to ten hours of on-duty time each month with a youth partner. Similar to the “big brother” concept, the program works to develop positive bonds, encourage adult-to-adolescent mentoring, and help provide positive guidance.

The Vernon Hills program is coordinated by Michael Baber, the department’s Social Service Director. Four officers are currently involved — Jeff Cielak, Jim Levicki, Dan Mead and Joe Reyna. That number is expected to grow as the program develops. Youths are selected based on recommendations. The program, which has been well received by officers and participants alike, is completely voluntary. To learn more, contact Michael Baber at 847-362-4449.

Scenes from the Parade...

Parade Grand Marshall **A. Lewis Landry**, retired Fire Chief of Countryside Fire Protection District, joined dozens of participants in this year's 4th of July Parade.

Congratulations, and thanks for taking part!

Bike Decorating Contest Winners were **Zoe Gordon** (1st Place Girls) and **Molly Cross** (2nd Place Girls); **Anthony & Steffon Tubek** (1st Place Boys), and **Christopher Palacios** (2nd Place Boys).

Parade entries taking honors included **Tre's Bone Bakery & Gifts** (Business Float) and **Vernon Hills Public Works** (Community Float), which included P.W. Paws (Steve Strokosch), the national mascot for public works professionals seen at far right with his assistant, Josh Singer.



In the News at the Public Works Department

Low Branches are a Hazard

Vernon Hills is a village on the move — especially when it comes to residents who enjoy walking, jogging or rolling along our sidewalks and paths. The Public Works Department makes every effort to keep branches trimmed away from public right-of-ways. However, we need your help to keep our travel-ways clear — and safe.

Pathways should be clear at least one foot from the edge and at least eight feet overhead. Homeowners are asked to keep plant growth trimmed out of this space. Homeowners are also asked to put any new plants at least three feet from the edge of pathways. If you notice areas that need attention, call Public Works at 847-367-3726.

Looking for Light?

If you notice a non-working streetlight, please contact Public Works with the following information:

- Location of streetlight
- Pole number (located on street side of each pole)
- Problem (such as completely out, not on at the right time)
- Your name and phone number

Note that traffic signals are maintained through a contract with the Illinois Department of Transportation. If you notice a malfunctioning traffic light, please call the Police Department non-emergency number, 847-362-4449.

Working for You

Typical requests for service from the Vernon Hills Public Works Department include reports of blocked storm sewers, loose manhole covers, downed branches or debris in parkways, missing or damaged street signs, pot holes, damaged curbs, and snowplow damage. For assistance, contact the Public Works Department:

- Phone: 847-367-3726
- Fax: 847-367-3728
- Internet: www.vernonhills.org (includes an e-mail response feature)
- Visit: 490 Greenleaf Drive at the corner of Greenleaf and Butterfield Road.

Thanks, Everyone!

Summer is a busy time for Vernon Hills residents as they donate countless hours of expertise to our many family-friendly activities. Thank you to the hundreds of individuals and organizations that make it all possible.

Vernon Hills Pageant

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Pam Adams | Debbie Russo |
| Sheryl Jaeckel | Jamie Groesche |
| Cari Vole | |

4th of July

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Laura Black | Allan Levandowski |
| Cathy Byrne | Mike Meline |
| Joe Gross | Bob Piecuch |
| Gail Hermann | Michelle Springer |
| John Hintz | Stacey Amari |
| Don Moore | |

Summer Celebration

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Ina Marquardt | Sue Suchsland |
| Matt Bartlett | Debbie Milarski |
| Kathy Zerillo | Kent Overholser |
| Joe Hoffmann | Monica Lundeen |
| Mike Plucinski | |

Special Thanks to...

- Village President, Trustees and Staff
- Vernon Hills Park District
- Public Works Department
- Police Department
- Countryside Fire
- Lincolnshire/Riverwoods Fire
- Knights of Columbus
- Lions Club
- Masonic Temple
- Lake County Sheriffs
- Gilardi's
- Food Fest Participants
- Cultural Partners
- Dozens of Contributing Organizations
- Hundreds of Volunteers

Thank You!

Village Welcomes Two New Partners

The Village is pleased to announce the addition of two new Cultural Partners — Fifth Third Bank and soon-to-be-open Vernon Hills National Bank.

Fifth Third offers branch locations around the area, including one at the corner of Milwaukee Road and Townline Road. Vernon Hills National Bank is a newly chartered bank with plans to build near the corner of Aspen Drive and Townline Road.

These partners join CDW, American Hotel Register, Washington Mutual and Portofino Italian Bistro in providing crucial economic support to our Village-sponsored activities — including Summer Celebration. Thank you all of our Cultural Partners, and to the many businesses and organizations that support our Village.



Summer Celebration included free concerts, including Planet Strange (above), as well as a chance to raise money for community programs (top right). Thanks to the dozens of local kids who created the Celebration mural, which will be displayed around town.



Swimming, Music and More... Summer Splash is August 9

Pick up your tickets and grab your water wings — and your dancin' shoes. Summer Splash 2002 is ready to rock on Friday, August 9. The Vernon Hills Aquatic Center, 635 N. Aspen Drive, will once again be the site of family-friendly fun. The event, which includes swimming, games, food concessions, and music from The Only Sons, gets underway at 5:30 and wraps up at 9 p.m.

Summer Splash is free for all Vernon Hills residents. However, tickets are required and must be picked up prior to the event at either the Park District's Sullivan Center (located next to the Aquatic Center) or at the Village Hall (290 Evergreen Drive). Please be prepared to show proof of residency when receiving your tickets. For details, call the Park District at 847-367-7270. See you there!



Golf Outing Supports Brain Tumor Research

Vernon Hills' 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament is scheduled for **Saturday, August 10** at the Vernon Hills Golf Course. This year's proceeds will go directly to the American Brain Tumor Association, an organization that not only supports people throughout the world, but which has recently touched several of our own residents.

Organizations wishing to support the cause may sponsor holes or donate items to event's silent auction. All donations are greatly appreciated. For information about the event, participating or donating to the cause, please contact golf pro O.B. Sanders at 847-680-9310.

Cuneo Hosts...

On **August 17**, the Plant and Flower Show graces the Cuneo Gardens. Then on **August 18**, it's the Cuneo Classic Car Show. Call the Cuneo Museum and Gardens at 847-362-3042 for details.

Village Blood Drive is September 21

The Village Blood Drive, sponsored by the Vernon Hills Lions Club, will be held on **Saturday, September 21** at Hawthorn Elementary North, 301 Hawthorn Parkway. Appointments can be scheduled through the Village Hall by calling 847-367-3700. Appointments

Arbortheater Concerts

Saturday, August 3

BBI

'70s favorites from rock and Motown

Thursday, August 8

Vernon Hills Symphony*

Classical and contemporary standards

Wednesday, August 14

Jazz Spectrum

"Swinging" jazz tunes

Saturday, August 17

Salt and Silver

Acoustic duo offers '70s classics

Wednesday, August 21

Lynne Jordan and the Shivers

Rock, blues, gospel and R&B

All concerts are free and open to the public. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. at the Vernon Hills Memorial Arbortheater, 50 N. Fairway Drive, just past the intersection of Lakeview and Fairway Drive. In case of inclement weather, concerts will be held at the Sullivan Center, 635 Aspen Drive, except for the Symphony, which will move to the Vernon Hills High School, 145 N. Lakeview Parkway.

are scheduled every twenty minutes from 8:00 a.m. until 2:40 p.m. If you have questions about donating, or if you would like to set up a more convenient alternative appointment, please contact LifeSource at 847-298-9660. All donations are appreciated.

PD/Fire Open Houses are October 6

Vernon Hills Police Department and Countryside Fire Protection District invite you to their open house celebrations on **Sunday, October 6**. For details, see the box on page 4.

Arbortheater Concessions Available for Nonprofits

If your service club is looking for a fundraising activity, consider selling concessions at the Arbortheater. The Village Board recently approved this opportunity, which was spearheaded and will be organized by resident Tracy Rieke. To find out more, call Tracy at 847-816-3208.

Care to Dance?

The Vernon Hills Park District is looking for dance instructors for fall. For job details, please contact the Park District at 847-367-7270.



Thanks, Summer Staffers!

Each year, interns and summer employees play a big part in Village activities. Thank you to the 2002 Crew.

Back row, from left: Ben Mosko (Illinois State University); Gary Hoppe (Illinois State University); Adam Schneiderman (Southern Illinois University); GIS Intern Sarah Jenniges (Graduate of University of Illinois).

Front row, from left: Ben Hodges (Augustana College); Josh Singer (Western Illinois University).

For information about employment opportunities, please contact the Human Resources Department, 847-367-3700.

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID

Vernon Hills, IL 60061
PERMIT #198
ECRWSS

Vernon Hills Village Voice

290 Evergreen Drive
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Inside...

- **Village Hall Dedication**
- **Internet Access**
- **Voter Registration Time**
- **PD/Fire Open Houses**
- **New Cultural Partners**
- **Thank You, Volunteers**
- **Charity Golf Outing**
- **And More...**

Resident or Business Customer
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Vernon Hills Village Voice

Please send comments to the Editor:

Evan Teich, 290 Evergreen Drive, Vernon Hills, IL 60061
Phone: 847-367-3700 • Fax: 847-367-0880
Email: evant@vhills.org


Elected Officials

President Roger Byrne
Trustees Richard Duros, Cindy Hebda, Steve Henley,
Thom Koch, Kathleen Ryg, and Barbara Williams
Clerk Jeanne Schwartz

Contact Information

Fire 911 (Non-emergency – 367-5511)
Police 911 (Non-emergency – 362-4449)
Village Hall 847-367-3700
Public Works 847-367-3726
Building Div. 847-367-3704
Clerk's Office 847-367-3700
Village Mgr. 847-367-3700
Cable Studio 847-918-3560
Main Fax 847-367-0880
TDD 847-918-3597
Internet www.vernonhills.org

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in access to governmental services and programs. For assistance, call the Village's ADA Coordinator at 367-3700.

Printed on recycled paper 

August/September 2002



Vernon Hills Royalty

Congratulations to all the participants in this year's Vernon Hills Pageant, held June 17th at the Vernon Hills High School. Special recognition to (shown left to right) new Little Miss Vernon Hills Erica Kailas, Miss Kylie Adams and Jr. Miss Alexis Kailas. Best wishes and thanks to the queens who recently ended their reign — Laura Brooks, Hannah Black and Bonnie Nagel.