

progress with pride

Village
of
Bartlett
ILLINOIS

Trending NOW



December 15, 2023

NEWS

Happy Holidays!



Bartlett Village Hall administrative offices will be closed for the holidays from Saturday, 12/23 through Tuesday, 12/26 and Saturday, 12/30 through Tuesday, 1/2/2024.

Village elected officials and staff wish you a safe and very happy holiday season.

Holiday Decorating Contest



All Aglow in Bartlett! To make this holiday season in the village extra Merry and Bright, nominate your house NOW for the Holiday Decorating Contest! Use the link below for the Nomination Form.

Starting Friday, 12/22 you can visit the map showing all the nominated homes and cast your vote for your favorite in categories from Classic (traditional) to

Griswold (brightest house) to Best Overall. Or use the map to tour the neighborhoods and take in the holiday sights.

Voting begins on Friday, 12/22 through Tuesday, 1/2/2024. Winners will be announced on Wednesday, 1/3/2024!

[Nomination Form](#)

[Voting Map](#)

Groundbreaking Held at Hawk Hollow School



Village President Kevin Wallace attended a groundbreaking ceremony on Thursday, 12/7, to mark the start of construction to convert Hawk Hollow from an elementary school into a middle school. Once complete, the building will serve the southeast portion of School District U-46's attendance area and play an important role in the district's shift to a true middle school model, in which 6th graders - who currently attend elementary school in U-46 - will join 7th and 8th graders.

The groundbreaking ceremony outside the building was attended by U-46 Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson, members of her cabinet, Board of Education President Sue Kerr, the remaining members of the school board, and elected officials, including Wallace, Village of Bartlett Trustee Dan Gunsteen and State Senator Seth Lewis. Several area families whose young children attended Hawk Hollow as elementary students, and who will likely attend it as middle school students, were at the event as well.

During her remarks to the gathering, Dr. Johnson said that the Hawk Hollow conversion is one step in a process that began in early 2020 with U-46's work to develop an Educational Facility Master Plan, followed by the Unite U-46 community engagement initiative, and the passage of a \$179 million bond proposal in April 2023.

"Thank you to our students, staff, parents, and community members who helped us develop a thoughtful master plan that will support our future, and those who participated in our Unite U-46 efforts to develop recommendations to move our schools forward," Dr. Johnson said. "We will continue to invest in our facilities to provide equitable access to learning environments that will support academic success for all students."

Board President Sue Kerr explained the "teaming" model that U-46 will move to for its middle schools, starting with the 2026-27 school year. Students are grouped in smaller grade-level teams of about 100 to 125 students. Each team has the same group of core academic teachers who meet consistently to

collaborate and provide better opportunities for student learning and stronger teacher-student relationships.

“When U-46 decided to move 6th graders out of elementary school and into middle school, we realized it was also a great opportunity to fill a gap. The southeast portion of our district had no middle school,” she said. “By converting Hawk Hollow into a middle school, we’ll be able to welcome 6th, 7th, and 8th grades to a modern facility that provides space to support teaching and learning today and in the future.”

Hawk Hollow, built in 2002, last served as an elementary school for the 2022-23 school year. Its students were then welcomed by two neighboring schools, Spring Trail Elementary School in Carol Stream and Prairieview Elementary School in Bartlett.

As an elementary school, Hawk Hollow was about 58,000 square feet. To transform it into a middle school designed to serve about 750 students, an approximately 92,000-square-foot addition will be constructed. The renovated building will include a media center with a maker space, a collaboration center, a cafeteria featuring a stage for performances, flexible laboratory spaces, two gymnasiums, and a fitness room.

“The result will be a state-of-the-art middle school to serve our community, and over the next year and a half, you will see that project come together,” said Deputy Superintendent of Operations Dr. Ann Williams.

The approximately \$58 million cost to convert Hawk Hollow is being funded by reserves and was approved by the Board of Education before the bond proposal passed.

Bartlett Village Board President Kevin Wallace said that improving the quality of school buildings benefits residents by protecting the investment they have in their homes and a community’s property values.

“But most importantly, renovations, additions, and improvements at Hawk Hollow will benefit many future generations of students,” he said. “The reinvented Hawk Hollow school will provide students with dynamic spaces for learning, ample room for state of the art technology, and will greatly impact student success for many years to come.”

Also, as part of the shift to a true middle school model, U-46 plans to build a new middle school in Elgin. The District has a purchase and sale agreement with the owners of a 12.4-acre property adjacent to Hilltop Elementary School in Elgin where a new middle school could be located.

The Board of Education also approved new additions to Kimball Middle School in Elgin and Kenyon Woods Middle School in South Elgin, allowing them each to educate about 1,250 students. Because of declining enrollment and the prohibitive costs of updating the buildings, the district plans to retire Abbott and Ellis middle schools in Elgin but make updates to its remaining middle schools of Tefft, Canton, Eastview, and Larsen.

A video about the groundbreaking is available on U-46's YouTube channel.

Strategic Planning is Underway

In February 2017, the current strategic plan for the Village of Bartlett took shape through comprehensive stakeholder surveys across various community segments. Following data collection and analysis, the plan was structured into four categories: short-term routine, short-term complex, long-term routine, and long-term complex objectives.

Annual strategic planning sessions since then have led to incremental adjustments in the plan in subsequent years. The board of trustees formally approved the 2021 Village of Bartlett Strategic Plan during the August 17, 2021, meeting.

This past Tuesday, 12/12, the Village Board met for a workshop to begin setting goals for the 2024 - 2029 Strategic Plan.

Why does the village do strategic planning?

- Strategic planning provides the Village Board with policy direction
- Strategic planning ensures that staff is working towards priorities
- Strategic planning helps the village allocate resources (staffing, budget) towards goals
- Strategic planning is an important communication tool

The next step is a staff workshop to identify objectives based on the goals set by the board. A review of the 2024 - 2029 Village of Bartlett Strategic plan is tentatively scheduled for the February 6, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting, followed by approval by the Board of Trustees later that month if no further discussion or changes are warranted.

[See Current & Past Strategic Plans](#)

REMINDERS



It's hard to have a happy holiday when you're arrested for drunk

driving. Keep the season merry and bright by following the law and refusing to drink and drive.

During this busy winter holiday season, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Bartlett Police Department urge drivers to think twice before drinking and driving.

Additionally, Bartlett Police Department is participating in the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Christmas/New Year's DUI and Occupant Protection Traffic Enforcement Campaigns from Friday, 12/15/2023 until Tuesday, 1/2/2024. These traffic campaigns are fully funded by federal safety funds through IDOT's Bureau of Safety Programs & Engineering.

According to NHTSA, there are plenty of options to help impaired drivers get home safely, such as designating a sober driver or calling a taxi or rideshare.

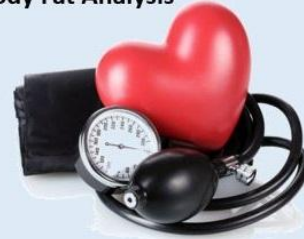
Remember: a few dollars spent on a ride is a lot cheaper than a DUI, which can cost up to \$10,000. Something else to consider: Don't ever be too proud or embarrassed to ask for a ride. Allowing a sober driver to help you get home safely keeps you and others safe.

No one should mix drinking and driving, and no one is immune to the effects of drunk driving. Always have a plan before you head out for the evening. If you wait until after you've been drinking to figure out how to get from one place to the next, you will already be too impaired to make the right choices.

The Bartlett Police Department encourages everyone to enjoy a safe holiday season. Please wear your seat belts, assign a designated driver or use a ride-sharing service, and do

Free Resident Wellness Screenings

- Blood Pressure
- Heart Rate
- Diabetes (Blood Sugar)
- Anemia (Hemoglobin)
- Body Fat Analysis



Did you know that the Hanover Township Office of Community Health serves Hanover Township residents by providing affordable health-based services and programs that focus on preventative health screenings, improving overall health status, managing chronic diseases, navigating the health system and improving access to health services?

Free township resident health screenings include:

- Diabetes
- Blood pressure
- Heart Rate
- Anemia
- Body Fat Analysis

Low Cost Screenings & Additional Services*

- Hemoglobin A1C Screening (Diabetes): \$20
- Blood draws for Patient Labs (with Doctor's order)
- PT/INR monitoring (with Doctor's order)
- Tuberculosis Skin Test {1-step}: \$15
- Tuberculosis Skin Test {2-step}: \$30
- Tdap {Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis}: \$45
- Total Cholesterol/Glucose: \$5 (non-fasting, finger stick)

not permit friends or family members to drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

• Complete Cholesterol: \$20 (this is a fasting screening that includes total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides, and glucose)

• Vitamin D: \$25

* Additional fees may be applied for non-residents

To schedule an appointment or if you have additional questions, contact the Hanover Township Office of Community Health at 630- 483-5665 or email health@hanover-township.org.

Meetings & Events

SATURDAY, 12/16 @ 8 a.m.
Hanover Township Super Toy Drive

TUESDAY, 12/19 @ 7 p.m.
Village Board Meeting

TUESDAY, 1/2 @ 7 p.m.
Village Board Meeting - cancelled

WEDNESDAY, 1/3
Podiatry Clinic @ Hanover Township

See More Meetings & Events on the Website Calendar. Please know that meeting agendas are not posted to the website until they are finalized,

What All Drivers Need to Know About Railroad Crossings

KNOW THE FACTS:

In the U.S., a person or vehicle is hit by a train every three hours.

Trains are quieter and faster than you think -- only trains belong on the tracks.

The average freight train traveling 65 miles per hour can take a mile or more to stop -- the length of 18 football fields.

MAKE SAFE CHOICES:

Cross Legally and Safely: The only safe and legal place for anyone to cross railroad tracks is at designated crossings. Always obey warning signs and signals. Always look for a train before proceeding.

Wait, Look Both Ways: Always expect a train. Trains may be closer and traveling faster than they appear and can run on any track at any time. Multiple tracks may mean multiple trains. Ensure you can clearly see down the tracks in both directions before proceeding. AVOID crossing while lights are flashing or gates are

generally the week before the meeting date.

down. Never try to beat a train.

Avoid Getting Stuck: Before crossing, be sure there is space on the other side to completely clear the tracks. Trains overhang tracks. When driving, leave at least 15 feet between the front and rear of your vehicle and the nearest rail. Avoid shifting gears while crossing.

Get Out! Get Away! Find the Blue and White Sign: If your vehicle gets stuck or stalls at a crossing, get everyone out and far away immediately, even if you do not see a train. Call the number on the Blue and White Emergency Notification System (ENS) sign and share the crossing ID number with the dispatcher. No sign? Dial 911.

PROJECTS

Municipal Parking Lots Are Open



The public parking lots, at Oak and Oneida and at Oak and Railroad Avenue (next to Banbury Fair and Le P'tit and across the street from More Brewing), are now both fully repaved and open for use. PW is awaiting lights for the lots, which will be installed at a later date.

Also, remember that FREE parking is available at the Metra lots in downtown Bartlett Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Parking is also free all day on weekends and during Metra holidays.

QUICK LINKS

- * [Village of Bartlett Employment Opportunities](#)
- * [Learn more & sign up for Code Red Emergency Notifications](#)
- * [Learn about the Bartlett Connect mobile app](#)

228 S. Main Street
Bartlett, IL 60103
630-837-0800

bartlett.il.gov



Kevin Wallace, President
Lorna Giles, Clerk

Trustees
Raymond H. Deyne
Stephanie Gandsey
Dan Gunsteen
Adam J. Hopkins
Joe LaPorte
Renée Suwanski

Village of Bartlett IL | 228 S. Main Street, Bartlett, IL 60103 bartlett.il.gov

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