NEWS YOU CAN USE

barrington-il.gov | December 2025

BARRINGTON
Be Inspired.

A Message from Mike Moran

President, Village of Barrington

Happy Holidays, Barrington!

As we enter the holiday season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the pride I feel for our Village, its character, its people, and the strong sense of community that makes Barrington such an exceptional place to call home.

The holidays in Barrington have a way of bringing people together. One of our most cherished traditions, the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, will take place on Saturday, Dec. 6, in downtown Barrington. This is a time for families, friends and neighbors to gather at the heart of our community to enjoy live music, family-friendly activities and a visit from Santa as we officially kick off the season. I also encourage you to take advantage of the many cultural events at Barrington's White House, which enriches our community throughout the year, especially during the holidays.

While we celebrate, it is important to remember those who may be facing challenges. The Village is hosting several donation drives to support local families, and I encourage you to participate. Your generosity can make a meaningful difference and help ensure that every member of our community feels supported during this season of giving. Additional information about these efforts is included in this insert.

The holiday season is also a powerful reminder of the vital role our local businesses play in the strength and identity of Barrington. I encourage you to shop local and support all Barrington retailers, service providers, and restaurants, many of which have been longstanding pillars of our community. When you choose to spend your dollars here in the Village, you're supporting local jobs, strengthening our business community, and helping ensure Barrington remains vibrant year-round. As an added bonus this season, shoppers who spend $250 or more at Barrington retail stores will receive a $25 gift card** to a local restaurant of their choice, a simple and rewarding way to give back to the businesses that invest in our community every day.

Looking ahead, the Village remains committed to driving economic development, supporting our business community and continuing to enhance the downtown streetscape. These efforts are crucial to maintaining Barrington's competitiveness, welcoming atmosphere, and opportunities. I am confident in the direction we are heading, and I look forward to the continued growth and renewed energy that lie ahead for our Village in the coming years.

As we close out the year, I would like to take a moment to recognize the many individuals who work tirelessly on behalf of our community. My sincere thanks go to the Village Board: Kate Duncan, Lauren Klauer, Jason Lohmeyer, Brian Prigge, Todd Sholeen and Jennifer Wondrasek, as well as Clerk Jim Dillon, for their strong commitment to public service. I also want to express my gratitude to our Village employees for their professionalism and dedication throughout the year. Your work plays a vital role in making Barrington a place where we can all take pride in calling home.

HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES

Saturday, Dec. 6
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Downtown Barrington - Cook Street

Enjoy a magical visit with **Santa at Barrington's White House*** before heading over to the Village's **Holiday Fest**. The celebration features free hot chocolate from Cook Street Coffee, festive music from Bob the DJ, ice carving demonstrations, and a variety of family-friendly activities in downtown Barrington. Stay for a special performance by the Barrington High School Madrigals at 4:30 p.m. as their songs will lead directly into the **Tree Lighting Ceremony** at 5 p.m. Santa will then make his grand entrance on his firetruck following the ceremony and wander through the crowd for visits and photos at Santa's House on Cook Street until 6 p.m. Don't forget your cameras and letters to Santa. Toy donations will also be collected to support Toys for Tots.

**Registration is required for visits with Santa at Barrington's White House taking place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please register at www.barringtonswhitehouse.com.*

BUY IN BARRINGTON. BE REWARDED.

Through Dec. 24
Barrington Retail Stores

Calling all shoppers! When you spend $250 or more at Barrington retail stores, you'll receive a $25 gift card** to a restaurant of your choice. It's a great way to support our local businesses and enjoy a delicious meal at one of Barrington's many fantastic restaurants. Learn more on the Village's website at www.barrington-il.gov/shoplocal.

***Offer valid for purchases made between Nov. 28 and Dec. 24, 2025, while supplies last.*

On behalf of the Village of Barrington Board of Trustees and staff, I wish you and your families a joyful, safe and meaningful holiday season.

Mike Moran
Village President

BARRINGTON NEWS YOU CAN USE

TICKETS ON SALE FOR BARRINGTON TOWN-WARMING

Celebrate our shared history and cultural foundations at the ninth annual Barrington Town-Warming on Saturday, Feb. 7, a community tradition that brings together leading voices from across the nation. This year's theme, "We the People: Exploring Our Roots," invites us to reflect on the individuals, ideas, and movements that have shaped the American story.

We are honored to welcome **Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.**, as our keynote speaker. An acclaimed Harvard historian, Peabody and Emmy award-winning filmmaker, and the creator and host of the renowned PBS series "Finding Your Roots," Dr. Gates brings a powerful and insightful perspective on genealogy, identity, and American history.

The day also features **Tom Wickham** (former Parliamentarian of the U.S. House of Representatives), engaging panel discussions, a performance of the Great American Songbook, and a variety of educational and entertaining interludes. Breakfast, lunch and a post-event reception will be provided for in-person attendees. For tickets and more information, visit **www.barringtonswhitehouse.com/events**.

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors: Mrs. Jessica Green, Ms. Kim Duchossois and Northern Trust.

TREE RECYCLING

Saturday, Jan. 3 and Friday, Jan. 9

Residents can recycle their real (not artificial) Christmas trees during the first two weeks of January through their regular curbside Groot recycling and refuse service. Please ensure the tree is free of all decorations, including tinsel, lights, and ornaments. If the tree is over six feet tall, it should be cut in half. Place the tree at the curb with the cut end facing the street, and do not bag the tree.

COMMUNITY DONATION DRIVES UNDERWAY

Make a difference this holiday season by supporting the Village of Barrington's community donation drives, bringing joy to local families in need.

Annual Food Drive - Help Stock Local Pantries
Donate non-perishable items to benefit local food pantries, including Project HOPE and the Barrington and Cuba Townships. Requested items include canned fruit and meat, coffee, peanut butter and jelly, baking mixes, canned pasta meals, dried beans and pasta sauce.

Secret Santa - Shop with a Cop & Firefighter
Spread holiday cheer to children by contributing monetary donations, unwrapped toys or gift cards. This special event pairs kids with local officers and firefighters, making memories that last a lifetime.

How You Can Help:

Monetary Donations: Any amount helps. Donations will be used to purchase gifts for the children.

Toy Donations: Arts and craft kits, Barbie and baby dolls, cars, action figures, boys and girls LEGO sets, and LED light strips.

Gift Cards: Consider donating gift cards for stores where teens can pick out their own gifts.

Drop off donations at the Barrington Public Safety Facility, 400 N. Northwest Hwy., or Barrington Village Hall, 200 S. Hough St.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

03: Lunch & Learn: From Barrington to the Roof of Africa: David Waring's Trekking Journey

06: BWH Holiday Open House

06: Barrington Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting Ceremony

07: 4th Annual Community Holiday Tea

11: GRAMMY Nominated Entertainer Ron Hawking Celebrates Christmas with the Legends - SOLD OUT

20: Operation North Pole - Pack the Train Depot

21: Home for the Holidays: Nancie Tobison, BHS Alumni and Friends

SCAN HERE FOR TICKETS & MORE EVENTS

HOLIDAY REMINDERS

Administrative Offices Closed
Dec. 24-25 & Jan. 1

Groot Pickup
Christmas: Dec. 27
New Years: Jan. 3
Last Yard Waste Pickup: Dec. 12

FOOD SCRAP COMPOSTING PROGRAM

During the winter season only (mid-December through mid-March), when yard waste is not collected, please call Groot weekly (by Wednesday) at (847) 734-6400 to schedule a pickup. Place food scraps in your green yard waste container.