



Newsletter FALL 2019

CITY WEBSITE PROVIDES TRANSPARENCY

Visit www.villahillsky.org to find the latest information about the city, including:

Monthly finance statements & prior year audits

Crime mapping and alerts

Meeting minutes

Updated city code & new ordinances

Sign up for snow emergency alerts and e-newsletters

View ball field schedules

Upcoming events & more

Villa Hills City Officials

719 Rogers Rd., Villa Hills, KY 41017

Mayor Heather Jansen

Councilmembers

Rod Baehner	Jim Cahill
Scott Ringo	Cathy Stover
Seth Thompson	Sue Wadsworth

City Administrator/Clerk
Craig T. Bohman

Chief of Police
Bryan Allen

Public Works Director
Derick "Buck" Yelton

E-mail links are on the city website. Click on the elected official or staff name to send them an e-mail.

Sign up for e-mail alerts for snow emergencies, upcoming events, and e-newsletters from the city at: www.villahillsky.org

An Update from Mayor Heather Jansen

Dear Residents of Villa Hills,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work for you this year! Things have been very busy in the City. In the spring, the Villa and Franzen fields were readied for the soccer, baseball and softball seasons. We continued the tradition of Shadow Night with students from River Ridge, Villa Madonna and St. Joseph during the April council meeting. New to the City this year were the largely attended Shred Days in May and June. The Villa Hills Police Department hosted another successful Safety Night and highlighted the training of our new canine officer, Onexx. The completion of the re-signalization at Buttermilk Pike and Collins Road/Western Reserve addressed ongoing safety concerns at that intersection. Lastly, we collaborated with the City of Crescent Springs to host Music Fest again this year for the benefit of the residents of both cities.

Looking forward, the Buttermilk Stormwater drainage project Phase I will begin this fall with its Phase II conclusion next spring. Haunted Trails will take place at Franzen Field in October followed by Christmas in the Park in December.

I cannot begin to express my gratitude to the City Council Members for their continued support and guidance, as well as to the Public Works Department, the Police Department and City Administration for their dedication and commitment to the City's residents.

If you have any concerns or issues, please feel free to call me or anyone at the City Building.

Mayor Heather Jansen

CITY TAX BILLS

Tax Bills are out. If you have an escrow account with your mortgage company, it is your responsibility to forward the bill to them. Tax bills can be paid at the City Building during office hours, at Heritage Bank in Crescent Springs, sent in the mail to the lockbox (P.O. Box), or it may be dropped off in the drop box at the City Building.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED ON-LINE ONLY!

Tax payments received on or after December 1, 2019 will have 15% penalty added.

Postmark will be accepted.



[Passport Information!](#)

The City of Villa Hills is a Passport Acceptance Facility. We have forms at our office that can be used for new passports, and for renewals.

New Passports and renewals for children will require an appointment at an acceptance facility. We normally accept appointments Monday-Friday between the hours of 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Please call the office at 341-1515, if you need to schedule an appointment.

The **only** official website for obtaining information or forms is www.travel.state.gov. Please make sure this is the only website you visit. We have recently learned that there are websites popping up that are scams. Some of those sites are charging you to complete the forms online. There is NO fee to complete the form online at www.travel.state.gov. If in doubt, always call us to inquire first. The only fees are charged when you come in to apply, or when you send your renewal form in for adults.

Fees associated with a passport: Adult Passport Book \$110, Adult Passport Card \$30, Child (under 16 years of age) Passport Book \$80, Child Passport Card \$15. Note that books are required when flying out of the USA. Passport Acceptance Facility processing fee \$35, this fee applies at any passport acceptance facility. This fee will be increased by the cost of postage, if you request overnight mail, or at a location that has the ability to take photos on site (we do not). For urgent travel needs, call and we can let you know additional cost and options for getting your passport sooner.

Current processing time is 6-8 weeks.

Travel in less than 6 weeks will need to pay \$60 expedite fee and possibly overnight postage.

When you have any questions - Please call us and DO NOT rely on internet searches, we are more than happy to help.

BUTTERMILK PIKE PROJECT:

After several hold ups with waiting for approval and paperwork from the state, the Buttermilk Pike roadwork will begin late October. Roadwork will begin in the spring of 2020, as weather permits and the project is expected to be finished by late summer or fall of 2020.

The stormwater lines will be installed first, starting in October. Please pay attention to Detours, Flagger, and be mindful of temporary closures of the road, which could last for up to 10 minutes during Phase I. Construction during Phase II in the Spring will result in long-term road closures requiring detours. Please follow posted speed limit signs on the roads being used for detours. Traffic enforcement will be stepped up on cut through streets for safety. Your Police and Fire Departments have already established a plan for emergency responses during the project.

Road projects always result in inconveniences, some minor, some major. This is unavoidable. There will be dirt, noise, debris, limited parking, and temporarily blocked driveways. There may be equipment and materials placed in front of your home. Sometimes, materials used in the project require curing and/or cool down periods when work cannot be performed and vehicles cannot drive on what appears to be finished roadwork. Please do not drive on any areas that are coned or taped off. Contractors typically work on other projects while waiting for materials to cure and/or cool down, so they may not work in your area every day. Wet weather will also delay the contractor as they wait for the ground to dry. Everyone involved wants the project completed as quickly as possible. The City respectfully requests your patience and understanding while the project is underway.

In order to get the lowest bid price for taxpayers, the contractor has determined the best means, method, and schedule to complete the project at the contract price. This means that you cannot request the contractor to stop work, change equipment, or reschedule their work around events you may have planned. These requests from residents increase costs, delay the project, and could lead to breach of contract claims against the city. If you have concerns about the project, contact the Public Works Director, Derick "Buck" Yelton, at 859-578-4136 or via email at dyelton@villahillsky.org. He is the point of contact between you and the contractor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS



The Villa Hills Police Department has a new 4-legged Officer on staff, K-9 Onexx joined the force in the Spring of 2019. Onexx arrived in February, began his bonding with his handler Officer Dooley immediately. The two then underwent training for Onexx to be certified for patrol, then as a drug dog. He is nationally certified in both patrol and drug through North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA).

The Police Department hosted a Rape Aggression Defense classes (RAD) in the March of 2019, which was well attended. Please be on the lookout for information on future classes. This information will be shared on the City's website and the Police Department Facebook Page.

Safety Night was held in August, where the Villa Hills K-9 officer Onexx was featured, along with a Blackhawk helicopter, UC Aircare, SWAT team, Crescent Springs/Villa Hills Fire/EMS, and the Villa Hills Police Department. We had a great turnout.

The Police Department will continue to work on areas of concern. We are preparing for the fall season as people go on vacation and the shopping season begins. We encourage everyone to be on the lookout for scams and to make sure they secure their packages. We also want to remind everyone to not give out personal information or credit information to anyone. If you are not sure do not do it. Scammers will be working overtime to get information from you. No law enforcement agency will ever contact you and ask for your information or to settle a warrant over the phone. When expecting package deliveries, have someone you know keep a look out and secure your packages, if you are not home. Do not hesitate to contact the police if you see something suspicious. When shopping secure purses and wallets. Do not leave anything in the vehicle in plain sight. Put items in the trunk before arriving at your destination and always secure the vehicle.

Please be on the lookout for scary individuals on Halloween Night. Remember to be extra careful as our young ghouls and goblins take to the streets in search of sweet treats.

Finally please ensure you have these numbers handy.

Emergency dial 911

Non-Emergency- 859-356-3191

Police Administration for questions -859-341-3535

REMINDERS:

School buses: when the red lights are flashing and stop sign is out, it is a mandatory stop on all roads in Villa Hills. Drive carefully and watch for officers directing traffic in school zones, and drive the speed limit. Watch for children during the mornings and afternoons at bus pick up locations and throughout the neighborhoods. Speed Limits will be strictly enforced.

Halloween: It will be here soon - Please use caution when driving during trick or treat hours, as children sometimes forget to look before running in the roads. Trick or Treat will be on October 31, 2019 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

Have a student looking for service hours?

The Villa Hills Events & Beautification Committee needs assistance for several upcoming events.

Contact Sue Wadsworth for more information at swadsworth@villahillsky.org.

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www.facebook.com/VillaHillsKY

&

www.facebook.com/Villa-Hills-Police-Department-216018612080566

Frequently Requested Numbers & Contacts

Emergency Dispatch:	911
Dispatch non-emergency:	356-3191
Police Department:	341-3535
City Administration:	341-1515
Mayor Heather Jansen:	341-1515
Fire Department:	341-3840
Code Enforcement:	331-8980
Building/Zoning/Permits:	331-8980
Animal Control:	356-3191
Sewer/Sanitation:	578-7450
Water Department:	578-9898
Rumpke (garbage/recycle pick-up):	1-877-786-7537

EMPLOYEE NEWS

Promotions:

Officer JJ Bird was promoted **Sergeant** with the Police Department.

New Hires:

Scott Smith re-joined the Public Works Department in April 2019 as a part-time employee.

The Following were hired within the last year as full-time police officers:

Officer Brockman

Officer Robbins

Officer Thomas

Sanctuary Village made smaller, project moves forward

There have been several major changes in the Sanctuary Village development since last fall. The main change is that the number of allowable housing units has dropped from 495 to 325 (a 35% reduction) and the four-story 187-unit apartment building has been removed and 11 single family homes will be built on that spot. All residences in the updated plan are single family. Further, no building over 3 stories can be built on the site for the next 25 years. These changes are the result of a settlement between the developer Ashley, the Benedictine Sisters, and the residents who sued to overturn the zone change.

With the zoning issue resolved, grading and site preparation have begun. This work will continue for the rest of this year and into next spring. Home construction is anticipated to start about a year from now. Phase I includes 152 homes, 16 townhomes and 14 cottages. This will take several years to build out. With the reduced number of units, the required road work at Collins and Amsterdam has been pushed back from 2021 to 2023.

Recreation and Events Updates

New long-term leases have been signed with Villa Hills Civic Club for Franzen Field, and with Villa Madonna for Tom Braun Fields. Several improvements have been made at both parks during the past year.

The Annual Shadow Night was held in April. Fifth Grade students from St. Joe's, Villa Madonna Academy and River Ridge Elementary were invited to submit a letter of interest to their teachers for the person they wished to shadow. The selected students participated in committee meetings prior to the Council meeting to gain working knowledge of the job of the person they were shadowing. We look forward to the next group of Shadow Night students.

The Events and Beautification committee hosted its 1st Shred Day event this year. The first event had such an overwhelming turnout that a 2nd event was held. The committee is looking to have this event every other year in the future.

Annual Citywide Yard Sale was held as a 2-City Yard Sale with Crescent Springs residents participating as well. There were 121 households participating within the 2 cities.

Haunted Trail will be on the last Saturday in October. The Events and Beautification Committee has been working with the Villa Hills Civic Club and students from Dixie Heights High School in planning this year's event. They are looking forward to a frightful evening.

Christmas in the Park with the City of Crescent Springs will take place on Saturday, December 7th from 6 to 9 pm. Bring your family to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus, ride on the train, make crafts and enjoy hot cocoa.