



Newsletter FALL 2020

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

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
Craig T. Bohman

City Clerk
Jennifer Lipson

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

Hello Neighbors!

As we begin the new fiscal year, I look back on the last year and think about the challenges we have faced. As a city government, my goal and the goal of the wonderful people that I work with, has been focused on protecting the lives and safeguarding the health of our residents.

My administrative staff continues to keep up to date on the guidelines set forth by the Governor. They implement the necessary precautions within the City to keep people safe from the spread of COVID. While our City building was shut down for a short period of time, staff continued to work full time in quarantine to maintain the high level of service that our residents expect and deserve. We faced the challenge of drafting a budget for the new fiscal year during this time. Additionally, my staff continued processing passports for as long as possible before the shutdown and restarted this service as soon as they were permitted. We are one of the few agencies that offer this service to the public.

Our police department remained at full capacity when most everything was shut down during the pandemic. Safety precautions were implemented to protect the officers and the people with whom they come in contact. We once again passed accreditation and our police policy is one of the best in the nation and meets/exceeds state and national standards.

Additionally, Chief Allen frequently reviews the existing policy for any updates or improvements. Villa Hills continues to be rated as one of the top five safest cities in Kentucky.

The Public Works department has been diligent on road repairs as they are needed. The projects are not without their hiccups though. The Buttermilk Pike project has had its share of delays but it should be wrapped up in the next month. The City's roads are reviewed periodically and the streets are ranked in order of those that need the most attention. The 10-year road plan is on the City's website for your reference and lists the order of streets in the most need of repair. While last winter was a mild one in the area, this crew is one of the best at snow removal and are ready to tackle the biggest storms

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General Election: November 3, 2020

The deadline to apply online for an Absentee ballot is October 9, 2020 no later than 11:59 p.m. EST. A Flyer from Kenton County with voting information is on the back of this newsletter.

An Update from Mayor Heather Jansen (cont.)

Lastly, our City Council continuously reviews the City's financial statements to ensure we are well within our approved budget. They were key to implementing the budget for the new fiscal year despite the financial challenges brought on by COVID.

I want to thank everyone for your input, for your words of encouragement, and especially for your patience as we weather the challenges faced both last year and will face in the fiscal year ahead. I encourage everyone to sign up for the City of Villa Hills Facebook page, for my Facebook page, for email updates from the City's administrative staff, and attend our Council meetings either virtually or in person to find out how the City is working for you.

I also want to thank the City administrative staff, the Public Works crew, the Police Department and City Council members for the diligence and guidance they provide to both me and the entire City. With the continued support of the City's residents and the dedication to service of the City staff and Council, Villa Hills will continue to be "a special place to live" into the years ahead.

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.

Recreation and Events Updates

Haunted Trail & Christmas in the Park have been cancelled for this year. The City's insurance carrier will not insure the event during the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

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. Forms can also be found online at **www.travel.state.gov**. Application Fees and Processing fees are paid at the time you submit your application, no payments are accepted online for these fees.

New Passports and renewals for children will require an appointment at an acceptance facility.

Please be sure to call our office at 341-1515, as we have limited availability at this time.

Passport Fees: 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. For urgent travel needs, call and we can let you know if expedited services are available, and what additional cost and options for getting your passport sooner.

Current processing time is unknown - we are hearing possibly 3-4 months.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Villa Hills Police Department's K-9 and his handler, Officer Dooley have been nationally re-certified in both patrol and drug through North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA).

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.



REMINDERS:

School buses: Some schools are already back in session, others will be starting back soon. When you come up on a bus and 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, 2020 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

In Villa Hills, participation is up to the parents and residents. Residents who are unable to participate are encouraged to turn out your lights or leave a note to make parents and children aware, so they do not disturb you. We ask parents to remind your children in advance that some neighbors may not be able to participate this year.

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:

Craig Bohman was promoted to City Administrator
Jennifer Lipson was promoted to City Clerk

New Hires:

Dallas Emery joined the Public Works Department in July 2020 as a full-time employee.
Officer James Black joined the Police Department in February 2020

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



Kenton County Clerk

HOW TO VOTE

GENERAL ELECTION- NOVEMBER 3, 2020



BY MAIL

Ballot requests can be made online at govoteky.com or by calling (859) 392-1620. Portal open from 8/24 to 10/9. Ballots can be returned by mail or returned to one of the following drop box locations:

Historic Kenton County Courthouse
15272 Madison Pike,
Independence, KY 41051

Back of building

Kenton County Government Center
1840 Simon Kenton Way,
Covington, KY 4101

*1. Outside
2. Inside Voter Office*

Independence Senior Center
2001 Jackwoods Parkway,
Independence, KY 41051

*Inside
(starting October 13th)*



EARLY IN-PERSON

Early voting will be available at the Kenton County Government Center (1840 Simon Kenton Way in Covington) and the Independence Senior Center (2001 Jackwoods Parkway in Independence) from October 13 - November 2 (Monday - Friday) from 7:30 AM to 4 PM and Saturday, October 17, 24 & 31 from 9 AM to 2 PM.



ELECTION DAY

There will be several polling locations available. Visit <http://bit.ly/kentonvote> to find your polling location.

Per the Emergency Regulations, each county must have a location for any voter to go and vote. Kenton County's supercenter will be at the Kenton County Government Center (1840 Simon Kenton Way in Covington)

KENTONCOUNTYKYCLERK.COM | (859) 392-1620