

# Grayslake Record



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May 2017

## Village Notes

### New Parade Route and Service Location - Grayslake Memorial Day Parade

Grayslake will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade and Service on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. The parade will step-off at 9:30 a.m. at the Hillside Avenue parking lot near Grayslake Central High School on Lake Street and travel Lake Street south and proceed east on Park Avenue.

The service will take place one block north of Park Avenue near the downtown Clocktower (Millennium Court Veteran's Memorial site) at the corner of Seymour Avenue and Center Street. The service will be held immediately following the parade.

To register to participate in this year's parade please contact Jennifer Hess at 847-223-8515 or [jhess@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:jhess@villageofgrayslake.com).

## Where Do Your Property Tax Dollars Go?

**Grayslake.** Every year in June, Grayslake property owners receive their annual property tax bills from Lake County. The Village's portion of this year's property tax bill is approximately four percent. The remaining portion (96%) of the property tax bills for property owners is paid to other independent taxing districts in Grayslake.

"The Village relies on property tax revenue to pay, primarily, a portion of police protection services and police pension costs," said Mayor Rhett Taylor. "This year's tax bills include a Village Board approved freeze on the amount of property taxes the Village receives".

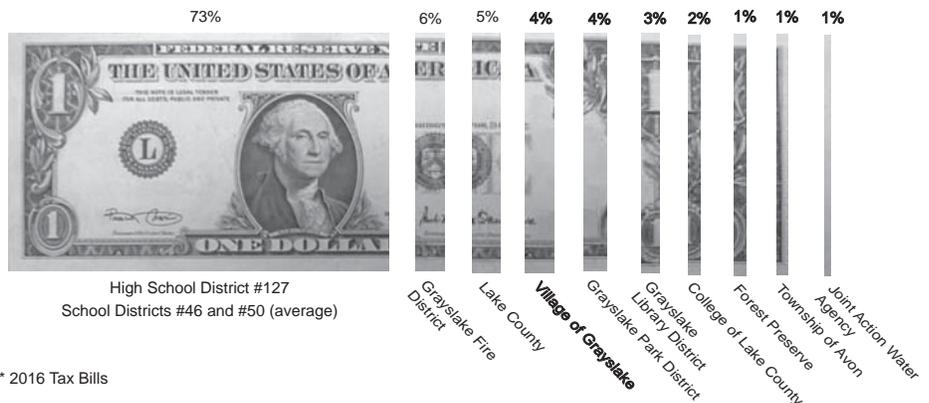
### What This Means For A Homeowner In Grayslake

On their property tax bills, Grayslake homeowners have many independent taxing districts listed. Bills will have a different tax rate depending on whether the home is located in elementary school district #46 or elementary school district #50.

This year, homeowners living in school district #46 with a home value of \$220,000 would pay a total of approximately \$11,464. Please note that this number may vary depending on valuations, homestead, or other tax credits. Approximately \$479 out of the total paid on the tax bill goes to the Village. Other taxing districts (schools, Lake County, Fire Protection District, etc.) will receive the remaining property tax dollars.

For Grayslake dollars by taxing district for a home in either school district #50, or #46, visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com).

### Property Tax District Percentage Breakdown \*



\* 2016 Tax Bills

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## Reminders

### Household Chemical Waste Collection Event

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) is hosting a household chemical waste collection event on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Vernon Hills Metra Station, Route 45 and Ranney Avenue.

Please visit [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org) or call 847-336-9340 for more information.

### Basement Flood Prevention Tips

- For basements that use a sump pump, it is a good idea to have an extra battery powered pump in the event of a power outage.
- If the location of the floor drain permits, an uncapped standpipe may be installed in the floor drain. Never cap a standpipe or floor drain.
- For basements with window wells, make sure drains work and be sure to clear all leaves and debris. Window well covers for basement windows may also help.
- If water accumulates next to the outside walls of your home, consider relandscaping to direct the water away.

## From the Mayor...

This edition of the Grayslake Record includes an article on the property tax rates for the various taxing districts in Grayslake. In conjunction with this article, I wanted to discuss the factors involved in the Village's property tax rate.

The Village collects approximately 4 cents of every dollar you pay in property taxes. All the other independent taxing districts have their own elected governing boards that make their own separate taxing decisions. All these independent decisions add up to your annual tax bill. These districts include schools, fire protection district, library district, park district, etc. Each district is listed on your tax bill. Pension costs for the districts are put on separate lines in the bill.

For tax bills you will receive in June, the Village's tax rate will be 8.3% lower than in 2016. This reflects the fact that the Village froze the amount of property tax dollars it takes combined with a 9% increase in property values since last year.

Since 1984, the Village's tax rate has declined by over 45%. The long term decline in the tax rate for the Village's share of the property tax bill is the result of many years of controlled operating spending. Since 2002, the Village, through attrition, reduced its non-police officer/sergeant full-time positions over 50%. This non-police officer/sergeant staff reduction has been possible due to a number of innovative methods the Village uses to provide services. These approaches are not often used in the public sector and include the use of private contractors to provide some services, continuous evaluation of operating processes to find more ways to reduce costs and ongoing implementation of new productivity initiatives in all departments.

All these techniques have been in use for over two decades. As a result, since 1992, Village per person operating spending has increased 38% less than the rate of inflation. This has allowed the Village to, on occasion, take less dollars than allowed under the Illinois Tax Cap law.

In addition to spending control, the Village has implemented an economic development program focused on adding more non-residential projects to the property tax base. More economic development can help lower the property tax burden for homeowners because it provides non-homeowner revenue to our community's schools without impacting their costs.

Please note that while the Village has sometimes taken less property taxes than allowed by the tax cap in recent years, our ability to control property taxes is directly dependent on what your state legislators do. The state collects a portion of certain revenues and distributes them to local governments to offset local costs. If state legislators vote to reduce or eliminate these distributions so the state government can spend the money, then the Village's ability to control property taxes will be reduced.

As always, the Village will continue to do its part and try to find more ways to keep costs and property taxes, lower for our residents and businesses.

Sincerely,



Rhett Taylor, Mayor

### Senior Center

Spring is in the air and the Grayslake Senior Center has many activities and programs to keep busy. We serve a congregate lunch on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Order is placed 3 days in advance. Meals are catered through Maravela's as part of a federal nutrition program. To view our newsletter go to the Village website at [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com). The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions please call us at 847-543-1041.

## Conserve Lake County Hosting

### Native Plant Sale

Conserve Lake County is hosting a native plant sale May 19 - May 21, 2017 at the Conserve Lake County office located at 32492 N. Almond Road, just south of Route 120 in Grayslake.

Over 150 species of perennials, grasses, ferns, shrubs and trees will be available for purchase. For more information, please visit [www.conservelakecounty.org](http://www.conservelakecounty.org) or call 847-548-5989.

## Aquatic Center Preview Party

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>! Join us at our Preview Party from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to celebrate the season opening of the Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center. Admission to this event is free. Attendees can take a swim in the pool, enjoy fun games and activities or sample free food from the concession stand as well as some local restaurants. Purchase your 2017 aquatic center membership and swim lessons today at [www.swimgrayslake.com](http://www.swimgrayslake.com). The aquatic center is located in the Village Center at 250 Library Lane, which is right off of Route 83. For more information, please call 847-223-7665.

# Village Announcements

## Rain Barrel, Compost Bin and Native Plant Sale

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, Stormwater Management Commission and the Lake County Forest Preserve District is hosting a rain barrel and compost bin sale on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A native plant sale will also take place on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 14, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The location for these sales will be at Independence Grove North Bay Pavilion. For more information, visit [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org) or 847-336-9340, Stormwater Management Commission at [www.lakecountyil.gov/stormwater](http://www.lakecountyil.gov/stormwater) or 847-377-7700, or Lake County Forest Preserve at [www.lcfdp.org/plantsale](http://www.lcfdp.org/plantsale) or 847-367-6640.

## Garbage, Recycle, Yard Waste Holiday Delay

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, there will be no garbage, recycle and yard waste pick-up on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Garbage, recycle and yard waste pick-ups will be delayed by one day during the week of May 29<sup>th</sup>.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Beer Festival

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Craft Beer Festival is Saturday, June 3, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in downtown Grayslake. Proceeds from the event will benefit the scholarship funds of the Grayslake Chamber of Commerce and the Exchange Club of Grayslake. For more information please contact the Grayslake Chamber of Commerce at 847-223-6888 or visit [www.grayslakechamber.com](http://www.grayslakechamber.com).

## Partnership Programs

With spring here, residents can take advantage of the Village partnership programs such as tree replacement, rain barrel / compost bin reimbursement and lawn mower replacement rebate programs.

For more information or how to participate in the programs, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com) and select the "Residents" tab or contact Village Hall at 847-223-8515.

## World War II Themed Fundraiser

Step back in time to the 1940s and help support the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum with a World War II era, USO-style event. The Grayslake Heritage Center Foundation invites you to attend this engaging fundraiser on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Brae Loch Country Club. The event includes USO-inspired cuisine, an appearance by actor R.J. Lindsey as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, music by the Highland Park Pops Big Band and an auction of fun and interesting items. Tickets are \$50 per person, payable to the Village of Grayslake Heritage Center Fund. Proceeds help support future museum programs, exhibits and initiatives.

Please send your check and RSVP by June 2<sup>nd</sup> to Dave Oberg, Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum, 164 Hawley Street, Grayslake, IL 60030. For more information, contact Dave Oberg, Executive Director at [doberg@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:doberg@villageofgrayslake.com) or 847-543-1745.

## Family Fun is in Bloom at the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum

Here at the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum we have a calendar full of family-friendly events. Highlights include:

- **Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** - The Grayslake Historical Society will present a program about the Edwards family, a pioneer family in Grayslake. The family history includes an asphyxiation, a lawsuit, land ownership, politics and wealth.
- **Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** - The Lake County Civil War Roundtable presents a program about Civil War funeral practices.
- **Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** - The museum hosts *The Concert You Need to Go To*, a musical extravaganza featuring talented performers from Grayslake North High School. Bring your picnic baskets and lawn chairs and join us at Centennial Park, at the corner of Whitney and Center Streets. The concert features *Slam Funk*, the school's Motown group, as well as the *Pirate Choir and Pulse* a cappella!
- **Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.** - The museum hosts the Grayslake Arts Alliance's *Mayfest*, an outdoor fine art and music event, featuring the work of GAA members, an art demonstration, music and refreshments.
- **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** - The museum hosts the Lake County Folk Club, featuring *Dangerous Folk*, with opener Jim Schramm. Admission is \$18 for general audience, \$15 for seniors and \$13 for Lake County Folk Club members. The museum will be open before and after the concert.

For more information, visit us at [www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com](http://www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com), call 847-543-1745, or email Dave Oberg at [doberg@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:doberg@villageofgrayslake.com). For more information on the Grayslake Historical Society, visit [www.grayslakehistory.org](http://www.grayslakehistory.org), call 847-223-7663 or email Charlotte Renehan at [charenehan@aol.com](mailto:charenehan@aol.com).



### CLC James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts

Don't miss the last event of this season!

- ***The Long and Winding Road* starring Jim Witter - Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m.** - Enjoy the songs and stories behind the music of John Lennon and Paul McCartney in this multi-media musical tribute. A must see for all Beatles fans!

A fabulous 2017-2018 season will be announced soon! Brochures will mail in early July. Call the JLC Box Office at 847-543-2300 or visit [www.clcillinois.edu/tickets](http://www.clcillinois.edu/tickets) to view this season's events.

### *Request for Service*

For service related requests, please contact the Request for Service System. Four options to submit a request are below:

PHONE: 847-223-8515

FAX: 847-223-4821

ONLINE: [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com)

IN PERSON: Village Hall, 10 S. Seymour Avenue  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### *Elected Officials*

#### **Mayor**

Rhett Taylor

[mayortaylor@hotmail.com](mailto:mayortaylor@hotmail.com)

#### **Trustees**

Shawn Vogel

[trusteevogel@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteevogel@hotmail.com)

Ron Jarvis

[trusteejarvis@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteejarvis@hotmail.com)

Kevin Waldenstrom

[trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com)

Elizabeth Davies

[trusteedavies@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteedavies@hotmail.com)

Adam Shores

[trusteeshores@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteeshores@hotmail.com)

Heather Nicodemus

[trusteenicodemus@hotmail.com](mailto:trusteenicodemus@hotmail.com)

***To see our major meeting schedule, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com).***