

A Message from Mayor Weppler

Property tax bills will be available soon and once again I will receive calls about residents' concerns over high tax bills in the Village. None of us want high tax bills but I'd like to explain what we are doing to keep your taxes low and why I do not support the property tax freeze proposed by the State.

A resident recently wrote me about the increase in his property tax bill, asking why the Village portion of the bill had gone up four percent per year since 2012 when the cost of living was below that amount. I sat down with him and showed him where his property tax funds go toward Village finances. There are 11 funds that are included in the property tax bill including the corporate fund, parks, playgrounds and recreation, street and bridge, and fire protection. Of the 11 funds only three have increased since 2012. Those three funds are the police pension fund, the fire pension fund, and the bond fund. The increase in the bond fund is the result of the road referendum approved by the voters five years ago. Bonds have been sold annually to pay for the road improvements which will have allowed us to re-surface 40 percent of our Village roads. The remaining two funds are based on amounts the State of Illinois requires us to put into our pension funds. The amount for these two funds went from 0.212 in 2012 to 0.272 in 2015, a 28.3 percent increase in three years.

In contrast to the three funds that increased, the remaining eight funds that help pay for all of the services the Village supplies went from 0.323 to 0.286, a decrease of 12.9 percent over three years. These are the funds we require to pay for the vital day-to-day services we provide such as police and fire services, public works

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Park it: More Than 300 New Reasons to Shop and Enjoy Downtown Libertyville

Now it's even easier to enjoy downtown Libertyville and shop local! In January, the Village debuted a **new 317-space Church Street Parking Garage**. Paid for with tax increment finance (TIF) revenue collected from downtown properties, the garage offers visitors a much-needed parking option on the south end of downtown as they shop, dine, and take advantage of all that our Village has to offer.



Four-hour parking is available on the Church Street Garage's ground and upper levels. If you work downtown, the Village Police Department at 200 East Cook Avenue can provide you with a hangtag that permits parking for extended periods of time in the lower and top levels of the new garage -- and other designated employee parking areas. Recommended access to the garage is from Church Street and Brainerd Avenue.

Looking for parking elsewhere in the downtown area? Keep an eye out for the blue parking signs throughout the area, including in the Lake Street Garage and surface lots on Lake Street, Newberry Avenue, and East Cook Avenue.

Visit www.libertyville.com/parking for a copy of the Village's Downtown Parking Guide -- or pick up a hard copy at the Police Department or Village Hall.

Buy a Brick

The Village of Libertyville is once again offering the **Buy a Brick Program** for Cook Park. Residents and businesses can purchase one or more personally engraved 4" x 8" bricks, which can be used to celebrate someone or something important in your life, identify you or your family as a donor/supporter of the Park, or memorialize a loved one. The bricks are \$100 each, and for an additional \$75 you can order a replica keepsake brick. Order forms are available at the Village Hall and online at www.libertyville.com, and orders and payment must be submitted no later than August 15. There are approximately 1,000 bricks available. Contact the Village at (847) 362-2430 for more information.

A Message from the Mayor *Continued from page 1*

services, parks and recreation, and administrative services. The increase of 28.3 percent in state required pension fund costs has resulted in a net loss of 12.9 percent in operating costs to the Village. A property tax freeze will only result in significantly greater losses in operating costs to the Village causing an increased cut in required operating costs.

A property tax freeze will result in a cutback of our day-to-day services since the amount we will be required to put into our pension funds will increase despite the freeze since these amounts are set by the State of Illinois. The amount of the tax rate increase included in our most recent budget covers only about one half of the amount the State of Illinois will require for the pension fund increase this year.

The drastically rising costs of state mandates like public safety pensions make it impossible for municipal officials to provide the necessary services relied on by our residents. A property tax freeze will increase, rather than decrease, the costs to our residents as declining revenues and increasing costs will result in substantially lower bond ratings increasing costs to the Village to pay for bonded services.

Additionally, a property tax freeze will do nothing to solve the State of Illinois' fiscal problems and will not generate any new state revenue. It is a sleight of hand trick by the State government to make Illinois residents believe they are solving the state's financial problems while putting local governmental bodies that have balanced budgets in the same financial crisis situation currently faced by the State.

Our Board is proud that it has been able to keep the municipal tax rate low. As a Village we have one of the lowest tax rates in Lake County - even lower than Vernon Hills which has no municipal tax but separate fire protection and park districts. The rates of those two governmental bodies are greater than the Village of Libertyville rate which covers those services and all other municipal services it provides.

I would be happy to discuss our finances with any resident who has a concern over the Village portion of their property tax bill. Please feel free to call me at the Village Hall with your concerns.



6th ANNUAL
KIDS' TRIATHLON

Join the Village Recreation-LSC Department for its 6th Annual Kids Triathlon on **Saturday, May 27** at 9 a.m. at Adler Pool.



There will be two age groups for both boys and girls ages 7-10 and 11-14, and plenty of prizes and awards. Advanced registration required. Call **(847) 918-7275**.

Play-based, Faith-based Preschool Curriculum - DCFS Licensed - Summer Programs

CrossWays Preschool
- Ages 2 - 5 years
- Half day preschool program
- Enrichment classes
(847) 367-4367
crossways@holycrosschurch.org

Celebration! Childcare
- Ages 6 weeks to 12 years
- Full day preschool program
- After school services
(847) 367-6208
celebration@holycrosschurch.org

Building Blocks Childhood Center
Summer and 2017/18 Registration Now Open!

at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
29700 N Saint Mary's Rd Libertyville, IL 60048
BuildingBlocksChildhoodCenter.org

LIBERTYVILLE CIVIC CENTER
"The Gathering Place"

Room rentals available for all types of gatherings.

847-918-8880 www.libciviccenter.org

Thank you Libertyville!
CENTURY 21 Kreuser & Seiler has sold more Libertyville (60048) homes in the last **6 years than any other real estate office!***
Locally owned...42 years and counting!

May we help you sell your home?
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*(MRED 08/01/10-07/31/16 attached and detached 60048)
Data deemed reliable but not guaranteed



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Memorial Day Activities

Libertyville's Memorial Day Ceremony will take place on **Monday, May 29**. Participants will gather at the Metra Train Station at 9 a.m. for a 9:30 a.m. parade to Cook Park.



The program will continue there with music from the Libertyville High School Band, presentations by Mayor Weppler, representatives of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, and high school essay content winners. **Non-emergency Village offices and Village Hall will be closed on Memorial Day.**

Libertyville High School

THE COLOR RUN™

Libertyville High School's Student Council Executive Board is proud to present the 2017 Care in Color Run on **Saturday, May 6** from 12 - 2 p.m. at Libertyville High School. All funds raised support Gigi's Playhouse, whose mission is to "change the way the world views Down Syndrome through national campaigns, educational programs, and by empowering individuals with Down Syndrome, their families and the community."

Online registration (<https://lhswildcats.org>):

Ages 4 and under: free

Ages 5 and older: \$30

"Day of" registration: \$35

The Run will be held rain or shine and the Student Council is hoping for a great turnout! Join Libertyville High School and its student body as they make a difference in our community and positively impact the people around them.



Free Wood Chips

Free wood chips -- courtesy of Village parkway and parks trees -- are available at the front entrance of the Wastewater Treatment Facility, located at 1532 Artaius Parkway. Residents must pick up and transport the wood chips themselves.



FITNESS CENTER

It's time to get fit! Join the Libertyville Sports Complex Fitness Center. Annual memberships only \$365. Call (847) 367-1504.

DRIVING RANGE

- Open Daily. Call (847) 367-1506.
- Range cards \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100.
- Summer golf lessons for kids.
- Sign up for our e-club newsletter.



ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES

Sign up. . . next season starts in August. Call (847) 367-7054.

- Monday-Thursday 12" for men.
- Friday 14" co-ed (men and women).
- Sunday 12" for men.
- Co-ed kickball starts in May.

2017 Village Sticker Sales

Village Stickers are on sale at the Village Hall and must be displayed on windshields by **May 1**.



Applications were mailed in March. A vehicle sticker is

required for all vehicles registered or housed in the Village. The cost of a sticker is \$30 for cars and trucks. The minimum penalty for not having a valid vehicle sticker displayed is \$100. One hundred percent of vehicle sticker revenue supports repairing Village streets. An application can be found online at www.libertyville.com/villagesticker.

Water and Sewer Bills: Did You Know?

Get your water bill electronically! Email waterbill@libertyville.com with your name, email, and property address. Note that once you get an electronic bill, you will no longer get a paper copy in the mail. Your water bill can also be paid automatically from a bank account. Visit www.libertyville.com/waterbillform for an application.

If you prefer to pay online with a credit card, you will need your account number and PIN (check the top right corner of your bill). Review your account history by accessing your account online.



Shop local & keep your tax dollars in Libertyville!

WWW.LIBERTYVILLEMILEOFCARS.COM

Stay Safe in Severe Weather

Severe weather season is coming – but preparing for severe thunderstorms, tornados, and floods doesn't



just benefit residents during the spring and summer months; it is important because almost half the tornados reported in Illinois in the past three years have occurred in fall or winter. Typically, the peak of severe weather season is April through June; however recent weather events have proven that we need to be “weather ready” in Illinois year-round.

Learn more about the dangers of tornados, severe storms, and floods and how to prepare yourself and your family before severe storms impact Libertyville again. Pick up a free Preparedness Guide at the Village Hall, Fire Station, or Police Station.



ADLER POOL 2017 SEASON OPENS

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!

1500 North Milwaukee Avenue
Opens Saturday, May 27 at NOON

RIVERSIDE POOL

870 Country Club Drive
Opens Saturday, June 10 at NOON

ORDER SEASON PASSES NOW! CALL (847) 918-7275

Tree City USA Award

The Village of Libertyville has once again been named a **Tree City USA for 2016** -- a distinction it has enjoyed since 1994. Tree City USA, a national recognition program that began in 1976, is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters. Municipalities must apply for this award and meet four fundamental standards to be considered.



The application is vetted through the state and forwarded on to a national committee for review. If all standards are met at both levels, the municipality is recognized as a Tree City USA community. Residents can then enjoy the knowledge that they have a greener and healthier community!

LIBERTYVILLE GARDENS

Longing for the taste of a juicy, ripe, homegrown tomato? Planning to grow your own? We have a spot for you! Lease a plot at Libertyville Gardens and get growing. Libertyville Gardens offers staked plots, multiple water sources, a storage shed, and a shaded area for resting. Growing season runs May – November.

Fees

20'x10' plot: \$20 + \$25 deposit = \$45

20'x20' plot: \$35 + \$25 deposit = \$60

Deposits returned at the end of the season if plot is cleared.

To register call (847) 918-7275. Once registered you'll be emailed with additional details. For more information about the program, contact Chris Sandine, Associate Planner, at csandine@libertyville.com or (847) 918-2028.



2016 Village Annual Report Available Online

Find out more about your Village! The latest Libertyville Annual Report is now available to all residents electronically at www.libertyville.com/2016annualreport.



Roads to be Rehabilitated in 2017

Arbor Court

W. Austin Avenue (Milwaukee Ave. to Garfield Ave.)

Cambridge Drive (north of Golf)

Cambridge Drive (south of E. Golf)

W. Church Street

Cleveland Avenue

W. Cook Avenue (Brainerd Ave to West St.)

W. Cook Avenue (Milwaukee to Brainerd)

Coolidge Place

Country Club Drive

Dawes Street (Burdick Street to Fairlawn Ave.)

Dawes Street (Crane Blvd to Burdick Street)

Dawes Street (Fairlawn Ave. to 156 ft S of Fairlawn)

Dawes Street (156 ft S of Fairlawn to Golf Road)

Dawes Street (S of Warwick to 155 ft E of Mayfair Ave.)

Dawes Street (Golf Road to 155 ft S of Warwick Lane)

Dawes Street (McKinley Ave. to Crane Blvd.)

Dawes Street (W. Park Ave. to McKinley Ave.)

Douglas Avenue

Downing Road

Elm Court

Elm Drive

Eton Court

Fairview Avenue

First Street (Broadway to E. Church St.)

Forest Lane

E. Golf Road (Fourth Ave. to Country Club Dr.)

Grant Court

Harvard Lane

Jackson Avenue

Lange Court

Laurel Avenue

Linden Lane

Michaels Lane

Riverside Drive

Sunset Drive (Linden to Laurel Ave.)

Sunset Drive (Park Ave. to Linden Lane)

West Street

Wright Court

2017 Road Construction



The Village's 2017 construction season kicked off in mid-March, marking the final year of Libertyville's five-year pavement rehabilitation program. The March 2012 Road Referendum focuses on rehabilitating 30 miles of local streets, and the program has already rehabilitated over 24.5 miles of roadway. Here's an overview of the work you may see around town.

Pavement Rehabilitation

This work involves removal of curbs and gutters (extent varies depending upon the street), as well as pavement patching, removal (grinding) of the pavement surface, and placement of new binder and surface ("shave and pave"). Work is scheduled through October 1, weather conditions permitting. Residents are notified when work begins on their street and if the work will impede access to their driveways. Learn more at www.libertyville.com/2017pavementrehab.

Water Main Replacement

Prior to resurfacing sections of Lange Court, Arbor Court, and Cleveland Avenue, the Village will replace the water main. Weather permitting, this work, expected to last through mid-June, includes the installation of a new main and new water services from that main to the parkway shut off. There will be some interruption of water service from time to time; those affected will be notified directly. Find out more at www.libertyville.com/2017watermain.

Future Road Construction Projects

The Village is planning two projects to be completed with Federal Aid Urban (FAU) Route funding, an 80 percent federal/20 percent local (Village) share.

- **Golf Road.** In 2018, the Village plans to resurface Golf Road from Milwaukee Avenue to Butterfield Road.
- **East Rockland Road.** In 2019, the Village and Libertyville Township will partner in reconstructing East Rockland Road from St. Mary's Road to Milwaukee Avenue. The Village will handle the piece from the Rockland Bridge to Milwaukee; the Township will manage the portion from St. Mary's to the Bridge (this stretch is under Township jurisdiction). The Village and Township are using the same consulting engineer. Phase I Engineering -- preliminary engineering and environmental studies -- is underway; Phase II Engineering - contract plan preparation and right of way acquisition - will be done in late 2017 and 2018. Construction (Phase III) will start in spring 2019. Learn more at www.libertyville.com/rocklandroadrecon.



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Patrick Carey

Village Clerk
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website: www.libertyville.com

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Christopher D. Clark

Village Views is published by the Village of Libertyville, Illinois, in the belief that interested and informed citizens are the safeguard for good government.

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Check out what's offered

www.libertyville.com/recreation

Explore Libertyville

Sign Up Now! **SPRING-SUMMER**
Call (847) 918-7275



Adler & Riverside Pools
Adler Opening Day: **SAT. MAY 27**
Riverside Opening Day: **SAT. JUNE 10**
Kids: summer swim lessons for all levels
Join our Dolphin Swim Team!
Adults: Aqua Fit and Aqua Challenge class



Adler Summer Day Camp
Boys and girls grades K-7
Full and half-day camp
Sessions from June - August



Teen Travelers Biking Camp
Adventurous summer fun!
Ages 11-14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sessions from June - August



Sports Camps for Kids
Weekly camps for specific sports, including soccer, baseball, basketball, cricket, non-contact football, and fencing; plus camps with a mix of sports.

Register Now



The Spring-Summer registration brochure for the Recreation and Sports Complex Department has been mailed to all Libertyville households. Register for hundreds of fun programs, events, and other activities. Don't wait! Sign up for swimming pool season passes, swimming lessons, summer day camp, golf lessons, preschool programs, sports camps, and much more. Call (847) 918-7275 for more information or go to www.libertyville.com/recreation to view the entire brochure and sign up for activities.