



Mayor's Message

TODAY'S TOPICS:

[Stan Helgerson](#)

[Ask the Mayor](#)

[Rotary Barn Dance](#)

[National Safe Boating Week](#)

[Memorial Day Parade](#)

[WFD Blood Drive](#)

[Wauconda Family Album](#)

[Big Bang Golf Outing](#)

[Heroes of Freedom](#)

[Next Village Board Meeting](#)



[Click here for past Mayor's Messages](#)

20 MAY 2016

Dear Neighbors,

Shortly after I began my term as Mayor in 2013, I discovered that the Village of Wauconda was in need of an extensive financial overhaul. As a newly elected outsider, I knew that I would need to bring in the most credible and objective finance leader I could find. Voorhees and Associates (now HR GovTemps) recommended the best in the business, Stan Helgerson and Dave Richardson, both retired municipal finance professionals. Stan & Dave were the same two financial leaders who fixed all the financial issues in Dixon, IL after their notorious embezzlement case.

Together we assessed the financial state of the Village and charted a sustainable course moving forward. Stan and Dave were there for me every step of the way.

They were our architects of the complete financial overhaul that has led to sustainable financial policies in the Village. Because of their efforts and the efforts of our professional staff in this administration, Wauconda has consistently had large budget surpluses for our citizens over the past three years. Stan came back for another tour of duty with the Village on a part time basis over the past eight



months and has worked to improve our utility billing and guide the development of a five-year capital improvements plan among many other things.

Please join me in honoring Stan Helgerson as I offer my sincere gratitude to him for his efforts in helping us make Wauconda a financially sustainable community. At the Village Board meeting on May 17th, I presented Stan Helgerson a Key to the Village for his service to our community. Stan's efforts are truly appreciated.

Ask The Mayor

Question: Even though my Village of Wauconda property taxes went down, my property taxes are still higher. Can you explain this?

Answer:

It is that time of year again when property tax bills have been mailed and I'm getting many reports of significant increases from last year.



Reading your tax bill is key to understanding why there are fluctuations from year to year. In nearly all situations, there are only three factors that affect your tax bill: assessed value; exemptions; and property tax rates. All three can have a significant impact on the amount due.

The basic formula to calculate your tax bill is as follows:

$$((\text{Total Assessed Value} - \text{Exemptions}) / 100) \times \text{Tax Rate} = \text{Total Property Tax Billed}$$

For the 2015 tax year (current tax bills collected in 2016), the overall tax rate for all districts decreases a couple of percentage points (2.12% on a sample bill received at the Village). Consequently, if your tax bill is increasing, your assessed value increased or the exemptions reducing the taxable value were reduced or both.

You may ask why your assessment changes if you haven't improved your property. The property tax system requires periodic review and adjustment of property assessments (assessed values). After a lengthy period of decline, the assessments are beginning to increase again which could explain the majority of the increases. To view your 2015 or prior year tax bills, visit

www.lakecountyil.gov/198/treasurers-office .

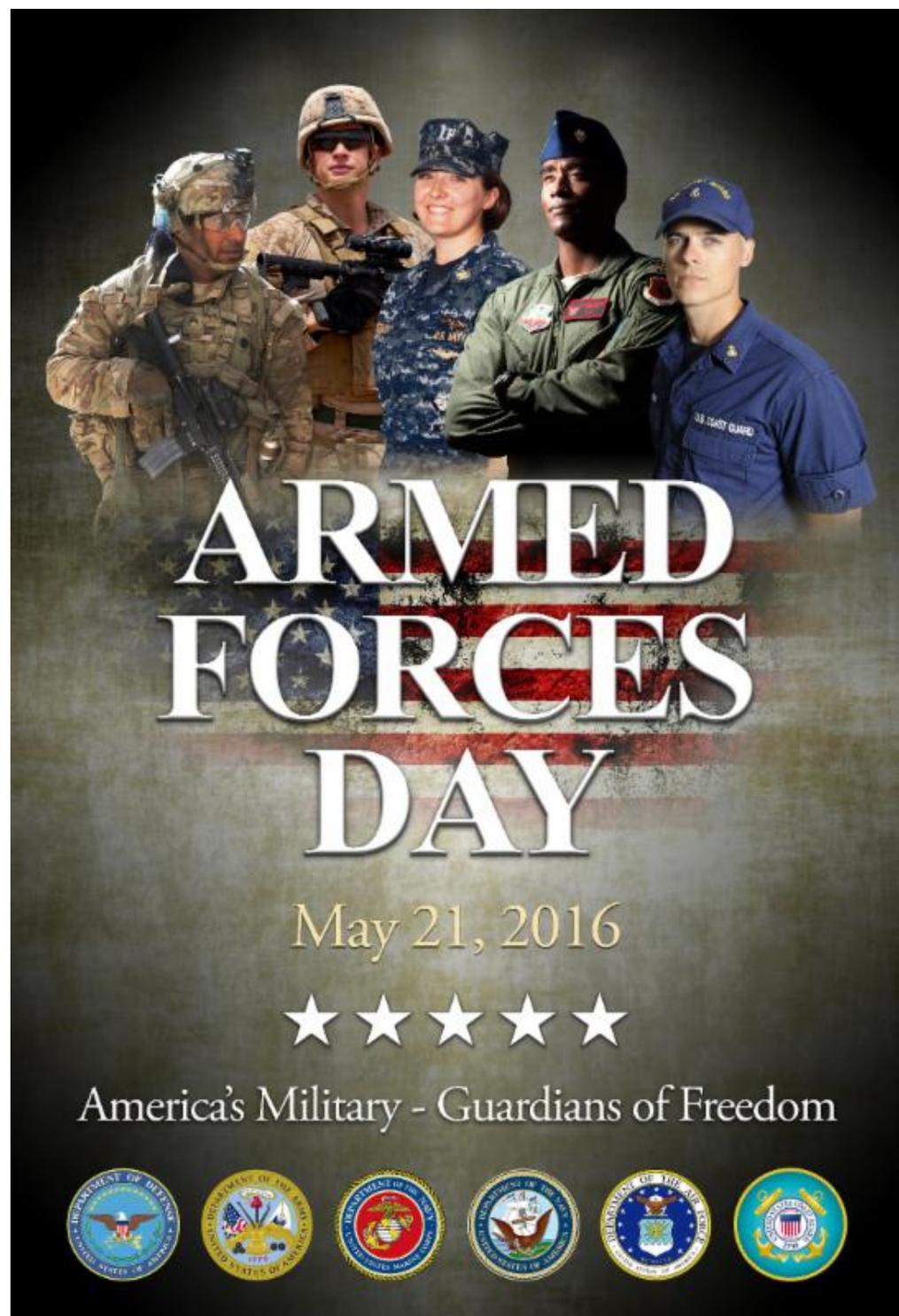
As way of illustration, a home with a market value of \$215,000 in 2014 that increased 10% in 2015 to \$236,500 would see the taxable value increase \$7,166 after the homeowner's exemption is deducted. As such, the tax bill would increase approximately \$687 after applying the property tax rates to the taxable value. If the

assessed value had not changed in the example above but the homeowner's exemption was removed, the tax bill would have increased approximately \$548. If neither the assessed value and exemptions were unchanged, the property tax bill would have declined approximately \$170.

Take a good close look at your property tax bill. Make sure you are receiving all exemptions you are entitled to such as senior citizen, veteran, and homestead exemptions among others. The Wauconda Township Assessor's Office (www.waucondatownship.com/assessors-office) has some information on exemptions and the assessment process as does the Lake County Assessor (www.lakecountyil.gov/154/Chief-County-Assessment-Office).

Armed Forces Day

Please join me in honoring my Brothers and Sisters in Arms for Armed Forces Day, Saturday 21MAY16!



President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days. The single day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense.

Rotary Barn Dance

4TH ANNUAL

WAUCONDA

BARN DANCE & PIG ROAST



JOIN IN THE FUN!
WEAR YOUR
COWBOY GEAR!

AUCTION
CASH BAR - WINE & BEER
50/50 RAFFLE
MUSIC & DANCING

6-11
PM

\$40 INCLUDES DINNER, SOFT DRINK
& REMEMBRANCE PHOTO

PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS
23525 W. MILTON ROAD, WAUCONDA
AT THE CELL TOWER
CALL 847-526-9066

SATURDAY MAY 21ST, 2016

BROUGHT TO YOU BY WAUCONDA ROTARY CLUB



National Safe Boating Week, May 21-27

For nearly 90 million Americans, boating continues to be a popular recreational activity. From coast to coast, and everywhere in between, people are taking to the water and enjoying time together boating, sailing, paddling, and fishing.



During National Safe Boating Week, we want to bring special attention to this pastime and remind recreational boaters of a few tips to ensure that they and their loved ones are safe and responsible while exploring our nation's waterways.

Proper planning for a day of boating begins even before leaving the home. Getting a free vessel safety check and taking a safe boating course at the beginning of the boating season, filing a float plan with a trusted family member or friend, and checking the weather before

boating are key steps to an enjoyable time boating. Every boater should wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket at all times while boating. Drowning remains the number one cause of death for recreational boaters each year, and the majority of drowning victims in recreational boating accidents are not wearing a life jacket. Safe and responsible boating includes never operating a boat while under the influence of drugs or alcohol and knowing basic navigation rules.

Year-round, people continue to enjoy all that our natural environment has to offer through the joy of boating. National Safe Boating Week is observed to bring attention to important life-saving tips for recreational boaters so that they can have a safer, more fun experience out on the water.

The Wauconda Memorial Day Parade

Join Us On Celebrating
THE Wauconda Memorial Day PARADE

\$25-
Raffle Ticket
Grand Prize \$2000.00

waucondaparade.com

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS - WINNER DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT PRIZE AMOUNTS DEPENDS ON THE SALE OF 600 TICKETS

Wauconda Fire District Blood Drive

Wauconda Fire Protection District Blood Drive

Thursday, May 26, 2016
1 p.m. - 7 p.m.
109 W. Liberty Street



Participating donors at this drive receive a limited edition patriotic t-shirt, while supplies last! Plus, for each blood donation made, \$1 will be given to Operation Support Our Troops.

To schedule an appointment please contact Lori Dierker at 847-526-2821.

Appointments Accepted. Walk-ins Welcome!

PREPARE FOR YOUR DONATION • EAT WELL • STAY HYDRATED • BRING ID

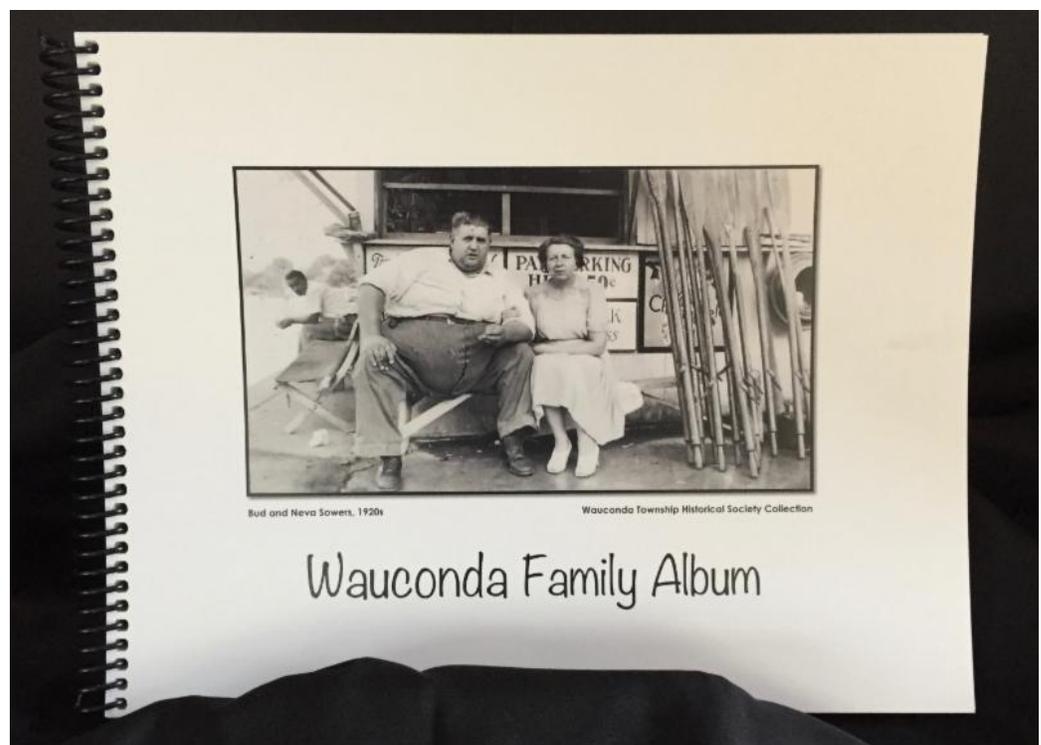
Promotion runs the date of the individual drive as listed above. When offered, all giveaways, prizes and tickets are non-transferable, non-refundable and non-redemtable for cash. Must be at least 17 years of age (16 years of age with signed parental consent) for actual donation and, due to gaming laws, must be at least 18 years of age to be entered in a random drawing. Staff and Lifesource employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate, void where prohibited by law. Please bring ID with you on the day of donation. Proper ID is required to donate blood. A LifeSource or military ID, driver's license, passport or employee or student ID with picture and full name are all approved forms of ID. Birth certificate along with a picture ID that includes the donor's full name will also be accepted.



[f](#) [t](#) [@lifesourceorg](#) 877.543.3768 [lifesource.org](#)

LIFE SOURCE

Wauconda Family Album



On Sunday, June 12th at 2:00 pm, Neville Carr will be giving a media presentation in the Lincoln room at the Wauconda Area Library. The focus of his talk will cover WWII and its impact on Wauconda back in the early forties. This will be an accompaniment to Wauconda's historical society salute to the Wauconda WWII veterans in November, 2016 being the 75th anniversary of our entry to the War.

Heroes of Freedom Memorial

The Heroes of Freedom Memorial will be adding the bricks that were ordered since our last placement of bricks this past September. Look for your brick in the coming months.



[Please show your support for the Heroes of Freedom memorial by purchasing a brick by CLICKING HERE.](#)

This Memorial is completely funded through donations. Thank you!

[See more on the Heroes of Freedom Facebook page by Clicking Here](#)

The next meeting is Tuesday,
June 7th, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Village Hall, 101 N. Main
Street.

Take care and God Bless,

Frank

Frank A. Bart
Mayor
Village of Wauconda
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fbart@wauconda-il.gov

Any opinions contained herein, express or implied, are those of the
Mayor and are not necessarily the opinions of the other elected
officials of the Village of Wauconda.

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