

Cuba Township

28000 W. Cuba Road
Barrington, IL 60010

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INFORMATION INSIDE**



Cuba Township email: info@cubatwpil.gov
Office phone: 847-381-1924
Office fax: 847-381-1322
Assessor phone: 847-381-1120
Assessor fax: 847-381-0837
Road District phone: 847-381-7793
Road District fax: 847-382-1210

Clerk, **NICOLE E. KNAPIK**

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

April 25, 2017
Cuba Township office
28000 W. Cuba Road
Barrington, IL 60010
6:00 pm

Cuba Township will hold its 167th Annual Town Meeting. Originally implemented to give citizens a uniform place and time to gather, this state mandated meeting provides an opportunity for any registered voter of the Township to speak.

Please join us for this annual event.

Questions may be directed to the Township Clerk, Nicole E. Knapik at (847) 381-1924 or nknapik@cubatwpil.gov

WWW.CUBATOWNSHIP.COM

Officials

David F. Nelson, Supervisor

Nicole E. Knapik, Clerk

Rebecca M. Tonigan, Assessor

Randall J. Marks, Hwy. Commissioner

Douglas B. Alexander, Trustee

John J. Mumaw, Trustee

Jeffrey A. Raider, Trustee

Jill Talbot, Trustee

CUBA
TOWNSHIP

Township board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Township office, 28000 W. Cuba Road, Barrington. All meetings are open to the public

Office hours:
Monday-Friday
9 am-4 pm

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Cuba News

Spring 2017

Supervisor, **DAVID F. NELSON**

Over twenty years ago I agreed to finish the end of Mark Beaubien's term as Cuba Township Supervisor as he moved on to State office. I have truly enjoyed my time at the township and appreciate the closeness to the citizens that this relationship affords those holding the office. The successes that we have had are due to the strong teams of elected officials and paid staff who have shared the duties of the township over the years. I must, again, thank Priscilla Rose, recently retired Township Clerk, who was with me all the way. I could not have done it without her! Each Trustee who has served with me over the years has brought their own set of skills and knowledge and judgment to the township, and we are all better for their input and incredible volunteer spirit.

I am also very pleased with the new slate of elected officials for the upcoming term. We have a great mix of experienced and new office holders, and I am confident that those of us who are retiring from service are leaving all of you living in Cuba Township in very capable hands.

Over our tenure we have been able to:

- Save tax dollars by supporting Inter-Governmental Agreements and maintaining a very conservative budget;
- Have strong participation in BACOG (Barrington Area Council of Governments) to make sure we were not duplicating services, while supporting combined efforts that enriched the broader community;
- Make necessary improvements to our buildings and land while being good neighbors to the surrounding property owners;
- Take care of our most vulnerable citizens through our Cuba Cares and General Assistance Programs and our incredible food pantry. Thank you elected officials & staff & volunteers of all ages who gave food & money & time!

It has been my honor to represent and serve you. Thank you for giving me the opportunity!

CUBA TOWNSHIP

CONTACT INFORMATION
28000 W. Cuba Road
Barrington, IL 60010

Supervisor's office (847) 381-1924
(847) 381-1322 fax
info@cubatwpil.gov
www.cubatownship.com

Assessor's office (847) 381-1120
(847) 381-0837 fax

Road District office
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www.cubaroads.com

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All meetings are open to the public



Cuba Heritage

By Barbara Benson

The First Town Meeting

It was probably early evening on April 2nd, 1850, after the day's work in the fields was done, that the families began to gather at the house of Noble R. Hayes. There were only a few wagon trails in the vicinity, the most traveled one being the Lake Zurich to Dundee Postal route. They probably walked, or drove a wagon pulled by a horse or pony. Some residents came from the most northerly sections of the township. No daylight savings time, so it was getting dark. Only lanterns would light their way, or if they were lucky it was a cloudless moonlit night by the time they went home. Important work was afoot. According to State Law, they must bring orderly government to lands which less than thirty years before had been at the edge of the wilderness.

Noble R. Hayes' house stood approximately where Cuba Road crosses the present day Northwest Highway. Then, there was no Highway and no Railroad, and no Village of Barrington. The settlers were very self-sufficient, their nearest trading and shopping was in the river towns of Algonquin and Dundee.

The order of business that evening was first to elect township officials. The Moderator elected was John J. Bullock, who lived across from Hayes. Hayes was chosen as Town Clerk. The Supervisor was Philetus Beverly, and the Assessor was Jacob McGilvra. The Collector was Robert Commee, who had settled on Section 1 in 1841. The Overseer of the Poor was Francis Kelsey, the only one elected that night known to have descendants in the area today. Commissioners of Highways were Lewis Bute, who had come from Summit, New York and settled on Section 27, and James Jones and Harvey Lambert. Justices of the Peace were Robert Bennett, who had arrived in 1842 and settled on Section 13, and Innis Hollister. The Constables were Chester and Wallace Bennett. The Law seems to have been well placed in the Bennett family hands!

The next order of business was naming the Township. And with many of the voters originating from the vicinity of Troy, in upper New York State, that was the name chosen, and Lewis Bute, who later had a law practice in the Village of Barrington, was designated to attend the Lake County Board of Supervisors Meeting in Waukegan to present the name. He had a surprise. Troy had already been taken by a township in Will County, Illinois and could not be duplicated. The choice of Cuba has always been attributed to the interest in the Insurrection against the Spanish on the Island of Cuba at that time. Americans were known to be fighting alongside the insurgents. News of this headlined the newspapers that Bute would have seen in Waukegan, being discussed on the steps of the Courthouse and in the saloons and barbershops. And it will ever remain a mystery; was it whimsy, or a sense of humor, or a more serious reasoning that sent Lewis Bute home with the decision to replace Troy with Cuba?

In "Past and Present of Lake County" published in 1877, it was recorded that at the Town Meeting in 1851, the name of Cuba was formally adopted. The name would be given to the road that jogged from Long Grove, all the way to what is now Buckley Road. The house of Noble R. Hayes was later moved to West Cuba Road, where it became a boarding house for workers at the Frick Cheese Factory located on the banks of the creek at Cuba and Buckley Roads. It now houses the Road District office. It is one of the oldest surviving buildings in the Township.

Faithfully, every year since 1850, on the second Tuesday in April, the Annual Township meeting has signaled the continuity, stability and approachability this form of government offers to local citizens. And let us recall in our imaginations the circumstances of that first meeting, as the scattered homesteaders gathered to fulfill their civic duty, traversing the rutted wagon trails lit by lantern or moonlight. They were ordinary citizens, part of shaping a country at the grassroots, and reminding us that they were invested in "Government of the People, by the People and for the People".

CUBA TOWNSHIP SERVICES

Handicapped parking placard applications are available at the Township office. Once approved by a physician, the Township can provide a temporary parking placard for up to 90 days. If a permanent card is required, obtain a temporary from the Township, then mail the application to the Secretary of State's office for a permanent card. Please go to http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/vsd62.pdf to obtain an application.

R.T.A. applications for reduced fare passes for senior citizens aged 65 years and older and the disabled are available at the Township office. Proof of age is required- a driver's license or state identification card is acceptable. The pass is good for reduced fare on fixed bus and rail services provided by the CTA, Pace and Metra. The Township will take the required picture and complete the application. It will be received in approximately 4 to 6 weeks. The photo is no charge for Township residents- \$5 for non-township residents. Seniors that qualify for the Circuit Breaker program are eligible for free rides on the RTA and should contact the Illinois Department of Aging at 800-624-2459 or go online at www.cbrx.il.gov to apply.

PACE/Dial a Ride program is subsidized by the Township for seniors and the disabled. The service offers local curb-to-curb service for \$2.00 each way. For enrollment, reservations and information please call 800-273-5939. Reservations can be made 24 hours in advance and 7 days in advance for medical appointments.

Half fare taxi program is available for Township residents who are 65 years of age or older. The Township will subsidize half of your taxi fare up to \$7.00. Please stop in the office to sign up for this program. Proof of age and residency is required.

Passport processing services are offered at the Township office by *appointment only*, Monday through Friday, 10am to 3pm. Identification (usually a driver's license) and proof of citizenship (birth certificate or naturalization papers) are required. Please call the Township office at 847-381-1924 to make an *appointment*. More details on requirements, fees and documentation are available at www.travel.state.gov.

Voter registration is available at the Township office for any Illinois resident. To register, a person must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age by the date of the next election, and a resident of the address at which they are registering at least 30 days prior to the election. Two forms of identification are required- one must show your name and current address and one form of identification may be a piece of mail for a contractual service addressed to you at your residence. The Township office is open for voter registration Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Notary public services are offered at no charge.

Orthopedic items, such as walkers, canes and wheelchairs, are available to Township residents. Items are lent at no charge. Please contact the Township office at 847-381-1924 to determine availability or to donate items.

The Cuba Township food pantry is available to any Township resident indicating a need. Please call the office for more information and to schedule an intake interview. Donations of non-perishable, non-expired items are always welcome.

The General Assistance and Emergency Assistance programs offer limited financial assistance to Township residents. Income guidelines determine eligibility. Additionally, limited financial assistance is available through the Salvation Army and the Cuba Cares fund. Please contact the Township office for more information.

LIHEAP (low income home energy assistance program) and SHARING applications are available at the Township office. These programs offer limited financial assistance, based on income, for heating and electric bills. Funding for these programs begins September 1st of each year for seniors, the disabled and families with young children and continues through the heating season. November 1st is the first application date for all other qualifying households. Please contact the Township office for more information.

Township vehicle stickers are available at no charge for residents living in *unincorporated* areas of the Township. There is no charge for the stickers and they are not required- they are offered as a courtesy.

A drop-off box for used eyeglasses is in the Township office. Eyeglasses are collected by the Lions club and given to health care professionals for distribution to the needy.

Warning sirens are located throughout the Township to warn residents of dangerous weather. The sirens are owned and maintained by the Township with cooperation from the local fire department. The sirens are designed to be heard *outside* to warn residents to seek shelter.

Mosquito abatement services are provided for the Township through a contract with Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc. Larviciding is done throughout the Township to prevent the hatching of mosquito eggs. Emergency spraying is performed if the West Nile Virus is detected in the Township. Please call Clarke's hotline at 800-942-2555 for more information.

The Cuba Cares fund is a 501 © (3) charitable fund. Monies donated to this fund are used to help residents in need who do not qualify for other assistance to assist in maintaining self-sufficiency. After determination of need, disbursements are made to a vendor. Funds are available to any Township individual or family only every 12 months. All monies donated are tax deductible. To make a donation or inquire about assistance, please contact the Township office at 847-381-1924. All information regarding disbursements or inquiries is confidential.

The Community Room is available to any Township resident for small group meetings of a not-for-profit nature. Please contact the Township office for specific details on use and for availability. Cuba Township reserves primary user rights of the room.

Retired flags can be dropped off at the Township office. The local VFW post and American Legion will collect the flags and dispose of them at periodic sanctioned ceremonies.

White Memorial Cemetery is owned and maintained by Cuba Township. While many of Barrington's earliest settlers are buried there, it is an active cemetery with ongoing burials. The cemetery is open during daylight hours, with behavior appropriate and befitting a cemetery expected. Trespassers after dark may be prosecuted. For more information on the cemetery, please call the Township office at 847-381-1924 or visit the Barrington Area Library's link http://www.barringtonarealibrary.org/cemeteries/282-barrington_area_cemeteries. There are currently no gravesites available for sale.

Mulch and firewood is available seasonally through the Cuba Township Road District. Please go to www.cubaroads.com for information on Road District services or call 847-381-7793.

Please click on "assessor" on the Township's home page www.cubatownship.com for services provided by the **Cuba Township Assessor** or contact the Assessor's office directly at 847-381-1120.

FREE SHREDDING EVENTS!!

The Cuba Township Road District will be hosting two document shredding events this year:

Saturday, April 15th
and
Saturday, October 14th, 2017
from 8:00am to Noon
at the Cuba Township Road District Garage.



WELL WATER SURVEY

Does your family's water come from a private well? Do you know bacteria and nitrates may be lurking in your drinking water? Experts recommend annual testing for all homes relying on private well water. If your water comes from a private well, please help us better understand Barrington-area residents' awareness of private well water testing by taking this short, confidential survey conducted by the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG). Please complete this survey by April 25. The URL is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/private_well_water_testing_survey Please contact BACOG at (847) 381-7871 with any questions.

PAVEMENT SEALANTS – YOU HAVE OPTIONS!

With spring just around the corner, are you considering sealcoating your driveway? Did you know certain sealants can be harmful to your health?

Sealcoat products are used on asphalt driveways, parking lots and playgrounds to give a restored appearance. But some sealants, such as coal tar-based products, contain components that are toxic to aquatic life and, with prolonged exposure, pose a risk of cancer in humans, especially children!

Some sealants contain high amounts of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) which are known carcinogens. Most of these sealants are coal tar-based, and some new products coming out on the market have high levels of PAH too.

Sealants don't stay put! As sealcoat deteriorates, the flakes can be washed away by rain into bodies of water or onto lawns, or become dust that is tracked into homes by pets and people.

In our area, the Villages of South Barrington and North Barrington, have already banned the use of high-PAH sealants, as have Highland Park and Winnetka. Minnesota and Washington have state-wide bans, and Illinois is considering one too. In 2016, the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) member governments jointly agreed to eliminate the use of these dangerous sealants on their own properties to better protect residents and the environment.

A great alternative is to use asphalt-emulsion or latex sealants which have far lower PAH levels and are widely available. If you use a driveway sealant service, be sure to request one of these sealants.

To learn more, check out BACOG's website at: www.BACOG.org

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Brush Pickup:

Brush pick up, by request only will be done the first week of each month. Residents should call the office 847-381-7793 to be added to the brush pick up list for the week. All brush needs to be curbside by 7am the Monday of that week. Have your brush curbside Monday 4/3, 5/1, 6/5, 7/3, 8/7 and 9/4.

This year's **township wide** fall brush pick up will take place the week of October 17th. All brush needs to be roadside by 7:00 am on the morning of Monday October 17th. The brush pick up is intended for minor trimming and/or storm damage clean up. This program is not designed for entire tree removals. Please keep in mind the crews will only pickup brush and branches. No stumps or root balls allowed. No logs larger than 8" in diameter will be collected. If you have any questions please contact our office at 847-381-7793.

Mulch:

Mulch deliveries have started and will be in effect until late October/early November, weather dependent. \$100 per large load (approx. 8 yards) and **NEW THIS YEAR** we are offering a smaller load (approx. 6 yards for \$75). Please call the road district office to schedule your delivery. Online ordering is NOT available at this time. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A Check can also be mailed or dropped off at 28160 W Cuba Rd, M-F from 7:00 am-3:00 pm. **Please note: payment is due prior to delivery.**

Shred event:

Saturday, April 15th we are offering shredding services from 8:00 am-12:00 pm. This is for residents only, not local businesses. Our fall date is October 14th. Both shred events will be at the road district office.

Spring Restorations:

Although we had an unseasonably light winter with little ice, we will be out doing restorations. We go route by route, street by street. Should you have any special concerns, please contact our office directly to discuss.

Electronic Recycling: Our electronic recycling program continues to be a big success for our residents. Recycling hours are Monday – Friday from 7:00 am-2:30 pm. Look to the right of where the salt is stored for the drop off location. Please note whatever you drop off you need to be able to unload. We do not have an employee to assist. **PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF AT MAIN TOWNSHIP OFFICES.**

Pot Holes and Tree Trimming:

Residents residing in North Barrington, Lake Barrington, Tower Lakes or Barrington Hills please contact your village halls directly with your concerns and they will contact us for repairs/tree issues as needed. All residents residing in Unincorporated Cuba Township please contact our office with your requests and inquiries, 847-381-7793.

Assessor, REBECCA M. TONIGAN, C.I.A.O.

As we usher in the spring of 2017, Cuba Township Residents will watch, for the first time in 109 years, the Chicago Cubs open the baseball season as the Defending WORLD SERIES CHAMPION!! Unfortunately, spring also brings the arrival of the New Year's property tax bills. The old saying "April showers bring May flowers", emphasized the eternal optimism that arrives every spring. That optimism has been tempered with the pace and scale of property tax growth over the last few decades in Lake County.

If you feel like you're basically renting your home from the government, you are not alone. The typical Lake County household's property tax burden has risen 44% since 1999, putting the average property tax bill at approx. \$600 per month. Furthermore, since 1990 residential property taxes have grown 3.3 times faster than the states median household income. Those numbers stress the importance of the individual property assessment. The engine that drives property TAXES is spending. However, the foundation of your tax bill lies in the individual property assessment. Its accuracy, in both improvement description and relationship to market value, form the basis for your property tax bill.

That is why I have, with six other Lake County Assessors, filed suit against Lake County and the Chief County Assessment Office. This unprecedented action is taken to restore our authority to perform our duly elected function: To maintain the credibility of ALL property assessments in CUBA Township. It is our intention to insure that all residents are assessed fairly and accurately. This suit represents the last course of action available in our quest to best serve the homeowners.

We take great pride in the work and research that goes into establishing all property assessments. It is frustrating to see those efforts undermined at the County level. The changes made to our assessments by Lake County, have left too many homeowners holding an unfair tax burden. The basis for property taxes is for home owners "to equally share in the tax burden". Presently Lake County is precluding that with their actions. As your elected official, it is my responsibility to insure an equal and fair property tax burden for everyone in CUBA Township.

If you have any questions, I encourage you to stop in the office. We will help you in any way we can.