

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR

Joseph D. Baltz

It is with sincere pride that I announce that April 20, 2016, will mark the 30th anniversary of the Troy Township Senior program. It all started with recognizing a need to provide a senior center within Troy Township. From there we embarked on a remarkable and life changing journey to bring a senior program to fruition in our township. The groundbreaking for what would become the Troy Township Offices & Senior Center took place in November of 1984. Construction of the facility would take most of the next year, followed by the dedication on April 20, 1986.

Shirley Colaric, the first Senior Center Director, said *"one of the greatest achievements of the senior program was the development of a flexible program with the goal of improving the lifestyle of each individual."*

Troy Township residents 60 years of age and older gather every Wednesday and Friday at the Troy Township Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for FOOD, FUN & FRIENDSHIP! As a congregate meal site for Meals on Wheels we can provide a nutritious meal while our seniors enjoy card games, bingo, a monthly birthday celebration, a once a month outing to a local restaurant for breakfast or lunch, and much, much more!

Over the years the program has grown, the facility itself has been added to and renovated, but the sense of family that this group feels has never faded.

I received some amazing responses from some of our current participants when asked "what does the Troy Township senior program mean to you?"

"Camaraderie and many friendships with people who share the same problems."

Clarence Balla, 16 year participant

"This whole group feels like family to me and I love each and every one of them. On days when I can't attend or the center is closed due to a holiday, I really miss it."

The Community Center itself is a beautiful room and I appreciate the Board for providing it for us."

Carole Blagg, 12 year participant

"Place to come and meet new friends and get out of the house. Make new friends and play games."

Freddie Banks, 5 year participant

"Being able to meet new friends and having so much fun. Learning new games and so much laughing and enjoying the fun time we have. Would recommend this for all seniors to come and enjoy. This has been great for my husband and I to enjoy and have so much fun."

Ann Bachur, 2 year participant

"Meeting new friends, getting out of the house, talk about our grandchildren."

Elsie Rossi, 13 year participant.

If you are a Troy Township senior we'd like you to join us. For more information on our program, please call our Community Services Director, Lisa Imbody, at 815-744-1963 for more information.

Make sure to visit our website at www.troytownship.com and watch our calendar of events for upcoming information on our 30th anniversary celebration events.

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Baltz

Troy Township Supervisor



NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



In 2015, Troy Township welcomed 126 new residential properties and 4 new commercial or industrial buildings to the Township. Coming thus far in 2016 is a new gas station at Rt. 52 and River Road, a new development at the corner of Rt. 52 and Rt. 59, a new memory care center on Black Road, a driver training facility on McDonald Drive, and a warehouse off of the SW Frontage Road to I-55. We are on track to welcoming another 100+ residential

properties in 2016.

As we welcome spring, the Assessor's office heads into one of our most active seasons. Field staff will be out measuring new construction soon and the 2016 reassessment process is already well underway.

Below and on page 3 you will find information about property tax bills and payment due dates, information on how to appeal your 2016 assessment, and information on available exemptions.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions and if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Anderson, CIAO

Property Tax Bills and Payment Due Dates

Property tax bills will be mailed from the Will County Treasurer's Office on May 2, 2016. The first installment will be due June 1, 2016. ***This is not the time to appeal your assessed value.*** Property taxes are always paid a year behind so you would have had to appeal your assessed value in August of 2015 to affect the property tax bill payable in 2016.

The Assessor is not responsible for the amount due on your property tax bill. The Assessor's office places a market value on your property based upon recent sales in your area. This value is assessed at 33.3% and then your exemptions are subtracted to come up with your net assessed value (NET EAV). The assessed value is the only value on your property tax bill that the Assessor's office is responsible for. Be sure that your property record card on file with the Assessor's office contains all accurate information about your property. Residential property information can be viewed on our website under the property search section or you

are always welcome to visit our office to review your property record card. If a mistake was made we are more than happy to correct it. Make sure to also check your bill when it arrives to ensure you are receiving all of the exemptions that you are entitled to.

To calculate the dollars owed on our property tax bill, you multiply your NET EAV by the tax rate. The tax rate on your bill is total of all tax rates detailed on your bill for each taxing body listed. Each individual taxing body on your bill requires property tax dollars from each one of us based upon what they need to operate. This amount is converted into a tax rate. This tax rate is multiplied by your assessed value to determine the amount of property taxes you owe. If you are unhappy with your property tax bill you need to reach out to the taxing bodies that you pay to and let that taxing district know that you are unhappy with the amount of money they take via property taxes.

The Assessor cannot lower your property taxes.

Property Reassessments and Appealing Your Assessment

Reassessment notices will be mailed from Will County on July 29, 2016, and will be published in the Joliet Herald News on August 3rd and 4th. This is for your 2016 assessed value which will be used on your property tax bill payable in 2017. Since

2016 is not a quadrennial assessment year, you may not receive a notice of reassessment in the mail. Reassessment notices are only mailed if there was a change to your assessment. This is however the time to appeal your assessed value ***(continued on Page 3)***

Did you Recently Move to a New Home in Troy Township?

If you recently moved or will be moving to a new home in Troy Township, or if you know anyone that is, and you are concerned about how much the property taxes will be – please contact the Troy Township Assessor's office for an estimate on your property tax bill. There has been false information given out to potential new construction home buyers that has caused quite a stir. Our office can provide you with an estimate based upon the current tax rate.



Property Reassessments & Appealing Your Assessment, *Continued*

whether you receive a notice or not.

You may check the assessed value placed on your home by visiting our office, calling our office, or visiting www.willcountysoa.com. It is most helpful to have your property index number handy. This number can be found above your name on your property tax bill and/or reassessment notice. The deadline to file an appeal with the Will County Board of Review is September 6, 2016. If you are unhappy with the value placed on property you are encouraged to reach out to the Troy Township Assessor's office before filing an official appeal. Please visit www.troytownship.com and click on "How to Appeal your Assessment" which is located under the Assessor's tab. Assessor Anderson and

her staff are always willing to assist you, please do not hesitate to call or stop in for any assistance with this process.

Senior Freeze forms will be mailed by the County starting March 27th and will be salmon in color. Please visit our office for assistance with completing the form and please bring the salmon colored form with you. Our office has a very limited supply of blank forms. A representative from the Will County Supervisor of Assessment's office will be out at the Troy Township offices from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14th to assist seniors with completing their senior freeze forms. No appointments are necessary.

Available Property Tax Exemptions

General Homestead, General Senior Homestead, Senior Freeze, Returning Veteran, Disabled Veteran, Disabled Person and Home Improvement. Please visit Troy Township's website at www.troytownship.com, the Supervisor of Assessments website at www.willcountysoa.com, or call the Troy Township Assessor's office for more specific criteria required to receive these exemptions. Our office has all the necessary applications and we are happy to assist you in filling them out and getting them to Will County for you.

New legislation was passed in 2015 for property tax relief for Veterans under the

Disabled Veteran Standard Homestead Exemption. The legislation under 35 ILCS 200/15-169 states that disabled veterans who are disabled 30% but less than 50% will receive an exemption of \$2,500 off of their assessed value, disabled 50% but less than 70% will receive a \$5,000 exemption off of their assessed value, and those disabled 70% and above will receive a total exemption of no more than \$250,000 in assessed value. There are specific qualifications and documentation needed to apply for this exemption. Please visit www.troytownship.com under exemptions or give us a call for the requirements.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Thomas R. Ward

As we move into spring, the Highway Department will again be assessing roads for needed repairs and already have various projects planned for the summer construction season. Please use caution when you see crews out on the roads working.

For residents using our country roads, please remember to drive carefully and to use caution especially at the intersections where field crops can reach some significant heights. We have a good amount of young drivers that are traveling our roadways as well so please remember to always use safe speeds and obey speed limits.

Crews will be out this summer cutting tall weeds in ditches to help keep sight lines at roadways cleared.

Please call the Highway Department if you happen to see any obstruction on the roadways.

As always, I am proud to serve as your Highway Commissioner. I will see you out on the roads and remember I am only a phone call away if you need anything.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Ward
Highway Commissioner



SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

Annual Spring Clean Up April 4th through April 9th

Troy Township Highway crews will be picking up household items such as furniture, appliances, carpet (tied in rolls), etc. for residents in unincorporated Troy Township. Place items out in front of your residence near the road. Remember that Saturday, April 9th will be the last day for pick-ups. Please do not mix your everyday garbage, twigs, grass, etc. in with the items being picked up during Spring Clean Up week. We will not pick up paints or liquids of any kind as they will break and spill out of our equipment. We will also not pick up any electronics such as TVs, computers, etc. Again, we have no way to handle garbage or papers so PLEASE...NO GARBAGE OR PAPERS!

Branch and Brush Pick Up

Beginning May 2nd and continuing through November 7th on the first and third Monday of the month, branch and brush pick-up will resume for the unincorporated areas only of Troy Township. If a holiday falls on any of these Mondays, pick up will be the following day. Please keep in mind that during some weeks the branch route may not be completed in a single day. For more information on Branch and Brush Pick Up and for restrictions on size and placement of branches to be collected, please visit www.troytownship.com.

Leaf Vacuuming

Starting around the middle of October and running through November (specific dates are weather dependent) the Troy Township Highway Department will have the leaf vacuuming service for residents in the unincorporated areas of Troy Township. For more information, please visit www.troytownship.com.

Electronic Recycling Ends at Troy Township

The electronic recycling program at Troy Township has ended. It is our hope to someday bring this program back but changes are needed at the State level for adequate funding of electronic recycling before this can happen. Please check our website at www.troytownship.com or Will County's website at www.willcountygreen.com for the most current information on where you might still be able to recycle your electronic items.

Our recycling center is still open for traditional recycling and for textile recycling. Hours of operations and more specifics on what can be accepted can be found at www.troytownship.com. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.



A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Dawn Cross

What an exciting and unprecedented time we have before us. On November 8, 2016, our country begins a journey with the election of a new President. I have to admit that I am a political geek and follow

the Presidential race with anticipation of change and renewed hope of new ideas and new faces brought to the office. As well, I avidly follow the state and local races too. From the top to the bottom of the ticket, the individuals whom have stepped up to run for these important offices will shape our country in both the near and distant future.

As your Town Clerk, one of my duties is to serve as your local election official. Again, as I have stressed before, exercising your right to vote is fundamental to our democracy. I allude to quotes and I won't be shy to use them again.

"A share in the sovereignty of the state, which is exercised by the citizens at large, in voting at elections is one of the most important rights of the subject, and in a republic ought to stand foremost in the estimation of the law." Alexander Hamilton, The Papers of Alexander Hamilton, Harold C. Syrett, ed. (New York, Columbia University Press, 1962), Vol III, pp. 544-545.

The General Election will be held on Tuesday,

November 8, 2016. Troy Township will once again hold early voting for the two weeks prior to Election Day. For more information on early voting and the General Election please visit www.thewillcountyclerk.com.

As the Town Clerk, one of my primary duties is to maintain the township records. As reported in the Fall 2015 Troy Township Communicator, we are continuing the process of scanning and digitizing some of our oldest records. With the help of a local historian/librarian we hope to have some of these records, which date back to 1850, available on our website in the near future for generations of township residents to have access to them.

In closing, I want to hear from you about ways I can improve the office of the Clerk here at Troy Township. Please feel free to email me at kdcross@troytownship.com or call 815-744-1968. I welcome all comments, suggestions and concerns that you may have.

Definition

General Election:
a regular election that involves voters and candidates throughout an entire country.

Source: www.merriam-webster.com

Troy Township to Host 167th Annual Town Meeting



Please join us on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:00 p.m. as Troy Township hosts its 167th Annual Town Meeting. The Annual Town Meeting includes the presentation of year-end financial reports from Township Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz to the electors and a year end summary of the prior year's activities. For more information please call 815-744-1968.

YOUR TRUSTEES



Larry Ryan



John Theobald



Donald Walden



Brett Wheeler

MEALS ON WHEELS ARE BACK!

The Meals on Wheels Nutrition Program is excited to have resumed the Congregate Dining Program at Troy Township Community Center. On December 16, 2015 a re-grand opening of the program was held. The Meals on Wheels program of Will County has taken on many changes in 2015. The program is now under the administration of Kankakee County Community Services, Inc. By partnering with Kankakee County Community Services, Inc. we can enhance the quality of life of older persons, help maintain their independence, avoid or lessen isolation or loneliness, and help maintain the wellness of the older person. The Troy Township Seniors meet on Wednesdays and Fridays

from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A nutritious balanced meal will be provided along with fellowship and games, scheduled workshops, and seminars will also be provided. For more information about scheduled events or the menu please call Troy Township at (815) 744-1963. If you are interested in volunteering for the Meals on Wheels program please call (815) 726-0094.

Meals are provided by a caterer therefore reservations are required three days in advance.

To make a reservation please call the nutrition department at (815) 726-0094. There is a suggested donation of \$3.00 per meal, however no one will be denied if unable to make a donation. We hope that you will join us at Troy Township Community Center.

Shredding Event and Medication Disposal May 7th

Join us on Saturday, May 7, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. when Troy Township will host its increasingly popular semi-annual shredding event. Troy Township residents can bring their personal papers and documents to the township parking lot on the west side of the township offices and community center to be shredded by ShredX. **Each resident must show proof of township residency and is allowed to have two letter size file or copy paper boxes shredded.**

Troy Township is proud to once again partner with the Shorewood Police Department and will be offering medication disposal along with the shredding event. Township residents can bring their unneeded medication so that it can be disposed of properly.

Make sure to bring only residentially generated medication items. No medications from businesses or doctor's offices will be accepted. Use a permanent marker to black out your name or personal information on the label.

**NEEDLES APPROPRIATELY
CONTAINED WITHIN AN APPROVED**

SHARPS CONTAINER WILL NOW BE ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT!

Chicago Crime Scene Cleanup has agreed to partner with us and will be onsite to collect and properly dispose of the needles. **IMPORTANT....only needles that are properly contained within an approved sharps container will be accepted.** You can purchase approved sharps containers and most drug stores or pharmacies.



A list of accepted medications and more information about the event in general can be found on our website at www.troytownship.com under the News, Notes & Events section.

The Shredding Event and Medication Disposal Drop Off Event will take place simultaneously on Saturday, May 7, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1968.

Troy Township to Host AARP Driver Safety Program Course

Township Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz and Seniors & Veterans Committee Chairman Donald Walden announce that Troy Township will host an AARP "Smart Driver" Driver Safety Program for Troy Township seniors.

Under Illinois law, those above age 55 - whether AARP members or not - qualify for a worthwhile multi-year auto insurance discount* by completing this course. *Please check with your insurance company for the exact discount and the correct procedure to obtain it.

Studies have shown that fewer fatal and injury-causing crashes and fewer violations occur among drivers who have taken this nationally-recognized course. Upon

completion of the course, each attendee is awarded a certificate.

This is a two-day course and participants must attend both classes to be awarded the certificate. Class dates are Tuesday, July 12th and Tuesday, July 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. both days. Both classes will be held at the Troy Township Community Center, located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. The cost of the course is \$20.00, but AARP members pay only \$15.00.

Advance registration is required. Contact Lisa at 815-744-1963 by Thursday, July 7th to register. For more information about Troy Township and its programs and services visit www.troymunicipality.com.

YOUR COLLECTOR

Bryan W. Kopman



Calling all Shorewood-Troy Seniors and Preschoolers!

Troy Township and the Shorewood-Troy Public Library have partnered to bring "Book Buddies" to their residents. The program will pair older adults with preschool age children in the local community as "book buddies". The "buddies" will read books to one another, talk about the stories, and end the time with a craft which they can do together. Pairing up for literacy is an exciting way to develop relationships between our community's most experienced and newest generations!



This program will meet once a month beginning Thursday, April 28th from 1:30 p.m.

to 2:30 p.m. at the Troy Township Community Center. The "Book Buddies" will meet every fourth Thursday of the month thereafter. The program is free for all preschool aged children and seniors who reside within the Troy Township and/or the Shorewood-Troy Public Library boundaries. Any questions can be directed to Lisa Imbody, Troy Township's Community Services Director (815-744-1963) or to Kristin McGaffic, the Shorewood-Troy Public Library's Children's Outreach Coordinator (815-725-4368). You can register online on the library's website, <http://www.shorewoodtroylibrary.org>, or by calling the Shorewood-Troy Library's Children's Department at 815-725-4368.

Concerned about Falling?

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. "A Matter of Balance" is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity

levels. This program is offered by a partnership between the Troy Fire Protection District and Troy Township. For more information please call 815-744-1963.



PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT
NO. 277
JOLIET, IL

25448 Seil Road
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION

TROY
TOWNSHIP

Established 1850 Will County - Illinois

25448 Seil Road
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

Town Board Meetings:

Third Monday of every
month at 7:00 p.m.
in Community Center

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Township Administrator

Jennifer Dylik

Supervisor

Joseph D. Baltz

Town Clerk

Kristin Dawn Cross

Assessor

Kim Anderson CIAO

Highway Commissioner

Thomas R. Ward

Collector

Bryan W. Kopman

Trustees

Larry Ryan

John "Theo" Theobald

Donald Walden

Brett Wheeler

Information:

Troy Twp. Website..... www.troytownship.com

Supervisor & Community Center... (815) 744-1968

Township Office Fax (815) 744-1910

Assessor..... (815) 744-5806

Assessor Fax (815) 744-5803

Highway Department..... (815) 828-5275

Highway Commissioner Cell (815) 405-3378

General Assistance Program..... (815) 744-1963