

## A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR Joseph D. Baltz



It's hard to believe that 30 years ago this past April we had the dedication of the Troy Township Senior program. Over the years the program has flourished and grown. Our seniors who gather here have become friends and family to each other. Their weekly gatherings on Wednesdays and Fridays provide an opportunity for social interaction, games, food, friendship, and most importantly FUN! We celebrated the 30th anniversary with a special lunch event for our seniors and have decided to continue the celebration with a special open house in October.



### **Calling all Troy Township Seniors Ages 60+...**

Please join us on Tuesday, October 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd. in Shorewood for our Troy Township Senior Open House.

Come by and learn what the Troy Township Senior program is about, meet some of our current senior program participants, and enjoy a cup of coffee with me. We will offer tours of our facility, have free health screenings, have other local senior vendors on site, and will have a raffle prize or two. The other vendors who will be on site for the open house include:

- Alden Courts of Shorewood – Memory Care Residence
- Alden Estates of Shorewood – Specializing in Transitional Care and Post-Acute Services
- Agency on Aging/Kankakee County Community Services Inc. - Meals on Wheels
- Cornerstone Home Healthcare
- Senior Services Center of Will County - Safe at Home Program
- Senior Solutions – Senior Living, Referral, and Advisory Services
- The Timbers of Shorewood - Independent, Assisted Living and Short-Term Stay Rental Retirement Community
- Will Grundy Center for Independent Living - Free Amplified Telephone Program

No reservations are needed to attend and ample parking is available. Just stop by between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 18th. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Baltz  
Troy Township Supervisor



For Troy Township  
Seniors Age 60+

### NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



The 2016 reassessment notices were mailed out July 29, 2016 and published in the Joliet Herald News on August 3rd. If you did not receive a notice in the mail, it is because your property was not reassessed. You can check your 2016 assessment online at the

Will County Supervisor of Assessments website at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com) or give my office a call.

The three year sales study conducted for Troy Township did indicate that an increase in assessments was necessary. Market conditions in our Township are consistently showing improvement. In 2015 a 4% total Township increase was needed and in 2016 a 6% total Township increase was needed. New home construction continues to increase as does commercial and industrial. We are seeing an increase in custom built homes which is very encouraging. Troy's current parcel count as of August 2016 is 20,284 which is an increase of 168 parcels over 2015. As always, I appreciate my staff that does an exceptional job on maintaining all these properties. My office receives many compliments from you, the taxpayer, for their kindness, expertise and service that is provided.

Please note that if your assessment did increase it does not necessarily mean that your property tax bill will. The dollar amount due on your property tax bill is based upon the demand of tax dollars needed to operate all the taxing bodies in your neighborhood.

I always encourage you to review your property record card. We maintain hard copies here in the office and you can also check your information on our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com). We continue to update and make changes to our property maintenance within our website.

If you notice that something is not correct, please contact us immediately. (Please note that our website is a work in progress and your assessment may not be based upon the information contained on that page.)

If you suffer a property loss due to a fire, please notify my office. A reduction in your value may be warranted and we do not always receive fire reports.

There are many exemptions available to homeowners. Please visit our website to view all the exemptions that are available and a short list of what the requirements are for each one. If you need more specific information, please contact our office at any time.

The most misunderstood exemption available is the "Home Improvement Exemption". If you make a physical change to your property that adds value, e.g. in-ground pool, deck, patio, addition, etc. the value that is added to your property will be exempt from property taxes for 4 years. This exemption has an effective date of January 1, so if you added a deck in 2015 you will not realize the exemption until 2016. This exemption has a cap of \$25,000 in assessed value or \$75,000 in market value.

One of the most common questions received in my office is why are property taxes different within my neighborhood? Property taxes can be different for many reasons. The most common reason is the exemptions that someone receives on their property that you do not. Another reason has to do with the assessment placed on the property. Assessments are done based upon size, style and different amenities that each property has. If you would like to compare your taxes to others in your neighborhood, please contact us with either the parcel number or address and we will be happy to assist you.

My office is always happy to answer any questions or concerns you have regarding the value placed upon property and we are happy assist you in any other way that we can. Our office hours are Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



## A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Dawn Cross

November 8, 2016 is shaping up to be the most exciting presidential election we have ever seen in our lifetimes. Again, as in past articles I have written for The Troy

Township Communicator, I would like to stress the importance of using your voice when you vote. It is important to make your voice heard and not stay quiet. Our country's future, be it nationally, at the state level, or locally depends on your vote.

Here is another quote I like about voting and its importance.

*"For this nation to remain true to its principles, we cannot allow any American's vote to be denied, diluted or defiled. The right to vote is the crown jewel of American liberties, and we will not see its luster diminished."*

President Ronald Reagan, November 6, 1981.

Between voting by mail, early voting, or Election Day voting, you can choose to vote via the method and time that best suits your schedule and needs.



**Vote by Mail:** For more information on voting by mail please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) or call 815-740-4615.

**Early Voting:** Troy Township will once again serve as an early voting site for Troy Township residents. Registered voters can early vote at the Troy Township Community Center Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. starting Monday, October 24, 2016 and ending on Friday, November 4, 2016. For more early voting options, please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) or call 815-740-4615.

**Election Day Voting:** Election Day is Tuesday, November 8, 2016. For more information on Election Day including hours of voting, precinct locations, etc. please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) or call 815-740-4615.

In closing, I always 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](mailto:kdcross@troytownship.com) or call 815-744-1968. I welcome all comments, suggestions and concerns that you may have.



### HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Thomas R. Ward



As the construction season comes to a close it is time to get ready for fall and winter.

Very soon we will be preparing the trucks to start our leaf vac operations for the unincorporated areas of Troy Township. We ask that residents of the unincorporated area do not put leaves in bags. It is easier for the equipment if the leaves are raked to the edge of the roadway. Please take a moment to review the instructions below or on our website at [www.troytownship.com/hwy--commissioner/leaf-vacuuming.aspx](http://www.troytownship.com/hwy--commissioner/leaf-vacuuming.aspx).

With winter right around the corner we are beginning to prepare our equipment for the winter season. I'd like to remind all residents to please slow down when you see snow removal and ice control equipment on the roadways. Please remember that due to blowing and drifting snow and/or extremely low temperatures, snow and deicing products will

not be as effective in open areas of the roadway and with the lower temperatures. Please keep this in mind and travel with extreme caution this winter season.

The entire Troy Township Highway Department takes great pride in the work we do. I ask that you please do your part to help keep the ditches and drains in front of your homes clear of debris. This helps immensely with the flow of water and proper positive drainage throughout the unincorporated areas.

As always, I am proud to serve as your Highway Commissioner and am always just a phone call away. Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns that you may have.

## SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

### LEAF VACUUMING

Starting the middle of October through November, Troy Township Highway Department will have the leaf vacuuming service for residents in the **"unincorporated" areas of the township**. Please do not bag the leaves. Residents must rake leaves to the edge of the street so the vacuum machine can reach

them easily. **Do not place leaves in ditches as the vacuum cannot reach leaves in ditch areas. Grass cuttings will not be picked up as we have no way of disposing them.** Please be advised that the leaf vacuuming service may be put on hold with the occurrence of a snow or ice event.

### BRANCH & BRUSH PICK UPS

The final branch and brush pick ups for this fall will be on Monday, October 3rd, Monday, October 17th and Monday, November 7th. This

service will resume again at the beginning of April 2017 on the first and third Mondays of each month.

### WINTER SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER

Winter weather is just around the corner. Township trucks and road crews will be out plowing and salting the **"unincorporated"** road areas. We ask that the residents keep their vehicles off the streets when there has been a

snowfall so the plows can safely and efficiently plow the streets and cul-de-sacs. Please use extra caution when driving near these vehicles as our trucks, plows and road crews are on the streets working for your safety.

## Have a Short-term Need for a Wheelchair, Walker, Cane or Crutches?



Troy Township offers short-term loans, up to 90 days, of wheelchairs, walkers, canes or crutches. Free for any township resident! Call 815-744-1963 for more information.

## Temporary Handicapped Parking Placards Now Available at the Township Offices

Troy Township can now issue temporary handicap parking placards to qualified individuals. Individuals in need of the temporary handicapped parking placard must complete an application which is available at the Troy Township offices or at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com). Upon receipt of a property completed

application, the temporary handicapped parking placard will be issued immediately and is valid for a period not to exceed 90 days. For more information please call 815-744-1963 or visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com).



## Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on November 15th

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on Tuesday, November 15, 2016. The Community Center is located at 25448 Seil Road, in Shorewood, Illinois. Illinois residents will be able to renew their drivers' licenses, obtain duplicate or corrected licenses and obtain Illinois identification cards between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A Rules of the Road Review Course will also be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The review course combines an explanation of safe driving techniques, Illinois driving laws and a practice written exam. If you are wanting to

participate, please call 815-744-1963 to pre-register.

An applicant renewing a current Illinois driver's license or identification card need only present a current valid driver's license or identification card. If the applicant is applying for either a duplicate or corrected driver's license or identification card the applicant must present two forms of identification. To find out which documents are considered acceptable forms of identification, and also the license renewal fees, please call 217-782-7044 or visit the Illinois Secretary of States website at: [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/drivers\\_license/home.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/drivers_license/home.html)

## YOUR TRUSTEES



Larry Ryan



John Theobald



Donald Walden



Brett Wheeler

### Gadget Gurus Continue to Offer Assistance and Classes



## Gadget Gurus

The Troy Township Gadget Gurus are local Troy Township residents who volunteer their time to help other Township residents (geared towards adults and the senior community) make the best use of their gadgets including computers, laptops, phones, cameras, apps, social media, programs, etc.

The Gadget Gurus have recently partnered with the Village of Shorewood, the Shorewood-Troy Public Library and Casanova Information Systems to broaden their class offerings and share ideas.

The Gadget Guru's hold open walk-in sessions on the first Friday of every month (closed on holidays)

from 2:30 p.m. until 3:45 p.m. at the Troy Township Community Center. No appointments are required during the open session time. To reach the Troy Township Gadget Gurus visit them during one of the open sessions, call or email them with the details of what assistance you need. One of the volunteers will get back in touch with you as soon as they are able.

- To leave a message for the Troy Township Gadget Gurus call 815-744-1968 ext. 500.
- To email the Troy Township Gadget Gurus please email [gadgetgurus@troystownship.com](mailto:gadgetgurus@troystownship.com).
- To view upcoming Gadget Guru's classes visit the News, Notes and Events section of the Troy Township website at [www.troystownship.com](http://www.troystownship.com).

All Troy Township Gadget Guru classes, one-on-one appointments, and open sessions are FREE and are held at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood.

### Want to Know What Events are Happening at Troy Township?

Check out the Calendar of Events page on our website. Just visit [www.troystownship.com](http://www.troystownship.com) and click on the Calendar of Events tab on left side of the page. The calendar lists every Township event, function, class, or meeting for the month and includes color coded categories to easily identify a senior function, an Assessor function, a Highway Department

function and so on. Most events are hyperlinks to attain additional information about that specific event. The calendar is in PDF format so it can be printed to have at home for easy reference.



### 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,

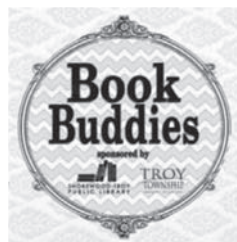
talk about the stories, and end the time with a craft which they can do together. Pairing up for literacy is an exciting way to develop relationships between our community's most experienced and newest generations!

This program meets once a month

on the fourth Thursday from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm at the Troy Township Community Center. 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.

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.

Any questions can be directed to the library at the above phone number or to Angela Scaggs, Troy Township's Administrative Assistant at 815-744-1963.





## Shredding Event and Medication Disposal October 1st

Join us on Saturday, October 1, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. when Troy Township will host its next 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 at 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](http://www.troytownship.com) under the News, Notes & Events section.

The Shredding Event and Medication Disposal Drop Off Event will take place simultaneously on Saturday, October 1, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1968.

**YOUR COLLECTOR**  
**Bryan W. Kopman**



## A.A.R.P. & Senior Services Center of Will County Offer Income Tax Preparation Assistance

Thanks to the success of recent years, Troy Township will once again be a site for A.A.R.P. Income Tax assistance from Senior Services Center of Will County to assist seniors with the preparation of simple income tax returns which will be filed via e-filing only. Complicated tax returns should be taken to other tax professionals. More information on dates and times of available appointments will be available after January 3, 2017.

Please call 815-744-1968 or 815-744-1963 for more information at that time.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** Interested in volunteering to be one of the tax preparers for this great program, please contact Tammy Barnes, Activities Coordinator, Senior Services Center of Will County at 815-740-4210 or [tbarnes@agingspecialists.org](mailto:tbarnes@agingspecialists.org) for more information.



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

25448 Seil Road  
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

## IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION

*Troy Township Senior Open House See Page 1 for Details*



***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 Dylak

**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](http://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