

# **COMMUNICATOR**

**Newsletter for Troy Township Residents** 

Issue 41 • FALL 2017

# A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR Joseph D. Baltz

# Troy Township Establishes the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township

It is with great sadness to report to you of the passing of longtime Troy Township Trustee Donald D. Walden on May 20, 2017. After serving the residents of Troy Township for over 35 years his presence on our Board and within our community will truly be missed. Don was also a local champion of veteran's causes as he himself had proudly served in the United States Navy from January 18, 1952 until December 21, 1955 when he was honorably discharged.



On August 21, 2017 the Troy Township Board presented Don's family with a certificate of appreciation for Don's service in the United States Navy.

#### Pictured from left to right:

Brian Walden, Township Clerk Kristin Cross, Carol Walden, Township Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz As a way to honor our local Troy Township veterans and former Troy Township Trustee Donald D. Walden, the Troy Township Board established the



Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township at its meeting on Monday, August 21, 2017.

At that time, Don was posthumously recognized as the inaugural inductee into the Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township which will now and forever be known as The Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township. This is Troy Township's small way of making sure that Don's legacy and his never ending support of our local veterans lives on.

Going forward, Troy Township veterans may apply to be inducted into the veterans honor roll.

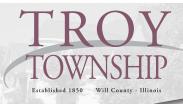
Inductees themselves will be invited to a Troy Township Board meeting where they will be honored with a certificate and thanked for their service. Inductees will also have their names and service dates memorialized in a listing that will be on the Veterans Wall in the Troy Township Community Center.

Additionally, Troy Township will spearhead an annual collection drive in Don's name to support a military service and/or veterans related cause such as the American Legion, Veteran's Assistance Commission, Operation Support our Troops, etc.

Troy Township wishes to thank Don Walden, veterans across the nation, and all of those who are currently serving for their time, dedication, and sacrifice for our freedom.

More information about the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township can be found on our website at www.troytownship.com.





## NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



With the fall comes reassessment notices. All notices were mailed on July 28, 2017, and published in the Joliet Herald News on August 2nd. If you did not receive a notice in the mail, you most likely were not reassessed. You can check your value on the Supervisor of

Assessments' website at www.willcountysoa.com or call my office to verify any change.

Over the last three years assessed values have been increased. In 2015 there was a 4% increase, 2016 there was a 6% increase, and 2017 a 5% increase. This shows us that our Township is a desirable place to live. Our vacant lots in subdivisions are now filling up and our strip centers are too.

Please remember if your value was increased it does not necessarily mean that your property taxes will increase. The taxing bodies, which are listed on your bill, derive a rate based upon their demand for funds against the amount of value held in a Township. If they lower their tax rate enough to compensate for the increase in value, your bill will go down. If they do not, your bill will increase. My office is always happy to assist you with the value of your property. If you are unhappy with your property taxes, you need to talk to the taxing bodies themselves. They are the only ones who can tell you where the tax money you pay goes.

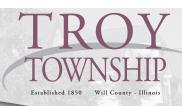
You may see my field staff personnel out and about. They are identified by our Township vehicle, Township shirts, and ID badges. They are out picking up all new construction that occurs in our neighborhoods. We are told about any and all new construction by the municipality. Troy Township serves many municipalities such as all of Shorewood, west-side of Joliet, parts of Channahon, Rockdale and Crest Hill. We also have unincorporated areas that are serviced by Will County.

All Township residents are always welcome in my office for assistance with assessment questions and assistance with any and all exemptions that they may be entitled to. We are consistently working on our website to get all the information input. If you have any questions regarding your property information, please give us a call or stop in. I encourage everyone to check their property information either on-line or by stopping in. Our website address is www.troytownship.com and property information can be found by clicking on the Assessor tab and Property Search tab. If you do not know your parcel number you can search by address. The address search is very sensitive; you should only enter the street name and then click on your address from the list that is generated. Example: if you live at 100 North Brookforest Ave, you should search only Brookforest. Once you click on your address from the list that is generated, you can see pertinent information. Should you find an error on your property information, please notify us immediately. You can also link to the Will County Supervisor of Assessments' (SOA) site at the bottom of the page for actual assessment information and link to the Will County Treasurer's site (from the SOA site) to see actual property tax dollars.

My staff and I are always happy to assist you. I am very fortunate to have a very knowledgeable and kind staff. I receive many compliments on my staff from you the taxpayer, and for this I am very thankful.

Please keep in mind there are several exemptions that are available. I am truly surprised by the number of people who do not know that they are there. Available exemptions include: General Homestead, Senior Homestead, Senior Assessment Freeze, Disabled Person, Disabled and Returning Veteran, and Home Improvement exemption. There are requirements for each of the exemptions. You can visit our website to learn about the requirements, or give us a call.

The Township hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We can be reached at 815-744-5806 should you have any questions.





## HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Thomas R. Ward

I am honored to have been re-elected this past April as your Troy Township Highway Commissioner and am looking forward to serving you for another four years.

We have been very busy this past spring and summer working on road projects, tree branch and brush pick up, addressing drainage issues, and keeping up with equipment maintenance.

During heavy rains or periods of heavy rains over many days, I hear from residents about water and drainage issues. While the Troy Highway Department continues to do our part to address and improve drainage please remember that you should expect to see water in the ditches until the storm sewers can catch up. That is the purpose for which the ditches were designed. We are always looking for the best possible solutions to get the ditches completely dry and you can assist us with this by not dumping any debris into the ditch or culvert areas around your property.

Crews will soon be busy with leaf vacuum service for our unincorporated areas and as winter quickly approaches I ask all residents of Troy Township to use caution when traveling on the country roads. School bus traffic as well as young drivers going to and from school are traveling on these roads and extra care and caution should be used.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I can be reached at 815-405-3378.

## SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

#### **LEAF VACUUMING**

Starting the middle of October and throughout 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.

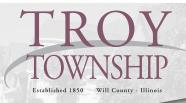
#### **BRANCH & BRUSH PICK UPS**

fall will be on Monday, October 2nd, Monday, October 16th and Monday, November 6th. This

The final branch and brush pick ups for this service will resume again at the beginning of April 2018 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.



## A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Cross

The summer seems to pass quickly but it always leads to the most colorful season of the year, fall. I look forward to the crisp air, sweaters and boots, football, bonfires, apple pies, the changing of the leaves, and pumpkins. "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." F. Scott Fitzgerald

As the Town Clerk, one of my primary duties is to maintain the township records. With the help of a local historian/librarian I have been overseeing the task of archiving and preserving some of Troy Township's oldest records. With township business dating back to 1850 the records contain some great history. While the records have been scanned and are now in a digital format, we have started the task of indexing all the records. The indexing process is cumbersome. I spend time each day processing the information into a database. I have been very happy with the interest in our oldest township records and now have some help with indexing. I want to thank Jim Lynch, Rolland Bossert, and Ray Chapman, our very own Gadget Gurus for helping with the indexing process. The process is ongoing and will take quite a bit of time. Our hope is to be able to share these records on our website at some point so that generations of township residents can

have access to them and discover some of the great history of Troy Township.

As your Town Clerk I also serve as your Local Election Official. I cannot stress the importance of exercising your right to



vote. The General Primary Election coming up on March 20, 2018, is quickly approaching and will decide who will be the Democratic and Republican candidates for the General Election to be held in November of 2018.

Early voting for the General Primary Election will start at the Troy Township Community Center on Monday, March 5, 2018, and end on Friday, March 16, 2018.

Please visit our website at www.troytownship.com for updates and also a link to the Will County Clerk's website.

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.

# I-55 at IL 59 Access Project

There have been some questions Highway Commissioner Ward has received about Cullinan Properties' proposed development called Rock Run Crossings located at I-55 and I-80 and the potential roadway changes and traffic concerns that come along with such a development. IDOT and the City of Joliet will be hosting public information meetings regarding this subject area and have developed a website specifically for this project. On this website you can find information about public meetings, project timelines, project documents, and also information on how to join the community advisory group for this project.

Visit www.i55atil59accessproject.org for more information.



# **Shredding Event and Medication Disposal October 7th**

Join us on Saturday, October 7, 2017, 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

Control of the contro

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 under the News, Notes & Events section.

The Shredding Event and Medication Disposal Drop Off Event will take place simultaneously on Saturday, October 7, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1968.

# Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on November 7th

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. 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.

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

# YOUR TRUSTEES



Bryan W. Kopman



Larry Ryan



John Theobald



**Brett Wheeler** 



## **Troy Township's Upcoming Seminars and Presentations**

All events, seminars, and presentations will be held at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd., Shorewood. Registration is required for each seminar. Please contact Angela at 815-744-1963 or Ascaggs@troytownship.com to register.

#### Medicare 101 with updates -

Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. *Presented by AARP* 

#### "Money Management" Series

Principles for Successful Long Term Investing – Thur., November 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

#### Principles for Successful Long Term Investing -

Please join us for Principles for successful long term investing with Lori Hilton-White, Vice President, and Client Advisor with J.P. Morgan Chase. Lori will go thru J.P. Morgan's Guide to the Markets to explain seven key investment principles and discuss habits of successful long-term investors.

#### Securing Social Security -

Thur., January 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Securing Social Security – Join this presentation to learn more about surprisingly complex situations including, when to consider claiming Social Security benefits, how being married, divorced or widowed can impact your benefits, and much more beneficial information.

#### Take Control -

Thur., February 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

**Take Control** – This presentation is designed to help you remain balanced both emotionally and strategically when investing for future goals and reach long-term goals as long as you stay disciplined and well informed.

#### "Things You Should Know, But Don't Want to Think About" Series

#### 5 Keys to a Successful Retirement -

Thur., March 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. *Presented by Delco Financial* 

#### Long Term Care Workshop -

Thur., April 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. *Presented by Delco Financial* 

#### Funeral Planning -

Thur., May 24, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. *Presented by Delco Financial* 

#### TROY TOWNSHIP SENIORS... HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE FUN?



**Join the Troy Township seniors every Wednesday and Friday** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to play card games, bingo, dominoes, and more! Come have some fun and meet new friends. Lunch is provided by Meals on Wheels for a suggested donation of \$4.00. We also enjoy a monthly birthday celebration, a monthly lunch outing, and the occasional bus trip.

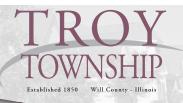
**GAME DAY!** Starting in February and continuing on the second Thursday of even months, Troy Township Seniors are invited to join us for "Game Day" featuring a different type of game and will start at 1:30 p.m.

- Thursday, February 8, 2018 BINGO & Bagels
- Thursday, April 12, 2018 LCR: Left, Center, Right
- Thursday, June 14, 2018 Dominoes



The Troy Township Seniors and all Game Days are held at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd in Shorewood. For more information or to register, please contact Angela at 815-744-1963.





# 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 should be

available after January 8, 2018. 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 Cindi Biggar, Activities Program Coordinator, Senior Services Center of Will County at 815-740-4210 or cbiggar@agingspecialists.org for more information.

# George Muentnich

**YOUR** 

# **Troy Township Senior Open House Thursday, November 28th**

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

Please join us on Tuesday, November 28th 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. We will offer tours of our facility, have other local senior vendors on site, and we will have a raffle prize or two. Some of the other vendors who have committed to date include:

- AARP
- Alden Courts of Shorewood Memory Care Residence
- Alden Estates of Shorewood Specializing in Transitional Care and Post-Acute Services
- Area Agency on Aging/Kankakee County Community Services Inc. Meals on Wheels
- Jewel/Osco Blood pressure checks, flu shots, pneumococcal vaccinations, and nutritional information
- Heritage Wood of Minooka Affordable Assisted Lifestyle Community for the Older Adult
- Lopina Home Therapy
- Senior Services Center of Will County Safe at Home Program
- Village of Shorewood Parks and Recreation

Representatives from our State Legislator's offices will be in attendance including the offices of State Representative Mark Batinick, Representative Natalie Manley, Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, and Senator Pat McGuire.

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, November 28th. We look forward to seeing you there!





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 November 28th! See page 7 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 Dylik

#### **Information:**

**Supervisor** 

Joseph D. Baltz

**Town Clerk** 

**Kristin Cross** 

Assessor

**Kim Anderson CIAO** 

**Highway Commissioner** 

Thomas R. Ward

Collector

George Muentnich

#### **Trustees**

Bryan W. Kopman Larry Ryan John "Theo" Theobald Brett Wheeler

\*when conflicting with a holiday, the meeting will be on the 4th Monday of the month.