

### A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR

#### Joseph D. Baltz



I am proud to say that Troy Township will be adding yet another service for township residents. Starting in March, Troy Township will begin issuing temporary handicapped parking placards to township residents in need. Please see the short article below for more details.

After another long cold winter I'd like to compliment the Troy Township Highway Department on their hard work and extra efforts to keep our township roads plowed and salted. I know firsthand that Highway Commissioner Ward and his entire crew take great pride in the work that they do and truly care about the community which they serve.

2015 will bring what is known as a quadrennial year. Assessor Anderson provides more details on what the quadrennial year entails but I would like to thank Assessor Anderson and her staff in advance for all of their hard work. I know that the quadrennial assessment year will keep staff very busy and I am confident that these skilled and talented individuals will work very hard to ensure

the properties in Troy Township are assessed fairly.

I would also like to thank those individuals who serve on the Troy Township Planning Commission and those who volunteer to staff our Cyber Niche. These people give their time freely to the township for the betterment of our residents and community.

It is my honor to continue to serve you and I am always available to hear your comments and suggestions. If you know of a program or service that would be beneficial to our township, please do not hesitate to call or write. I can be reached at 815-744-1968 or [Jdbravinia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Jdbravinia@sbcglobal.net).

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Baltz  
Troy Township Supervisor

### NEW SERVICE AT TROY TOWNSHIP – Temporary Handicapped Parking Placards

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. Upon receipt

of a properly 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).

### NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



Every four years, state statute requires that every property in a township's jurisdiction be looked at for possible reassessment and that a written notice be sent to the property owner by the County. 2015 is a quadrennial year and the Assessor's office has begun work on the 2015

quadrennial reassessments.

During a regular or non-quadrennial year, the Assessor's office conducts sales studies to determine if any increase or decrease to your value is warranted. However, a written notice will only be mailed if a change has been made.

During the quadrennial reassessment this year a notice will be sent to each and every property owner regardless of an assessment change.

All 2015 assessments will be published in the Joliet Herald News in August. If you are unhappy with your 2015 assessment, you will have 30 days from the publication date to appeal your assessment. For specific information on how to appeal your assessed value, please refer to our website [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) to see the section "How To Appeal My Assessment" under the assessor section. If you do not have computer access, please stop in and we will be happy to assist you.

As always, please never hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding your property information or exemptions. We can be reached at 815-744-5806 or 815-744-5807.

### Property Tax Bills

Along with spring, comes your property tax bill. Payments are made in two installments. The first is due in June and the second in September. There is a brochure on the Supervisor of Assessments website

entitled "Understanding Your Tax Bill" that provides a great explanation of how a property tax bill is calculated. You can find this brochure at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com) under brochures.

### Website Changes

New on the Assessor's portion of our website is the updated layout of the property information screen. The new format illustrates all details regarding residential properties in Troy Township including a photo and sketch of the dwelling. Although the layout has been updated, this is still a work in progress and not all

photos and sketches have been uploaded yet. Please be patient with us while we complete this enormous task. I encourage everyone to review your property information for accuracy. If you find an error, please contact my office and we will be happy to make any necessary corrections.

### Township Growth

Troy Township is continuing to grow. In 2012 we had 92 newly constructed homes. In 2013 we had 125 newly construction homes and in 2014 we had 143. We are beginning to see some new construction in the commercial area as well.

There are new warehouses under construction and late in 2014/early 2015 we saw a new Aldi grocery store, Chipolte, Moo Yah Burgers, Fries and Shakes, a Potbelly Sandwich Shop, O'Reilly Auto Parts, and a Sparkle Express Car Wash.

### Exemptions, Senior Freeze & Common Questions

The Assessor's office has all of the necessary forms to apply for exemptions. We are always happy to assist you in filling them out and getting them to the County. Exemptions that are available are: General Homestead, General Senior Homestead, Senior Freeze, Disabled

Person, Disabled Veteran, Returning Veteran and Home Improvement. Please note there are qualifications for each exemption. To see if you qualify, please visit the Assessor section of our website under the exemption tab or give us a call. *(continued on Page 3)*

## A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Dawn Cross

On Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. Troy Township will hold its 166th Annual Town Meeting. One of my duties as Township Clerk is to conduct the Annual Town Meeting which I cordially invite and encourage all of you to attend. Various parts of the Annual Town Meeting include admission to the meeting, call to order, recess to a larger hall in the event of space issues, election of the moderator, taking of minutes for the township record, motions for items such as disposition of surplus items and then lastly the close of business of the meeting.

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 started the task of archiving and preserving some of our oldest records. With township business dating back to 1850 the records contain some great history and

are in the process of being digitized and indexed. Our hope is to be able to share these books on our website so that generations of township residents can have access to them and discover some of the great history of Troy Township.

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



## Consolidated Election - April 7th

As your Troy Township Clerk, another duty of the Clerk's office is to serve as your "Local Election Official" and it is my honor to be able to administer the early voting process here in Troy Township for the April 7th, 2015 Consolidated Election, sometimes referred to as a municipal election. Consolidated Elections usually include candidates for Village Boards, City Councils, Township Boards, School Boards, Fire Boards plus elected officials for other units of local government. As local constituents,

these elections are very important to us because these units of local government have the biggest impact on our day to day lives and have the responsibility of levying taxes in order to keep our townships, cities, schools, fire departments, etc. running. I would like to share one of my favorite quotes by our 34th President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower: "The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter." More information on dates and times of early voting can be found at [www.troystownship.com](http://www.troystownship.com).

## Exemptions, Senior Freeze & Common Questions, Continued

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 Monday, April 13th to assist seniors with completing their senior freeze forms. No appointments are necessary.

### Frequently Asked Questions

***"Do I have to renew my homestead exemptions?"*** The answer is "no" unless you move to a new home.

***"When can I apply for the Senior Freeze and what does it do?"*** You must be 65 years old or older, the home you live in must be your primary residence, your **total household income** must be less than \$55,000 and you must have lived in the home for two January's. The Senior Freeze freezes the assessed value of your home **NOT your taxes**. This exemption is especially valuable when market values rise. Your property's value will always be frozen at the lowest amount as long as you renew your application every year.



### HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Thomas R. Ward



I would like to take this time to once again thank you for letting me serve as the Highway Commissioner of Troy Township. I treat the position and the duties that come along with it with the utmost respect and take the job very seriously. I am also proud to say that I have a crew of guys that are hardworking, dedicated, service oriented and who also care about efficiency and costs. When I hire a new crew member, I look for a work ethic that embodies all of those same characteristics and also someone who truly cares about the work we perform here at the Highway Department.

We receive many calls from concerned residents who are worried about cars speeding through in their neighborhoods. I have reached out to the new Traffic Division Supervisor at the Will County Sheriff's Office to request their assistance in monitoring these situations. For residents who are using a residential street to cut through to a main road, please slow down. And residents, please talk with your children about safety, especially safety around cars on your residential streets. If you wish to file a complaint or report issues of speeding in your neighborhood, please contact the police department of your local municipality or if you live in the unincorporated areas of the township, please contact the

Will County Sheriff's Office at 815-727-8575.

For the residential unincorporated areas of the Township that have existing sidewalks, crews will be out again this spring and summer repairing the most needed areas first. To keep costs down, we will be doing the majority of this work in-house.

Lastly, we are aware of the drainage issues throughout the unincorporated areas and we do everything in our power to make sure we have positive draining throughout the township. We will continue to try to improve drainage each season. Please keep in mind that on heavy rain days, especially when the rainfall occurs over a short period of time, you can expect to see water in the ditches until the storm sewers can catch up. That is the exact 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.

### New Hours at the Highway Department Recycling Center

Yes, it is true, we have changed the hours at the Highway Department Recycling Center and yes, we have fenced in the site. Why? Unfortunately, we were experiencing a high amount of dumping on evening and weekends when the site would be closed. Items were left in the middle of the parking lot, thrown over the small gate we had, or left on the driveway portion of our entrance. When crews arrived in the morning to start work, clean-up of the unauthorized dumping had to occur before work could actually begin for the day.

The recycling center is not a revenue source for the Highway Department. We receive very minimal funds for the textiles that are recycled and other than a one-time \$500 grant for improvements to the electronic recycling site, no funds are received for the traditional and electronic recycling. Maintenance of the recycling center is a drain on resources

and is time consuming. This is why we need your help.

Please abide by the posted hours of operation. While we understand that our hours of operation do not meet the needs of every resident, we respectfully request that you do not drop off items in front of our gates or throw items over our gates when our facility is closed. This causes additional work at an additional cost to the taxpayers. We have implemented Saturday hours in an effort to meet the needs of those residents who cannot come during our Monday thru Friday hours of operation.

Please make sure that you are putting your recyclable items in the correct containers and please, do not put garbage of any kind in the recycling containers.

Your help and cooperation will go a long way to ensure the longevity of the recycling center in Troy Township and is greatly appreciated.

*(continued on Page 5)*

## New Hours at the Highway Department Recycling Center, *Continued*

### **Recycling Center**

25358 Seil Rd., Shorewood, IL

### **Hours of Operation:**

Monday – Friday

7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Saturday Each Month

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

CLOSED HOLIDAYS

### **Items Accepted:**

Electronic Recycling

Textile Recycling

Traditional Recycling

Cardboard

Car Batteries

**If an item is not listed, we do not accept it.** For information on where to recycle items not accepted at our recycling center, please visit [www.willcountygreen.com](http://www.willcountygreen.com) and search the Green Guide Database.

If you have general questions about recycling at the Highway Department please call 815-744-1968 or visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com). If you have specific questions or concerns about the Highway Department itself, road projects, tree trimming, etc. please contact Highway Commissioner Ward at 815-405-3378.

## YOUR TRUSTEES



**Larry Ryan**



**John Theobald**



**Donald Walden**



**Brett Wheeler**

## SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

### Annual Spring Clean Up April 13th through April 18th

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 18th 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. Again, we have no way to handle garbage or papers so PLEASE.... NO GARBAGE OR PAPERS!

### Branch and Brush Pick Up

Beginning May 4th and continuing through November 2nd, 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](http://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](http://www.troytownship.com).

## **Lyme Disease Found In Troy Township – Learn the Symptoms and How To Prevent**

Lyme Disease, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks (or deer tick, *Ixodes scapularis*). Typical symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and a characteristic

skin rash called erythema migrans. If left untreated, infection can spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system.

As spring arrives, and with it warmer weather and outdoor activities, the CDC offers these tips for preventing Lyme Disease:

- **Avoid Direct Contact with Ticks**
  - o Avoid wooded areas and bushy areas with high grass and leaf litter.
  - o Walk in the center of trails.
- **Repel Ticks with DEET or Permethrin**
  - o Use repellants that contain 20 to 30% DEET on exposed skin and clothing for protection that lasts up to several hours.
  - o Use products that contain permethrin on clothing.
- **Find and Remove Ticks from Your Body**
  - o Bathe or shower as soon as possible after coming indoors (preferably within two hours) to wash off and more easily find ticks that are crawling on you.
  - o Conduct a full-body tick check using a hand-held or full-length mirror.
  - o Examine gear and pets. Ticks can ride into the home on clothing and pets, then attach to a person later, so carefully examine pets, coats, and day packs.
  - o Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for an hour to kill remaining ticks.

**For more information about Lyme Disease, its cause and prevention please visit [www.cdc.gov/lyme](http://www.cdc.gov/lyme).**

### **Troy Township Community Room Events:**

**Troy Township Board Meeting** – Every 3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m.\*

**Joliet Quilters Guild** – Mondays 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Township Seniors** – Wednesdays and Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**T.O.P.S. Take off Pounds Sensibly** – Thursdays 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Cyber Niche Computer Classes** – First & Third Fridays 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. or by appointment

*\*Will vary on holidays. Please visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) to verify board meeting dates or for more information on any above event.*



## Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on April 21st

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on April 21, 2015. 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 am and 2:00 pm. A Rules of the Road Review Course will also be held from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. 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  
COLLECTOR**  
**Sharon Cemenio  
Hicks**



## Calling all Knitters, Crocheters, and Crafters!

Come to Troy Township on the fourth Thursday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for an afternoon of fun with other crafters. Do you wish to knit without interruptions, meet other crafters, and be able to share patterns or get help with a tricky problem?

If yes, then this might be the group for you! Bring your craft item with you and join us on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1963.

## Shredding Event and Medication Disposal May 2nd

Join us on Saturday, May 2, 2015, 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. A list of acceptable items can be found on our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) under the News, Notes & Events section.

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.

The Shredding Event and Medication Disposal Drop Off Event will take place simultaneously on Saturday, May 2, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1968.



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

25448 Seil Road  
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

## IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION

*New Recycling Center Hours See Page 5*



***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**  
Sharon Cemen Hicks

**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