

## Issue 40 • SPRING 2017

### A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR

#### Joseph D. Baltz

As the Consolidated Election is just around the corner and your Troy Township Board begins a new four year term, I find myself asking "what does Troy Township need?" What can we be doing better? What services are needed in our community that Troy Township might be able to assist in providing? In order to answer those questions, we need your input. ***We want to hear from you.***

Have you lived in another township that had a popular service that the residents loved? Do you know of a loved one who is benefiting from a service that their township provides? ***We want to hear from you.***

Are you active in the community and see a social service need that is not currently being met? ***We want to hear from you.***



TAKE SURVEY ►

We have made it very easy to respond and let us know your thoughts through a short seven question

survey. You have three options for completing the survey.

1. **Online:** Visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) and click on the "Take Survey" button.

2. **Phone:** Complete the survey over the phone by calling Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963.

3. **Written:** Complete the survey via US Mail or email. Call Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963 or email her at [Ascaggs@troytownship.com](mailto:Ascaggs@troytownship.com) to have a survey mailed or emailed to you.

The survey will be open for responses through April 30, 2017, and we truly look forward to your feedback. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 815-744-1968 or email me at [Jbaltz10@gmail.com](mailto:Jbaltz10@gmail.com).



## EDUCATIONAL SERIES

In an effort to reach more residents, Troy Township has started an evening educational series of seminars ranging in topics from college savings to wills and living trusts. All seminars are free and open to all Troy Township residents. Please join us:

### College Savings Seminar –

Monday, March 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by Adam Underhill of Edward Jones and Dan Peterson of Franklin Templeton - When the time comes, you'll want to be ready for it. This free seminar will help answer some key questions about saving for college. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP required Julie Harrison at 815-744-8150 or [Julie.Harrison@edwardjones.com](mailto:Julie.Harrison@edwardjones.com).

### Estate Planning Seminar: Veteran's & Seniors –

Monday, April 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by Jerome J. Goergen Attorney at Law – Attention Veterans & Seniors! In-home care, assisted living,

independent care and nursing home costs can wipe out a lifetime of savings. But it doesn't have to... This free seminar is full of valuable information. Refreshments will be served. RSVP required to Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963 or [Ascaggs@troytownship.com](mailto:Ascaggs@troytownship.com).

### Estate Planning Seminar: Wills and Living Trusts –

May 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by Jerome J. Goergen Attorney at Law - Why should you do estate planning? Learn the advantages, disadvantages and all about wills and living trusts in this free seminar. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP required to Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963 or [Ascaggs@troytownship.com](mailto:Ascaggs@troytownship.com).

For more information about the above seminars, future seminars, events, or general information about Troy Township, please visit our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) or call Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz's office at 815-744-1968.

### NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



As always, spring is a busy time for the Assessor's office. My staff will be out throughout the Township measuring new construction as well as performing other field checks. Township staff members can be identified by our vehicle

that says Troy Township on each door and by wearing Troy Township logoed clothing. Staff members will also have my business card with them and Township field check forms which includes a copy of your property record card. If you have any questions about why we are in your neighborhood, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

We are currently working on reassessments for 2017. Our neighborhood sales studies are showing us that market values in Troy Township are on the rise. We continue to add new homes, our strip centers are adding new business, and there are new commercial and industrial buildings being built. This says a lot about where we all live and shop; Troy Township is a desirable place to be.

In August of every year, if your property has been reassessed, you will receive a revised assessment notice from Will County. The notice will illustrate the prior year's value in one column and the new value in another. It will also illustrate the percentage of change. This notice is full of valuable information regarding the assessment, your market value, exemptions, and information on how to appeal your value. Please take a moment to read it in its entirety.

After you receive your notice (again you will only receive a notice if your value has changed) if you do not believe the market value placed on your property is correct you may appeal the value. The market

value that has been placed upon your property is the responsibility of my office. The Assessor does NOT tax you! The only way you can appeal your property taxes is to pay under protest. Information on this can be found by calling the Circuit Clerk at 815-727-8592. If you did not receive a notice regarding your value in August because the value did not change, you may still appeal the value. You can contact my office for the current value or check it on the Will County Supervisor of Assessments website at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com).

If you wish to appeal your value please contact us prior to filing an official appeal with the Will County Board of Review. It is possible that we may be able to work with you. Of course, if we cannot, you will still have your opportunity to file with the Board of Appeals as long as they have the necessary information in time. You only have 30 days to file with the Board of Review, so the sooner you get your appeal to us – the better. You can refer to our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) under the Assessor section and read how to appeal your assessment. We would be more than happy to assist you with any and all instructions either for us or for the Board of Review.

I always encourage all property owners in the Township to review their property record cards to ensure there are no errors. We have hard copies in our office and property information is available on line at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) under the Assessor tab – Property Search. *Please note: the online search can be sensitive when searching by address. Please only enter the street name then choose the proper address from the list. If you are searching by pin number please do not include the 05 – begin with the 06 number then continue with the remainder of the pin number.* If you would find an error, please contact my office immediately.

There are number of exemptions available to you if you are the owner, reside in the home, and are responsible for

*continued on page 3*



## A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Dawn Cross

*"And Spring arose on the garden fair, like the spirit of love felt everywhere; and each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast rose from the dreams of its wintry rest."*

- Percy Bysshe Shelly

No truer words were ever written, especially by one of my favorite poets. Spring is almost here and with it comes all the happenings here at Troy Township like Spring Cleanup for the unincorporated areas and our very successful Shredding Event and Medication Disposal to be held on May 6th.

With spring comes the Consolidated Election on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. Troy Township will once again hold early voting for the two weeks prior to Election Day. For more information on early voting and the Consolidated Election please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com).

*"Nobody will ever deprive the American People of the right to vote except the American People themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting."*

-Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States of America

I would also like to invite all Troy Township residents to join us on Tuesday, April

11th at 7:00 p.m. as Troy Township hosts its 168th 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.

As the Clerk for Troy Township one of my primary duties is to maintain the township records. As stated in previous newsletters, with the help of a local historian/librarian, I am happy to announce that records which date back to 1850 have been digitized. I have started the lengthy process of indexing the records and adding brief descriptions to them. Although this process will take quite some time, our hope is that once complete the records can be posted to our website and be searchable by year and name. The goal is to make the GREAT history of Troy Township accessible for generations to come.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 815-744-1968.

**Annual Town Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 11th**  
**7:00 p.m.**

## NEWS FROM ASSESSOR *Continued*

the payment of property taxes. Possible exemptions include: General Homestead, Home Improvement, Senior Homestead, Senior Assessment Freeze, Disabled Persons, Returning Veteran, and Disabled Veteran. There are varying degrees of information that is required for each of these exemptions. Please refer to our website under the Assessor Tab – Exemptions to see if you qualify.

If you are currently receiving the Senior Assessment Freeze, the forms will be mailed at the end of March and will be gray in color. If you will be coming into our office for assistance in filling out this form please

wait until your income taxes are completed and bring the gray form and a copy of your income taxes with you. A representative from Will County will be in our office on April 20th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. to assist us with freeze forms. If you cannot make it on that day, we are happy to assist you when you are able to come in. Our office hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. No appointment is necessary. If you are not currently receiving the Senior Assessment Freeze and would like to know if you qualify, please contact my office at 815-744-5806 and have a copy of your 2016 income tax forms available.



### HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Thomas R. Ward



As always, it is my pleasure to serve the residents of Troy Township as your Highway Commissioner. This past winter has been a mild one which allowed us to save on our salt usage. Crews have been spending time working on equipment to prepare for the spring and summer construction season. As the weather warms up you will see the Troy Highway Department working on addressing water and ditch issues. We are hopeful for a dry summer to allow us to complete these much needed projects that we were unable to finish last season.

You can always do your part to help us achieve positive drainage in the ditches and culverts. It is important that these areas remain free and clear of debris. Please make it a point to regularly clean out debris from the ditch and culvert area in your front yard.

It has been a year now since the electronic recycling program ended at the Troy Township Highway Department. While our recycling center continues to collect traditional recycling (paper, plastic, cardboard), textile recycling, and car batteries **we DO NOT accept any electronic recycling.** Will County has implemented a new electronic recycling program with various locations. Information about Will County's electronic recycling program can be found at [www.willcountygreen.com](http://www.willcountygreen.com).

If you have any questions or I can be of any service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me at 815-405-3378.

## SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

### Annual Spring Clean Up April 17th through April 21st

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 Friday, April 21st 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 **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 1st and continuing through November 6th 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).

## Shredding Event and Medication Disposal May 6th

Join us on Saturday, May 6, 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 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, May 6, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1968. This event will be repeated on Saturday, October 7, 2017.

## Troy Township to Host AARP Driver Safety Program Course

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, August 8th and Tuesday, August 15th 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 Angela at 815-744-1963 to register by Thursday, August 3rd to register.

## YOUR TRUSTEES



Larry Ryan



John Theobald



Donald Walden



Brett Wheeler

### Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on April 18th

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on Tuesday, April 18, 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. This event will be repeated on Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

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)



### ATTENTION ALL TROY TOWNSHIP SENIORS! HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE FUN?

Troy Township has added a **FREE** monthly movie day or game day for all our Troy Township Seniors. Please join us!



#### Afternoon at the Movies

On the second Thursday of odd months, Troy Township has partnered with Family Video in Minooka to bring you "Afternoon at the Movies". A different movie will be shown at 1:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

**Thursday May 18, 2017\*** – Sully *\*Date changed to third Thursday this month.*

**Thursday July 13, 2017** – Silver Streak

**Thursday, September 14, 2017** – to be determined

#### Game Day

On the second Thursday of even months, Troy Township will have a "Game Day" which will feature a different type of game and will start at 1:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

**Thursday April 13, 2017** – LCR – Left, Center, Right; an easy and fun dice game.

**Thursday June 8, 2017** – Domino's – Come and play and/or learn how to play.

**Thursday August 10, 2017** – to be determined

Events are located at Troy Township 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information or to register for an event, please contact Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963.





## Spring Safe @ Home & Weather Preparedness Seminar

**Thursday, April 20, 2017 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Spring is in the air and maybe you'd like to have something fixed on the inside and/or outside of your home. If you are over the age of 60 this seminar will inform you about Senior Services Center of Will County's Safe@Home program and what

they might be able to help you with.

**Will County Emergency Management Agency** will also speak about weather preparedness and important weather related information on preparation for the spring weather season. RSVP required to Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963 or [Ascaggs@troymunicipality.com](mailto:Ascaggs@troymunicipality.com).

**Troy Township is seeking adult volunteers who have a talent that they are willing to teach others. To discuss possible opportunities please call Angela at 815-744-1963.**

### Your Own "Gadget Gurus" are Here to Serve You

The Troy Township Gadget Gurus will do our best to answer your computer, SmartPhone, and camera questions. We will do our best to help you work with the programs within your equipment, understand how to operate your equipment, and even do what we can to help resolve problems you may have with it.

The Gadget Gurus are group of several volunteers who have a range of experiences with an assortment of equipment. The Gurus are not "experts" as their cute name may indicate but they do have a variety of exposure gained over many years of practical and technical opportunities in both their work and personal use. The Gurus do their best to avoid being too technical and try to help all clients at a level that is comfortable. While they won't pretend that they can do anything and everything, they do have some measure of success with many Troy Township residents over the years. When the situation warrants they can and do make referrals to other sources to get you the assistance you need.

The Troy Township Gadget Gurus have partnered

with staff at the Village of Shorewood and the Shorewood – Troy Library as well as with Casanova Information Systems. As a collective group they have collaborated on a variety of free seminars. The seminars are held at the Troy Township Community Center, one of the meeting rooms at the Village of Shorewood offices, or at the Shorewood – Troy Library. All seminars are done on weekdays between mid – morning and mid – afternoon. Seminars are advertised in the publications of all three groups.

At the Township the Gadget Gurus offer "walk-in" hours on the first Friday of the month between 2:30 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. To request assistance you can email them at [gadgetgurus@troymunicipality.com](mailto:gadgetgurus@troymunicipality.com) or call 815-744-1968 extension 500. Leave a message with your contact info and the nature of your problem and a Guru will get back to you to discuss your needs in more detail to help you get a resolution. Depending on the circumstances it may be suggested to meet one on one at the Troy Township Community Center "Gadget Guru" Room.

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



### Upcoming Gadget Guru Seminars:

Date	Time	Location	Instructor	Topic
April 24th	1:00 p.m.	Shorewood-Troy Library	Gadget Gurus	Ebay
April 25th	1:30 p.m.	Troy Township Community Center	Gadget Gurus	Drop Box

**For more class information visit [www.troymunicipality.com](http://www.troymunicipality.com).**



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

25448 Seil Road  
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

## IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION

*Take our Survey – Visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com)*



***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