

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR Joseph D. Baltz



The Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township was established August 21, 2017 to honor our local Troy Township veterans and former Troy Township Trustee Donald D. Walden who passed away on May 20, 2017.

At the August 21st Board meeting, 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. I was proud to present Don's wife Carol and his family with a Certificate of Appreciation for Don's service in the United States Navy.

After establishing the program in August, it was with honor that we welcomed our first round of veterans to the



Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township at the October 16, 2017 meeting of the Troy Township Board. As of February 1, 2018, we have been honored to induct a total of 15 veterans into the Honor Roll.

This past holiday season, as part of the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll

program, we collected much-needed items for "Operation Care Package" with the help from our Troy Township residents, Troy Township Seniors, and Troy Township employees. We also received a very nice thank you letter from Operation Care Package stating "on behalf of all of us at Operation Care Package, I extend our most heartfelt thanks to you for your donation. Your generous contribution will help support our deployed United States Military through care packages. Mail call with a surprise package from a stranger can brighten a service member's day."

Because of the great response, we will now be a year-round donation drop off site for Operation Care Package, as they send out approximately 150-200 care packages every week to service members. Donations may be dropped off at the Troy Township offices located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (except for holidays).

Please visit www.operationcarepackages.org to find other ways you can help and for a list of items that may be donated.

For more information on the Veterans Honor Roll or to see a list of veterans who have been inducted to date, visit www.troytownship.com or contact my office at 815-744-1968.

***** ATTENTION *****

Please be advised that the parking lot at the Troy Township Offices and Community Center will be under various stages of reconstruction between May 21, 2018, and July 1, 2018. We request that you please call our office at 815-744-1968 BEFORE you visit during this timeframe as parking and access to the building may be very limited. Some programs may be suspended or relocated to another facility for a short period of time. Again, please call 815-744-1968 for the most up to date access information. We apologize in advance for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience and cooperation.

NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



The beginning of the new year and spring is finally here. Spring is a very busy season for us at the Assessor's office. Field staff will be out measuring new construction and performing other field checks.

2018 Property Assessments

My deputies and I have begun the 2018 reassessment process. Our sales studies have shown that values in our Township are increasing. If your property has been reassessed, you will receive a notice in the mail from Will County the first part of August. All reassessments will be published in the Joliet Herald News August 1st and 2nd. This notice contains a lot of valuable information, please read it in its entirety. There are no exemptions shown in your revised value, but they will appear on your property tax bill.

Appealing Your Assessment

If you are unhappy with your 2018 assessment, you will have 30 days from the publication date to appeal with the Will County Board of Review. For specific information on how to appeal your **assessed value**, please refer to our website at www.troytownship.com and see the section "How To Appeal My Assessment" under the assessor tab. If you do not have computer access, or have questions, stop in or give us a call and we will be happy to assist you. Please note that the assessor is only responsible for the value placed upon your property. The assessor does **NOT TAX** you! The only way you can appeal your property taxes is to pay under protest. Information on how to do this can be found by contacting the Circuit Clerk at 815-727-8592. If you do not receive a reassessment notice and your property is not listed in the Herald News you can still appeal the value in the same manner. If you decide that you would like to appeal your value, I encourage you to discuss this action with my office

prior to filing a formal appeal as soon after the assessments are published as possible. We may be able to work something out together, but we want you to have enough time to file with the Board of Review if we cannot.

Property Exemptions and Senior Assessment Freeze

In every article I write for this newsletter, I make mention of the exemptions that may be available to you as a homeowner/taxpayer in Troy Township. There is an important update to the Senior Assessment Freeze I want to share with you.

For tax year 2018, the Senior Assessment Freeze total household income has been **increased** to \$65,000 versus the previous \$55,000 total household income. If you are 65 years of age or older and you own and occupy your home in Troy Township you may be eligible to benefit from this exemption. After completing your 2017 federal income tax, you can contact us to see if you qualify. Beginning in April we will have the necessary applications in our office or they will be able to be obtained on-line at the Supervisor of Assessments website www.willcountysoa.com. This exemption freezes the assessed value on your home – it **DOES NOT** freeze your property taxes. Your property taxes will fluctuate with the tax rate that is assigned to your neighborhood. A representative from Will County will be in our office on Tuesday, April 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to assist residents with completing all senior exemption paperwork. No appointments will be needed as it is first come first served basis. Please note that my staff can assist you anytime you are ready to file. Our office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Other exemptions that are available include the General Homestead, Senior Homestead, Returning Veteran, Disabled Persons, Disabled Veteran, and Home Improvement. There are varying requirements per exemption. If you would like to know if you qualify for any of these exemptions, please visit our website at www.troytownship.com

continued on Page 3



A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Cross

It has been my great honor to continue to serve as your Troy Township Clerk. My position takes quite a few forms and I would like to name a few. I first and foremost

receive education from the Township Officials of Illinois every year to fine tune my position. I serve as the Clerk of the Troy Township Board and my duties include record keeping, filings, publication of required notices, administration of oaths, bid openings, and taking of meeting minutes. I am not a voting member of the Board except in the case of a tie vote to fill a vacancy in a township office. It is also my duty as your Troy Township Clerk to serve as the ex officio clerk for the Highway Commissioner. I also serve as the local election official. The Troy Township offices are a site for early voting prior to each election. Current information about dates and times of early voting for an election can be found at www.troytownship.com or www.thewillcountyclerk.com.

My role as your Troy Township Clerk is also to serve as the Clerk of our Annual Town Meeting. The Annual Town Meeting must take place the second Tuesday of April and be held no earlier than 6:00 p.m. I must post written or printed notices in 3 public places within the township at least 15 days before the Annual Town meeting and must

publish the notice in a local paper before the meeting. I open the meeting, a moderator is nominated and voted upon by the electors of the township and my role then is taking of minutes of the Annual Town Meeting.

I personally invite you to attend the Troy Township Annual Town Meeting which will be on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Road, in Shorewood.

As stated in previous newsletters, with the help of a local historian/librarian, I am happy to announce that records which date back to the inception of Troy Township in 1850 have been digitized. I continue to labor with indexing the records with names and brief descriptions. The process is lengthy and 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.

I would also like to add that the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll of Troy Township is a program that is especially close to my heart. Not only was Don a good friend of mine who I miss every day, but I had the honor of administering Don's Oath of Office to him before he passed. His dedication to veterans everywhere moved me and I would like to thank all the veterans who have served and the many members of my family who have served.

If you have any questions for me, I can be reached at 815-744-1968.

NEWS FROM ASSESSOR - Continued from Page 2

under the assessor tab and click on exemptions.

If you already are receiving these exemptions, you should be receiving your renewal paperwork in the mail if you have not already. Please bring these renewal forms into our office with you if you would like assistance in filling them out.

Property Record Cards

As always, I encourage you to review your properties information that we have on file for accuracy. You

can do this on-line or by stopping in to review your property record card.

Important Note if Visiting Our Office

This year we would like to encourage you to call us prior to coming into the office for any assistance you may need between May 21st and July 1st. Our parking lot is getting a much needed make over and will be torn up. We unfortunately do not have the exact dates of the construction, but parking will be limited.

A MESSAGE FROM HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

Thomas R. Ward



As winter comes to an end and the weather starts to break, crews will be out assessing damage to the Township roadways caused by the harsh freeze thaw cycle that winter brings. This will help us prioritize our road projects as the summer construction season begins. Clearing

ditches and drainage issues will continue to be addressed as the weather warms and we dry out a bit. Additionally, there are few topics I'd like to address:

Drainage: I cannot stress enough the importance of keeping the ditches and culvert areas in front of your homes free and clear of all debris. Water cannot move through debris. Debris prevents positive drainage and results in backed up and standing water.

Gas Pipeline: Nicor Gas and Precision Pipeline are conducting a pipeline replacement project in our area. The project runs mostly through the western edge of Troy Township and crosses Theodore St., Black Road, Jefferson St. (Rt. 52), Seil Rd., and Mound Road and will continue south into Minooka. I urge all residents to be cautious and stay aware when traveling in these areas as there are numerous

workers and construction vehicles coming on and off the roadways.

Speeding & Road Safety: We have received many reports of excessive speeding on the country roads between Minooka and Shorewood. Be advised that the speed limit is 55 unless otherwise posted so please slow down. If you see any damage or down signage please report that immediately to 815-405-3378.

Recycling: Our facility no longer accepts electronic recycling. There are several facilities nearby that do. Please visit www.willcountygreen.com for a current list of locations and times. We still provide traditional and textile recycling as a service for our residents. When these services get abused they are at risk of being cancelled. For example, when someone put garbage in the traditional recycling or electronics in the traditional recycling, that recycling load is rejected, and the Highway Department can be assessed a fee. After this happens so many times, the program becomes at risk for being terminated at the Township. We don't want that to happen, but we need your help. Please do not abuse the recycling programs here at Troy, be respectful of our services, and recycle accordingly.

It is my honor to serve as your Troy Township Highway Commissioner and as many of you know, I am very accessible to our residents. Please do not hesitate to call me at 815-405-3378 with any questions or concerns you may have.

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.

This is a two-day course and participants must

attend both classes to be awarded the certificate of completion. Class dates are Tuesday, July 10th and Tuesday, July 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 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 by Thursday, July 5th to register.

Services for Unincorporated Areas of Troy Township

Annual Spring Clean Up April 9th through April 13th

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 13th 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 7th and continuing through October 1st 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. Also, brush and branches should be tied and bundled. Branches should be no more than six (6) inches in diameter and six (6) feet long. 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.

Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on April 3rd

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on Tuesday, April 3, 2018. 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, October 16, 2018.

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

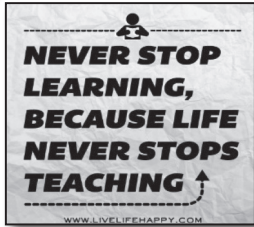


John Theobald



Brett Wheeler

Troy Township's Upcoming Seminars and Presentations



All seminars and presentations are free and informational to better help inform Troy Township residents about important topics. They are held at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd. in Shorewood. Registration is required for each seminar by calling Angela at 815-744-1963 or by emailing ascaggs@troytownship.com. If there is a topic you'd like Troy Township to consider having, please contact Angela at the above number or email.

"Things You Should Know, But Don't Want to Think About" 3 Part Workshop Presented by: Delco Financial Group, Inc.

4 Keys to a Successful Retirement • Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

How to protect your Retirement assets. If you're preparing for retirement or are already retired, then you don't want to miss this valuable workshop. The 4 key strategies will cover: Stay in Control, Disciplined Investing, Long Term Care, and Taxes.

Long Term Care Workshop • Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

This workshop will teach you 5 key ways to not losing your life savings due to home health care, assisted living, or a nursing home.

Funeral Planning • Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Learn about the benefits of pre-planning your funeral. The most meaningful gift you can give to your family.

Other Upcoming Seminars / Presentations

Should I Move Now, or Later? • Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by: Linda Howicz, Senior Real Estate Specialist with Crosstown Realtor

Linda will be talking about some of the common questions below that are asked by every older adult and why it is so important to have A Senior Real Estate Services expert available to assist through what seems to be such an overwhelming time of life. I will bring solutions to every individual situation and much needed relief for the entire family.

- Is my home safe for me to continue living in?
- Can my home be retro-fitted with senior-friendly and/or handicap upgrades so that I can continue to safely live in and enjoy my home?
- Can I afford to make changes to my home and pay for in-home care if needed?
- What will I do if I can no longer drive?
- Can my family assist if needed?
- Am I willing to use community support services?
- What are my options if I need to move?
- What happens to all of my belongings? It's so overwhelming to think about!
- Should I buy or rent? What type of community is best?

Alzheimer Awareness • Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by: Jennifer Stelter, Psy D, Certified Dementia Trainer, Alden Courts of Shorewood

Come and learn what you should know about Alzheimer's, including the signs and symptoms of memory care issues, what to do if you start noticing symptoms in your loved ones or yourself and what caregivers need to know on how to deal with someone with this disease.

continued on Page 7

Shredding Event and Medication Disposal May 5th

Join us on Saturday, May 5, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. when Troy Township will host its next semi-annual shredding and medication disposal event. This event will take place simultaneously at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. 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 onsite 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



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!

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.

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.

**YOUR
COLLECTOR**
**George
Muentnich**



TROY TOWNSHIP'S UPCOMING SEMINARS & PRESENTATIONS -

Continued from Page 6

Wills & Living Trusts • Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by: Elder Law Attorney, Jerome J. Goergen, P.C.

Do you think having a Will is enough? Then come to this information seminar and see why it may not be enough and learn about:

- advantages and disadvantages of Wills and Living Trusts;
- protecting your assets and your privacy if you become incapacitated;
- creating a plan to protect your assets before you need long term care in a nursing home,
- why putting property in your children's names may be a mistake; and
- how probate works, and more importantly, how you can avoid probate all together.

Medicare 101 & Securing Social Security • Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Presented by: Courtney Hedderman, AARP Medicare 101;

Adam Underhill of Edward Jones and Dan Peterson of Franklin Templeton Investments, Securing Social Security

These two great topics will be covered in one night.

- **Medicare 101 Your Questions Answered:** An informational presentation that will help you find out more about Medicare, whether you're currently on Medicare or you're about to become eligible or you're a caregiver for someone on Medicare.
- **Securing Social Security:** This informational presentation will help to educate you on the many decisions involved in claiming Social Security benefits, as well as the consequences, and suggest strategies that can offer an opportunity to maximize the benefit received. Also, how being married, divorced or widowed can impact your benefit.



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

25448 Seil Road
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION



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 Cross

Assessor
Kim Anderson CIAO

Highway Commissioner
Thomas R. Ward

Collector
George Muentnich

Trustees
Bryan W. Kopman
Larry Ryan
John "Theo" Theobald
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

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