

## A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR Joseph D. Baltz



Recently I celebrated my 30th anniversary serving as Supervisor of Troy Township. I can't tell you how honored I am and what a privilege it is to serve the residents of Troy Township. Over the years I have always made you, the residents, my number one priority. To that end, I have been committed to attending every monthly board meeting and in July, attended my 360th consecutive one.

With the celebration of my 30th anniversary, I have taken time to reflect on how much the Township of Troy has changed over the past three decades. Over the years we have had significant accomplishments, none of which would be possible without the dedication of not only the elected officials who have previously served and are currently serving the township but also our committed and hardworking employees. Without them many of today's programs and services would not exist.

Growing from a population of 17,939 in 1980<sup>1</sup> to a population of 45,991 in 2010<sup>2</sup>, Troy Township is no longer the small farming community it once was. Our facility and services have grown with the population to reflect the needs of residents.

In 1985 the Troy Township Office building and Senior Center was constructed. We were able to officially launch our senior program and we were able to move our office and meeting location out of the Highway Department facility. In 2006 the office was remodeled and an addition was built adding what is known today as the Troy Township Community Center. The Community Center is home to the Troy Township

seniors who gather weekly on Wednesdays and Fridays and also used by other community organizations throughout the week.

Over the years, many value-added services for the residents of Troy Township have flourished. Our most recent success is the start-up of a medical equipment exchange closet. Since announcing the program in our Spring 2014 Communicator, the lending closet has really taken off. We have received numerous donations and are able to make equipment loans to residents on a regular basis. This program is just another example of adding services for residents at no increased cost to residents. For more information on the medical equipment exchange closet, please visit our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com).

It is my honor to continue to serve you and I am always available to hear your comments and suggestions. If you know of 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

<sup>1</sup> According to the 1980 US Census

<sup>2</sup> According to the 2010 US Census

## SAVE THE DATE - Annual Town Meeting April 14<sup>th</sup>

On April 14, 2015, Troy Township will hold its 165th Annual Town Meeting. All Troy Township residents are invited to attend. Please join us at 7:00 p.m. at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. Please call 815-744-1968 with questions.

### A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Dawn Cross



*Democracy: a form of government in which people choose leaders by voting,* Merriam-Webster Dictionary

We are quickly approaching the next General Election which will take place

on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. We exercise our right to vote as a solemn obligation to our GREAT AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.

Troy Township will again serve as an early voting site for Township residents. I am very pleased to offer a streamlined process thanks to updated technology and equipment provided by our Will County Clerk, Nancy Schulz Voots. I am confident

that our early voters will find the process quick and easy.

As your Troy Township Clerk, one of my duties 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. Our facility is located at 25448 Seil Road, Shorewood, IL 60404 and details on the dates and hours of early voting can be found below.

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."*

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.

### Early Voting at Troy Township

Early voting for Troy Township residents will be offered at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood Monday through Friday starting Monday, October 20, 2014, and ending Friday, October 31, 2014. Early voting hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

To be eligible to early vote at Troy Township, you must:

- Reside in Troy Township.
- Be a registered voter.
- Present a valid government issued ID or signed voter registration card.

### Voting on November 4th

If you are unsure of your voting location for the November 4, 2014 General Election you can visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) and click on the button titled "Precinct Lookup". If you already know your precinct but are unsure of where you go to vote on

Election Day, please visit [www.troystownship.com](http://www.troystownship.com) and follow the link on our homepage for information on the November 4, 2014 General Election and for a link to a list of all Troy Township precincts and their corresponding polling place location.

### Not a Registered Voter?

All Troy Township residents can register to vote at the Troy Township offices during regular business hours. We do ask that you please call 815-744-1968 to ensure a staff member is available to assist you prior to your arrival. You can register to vote at any time during the year except during the 27 days

preceding an election. Registration reopens the second day following an election. However, if you missed the registration deadline please contact the Will County Clerk's office at 815-740-4632, 815-774-6367 or visit [www.willcountyclerk.com](http://www.willcountyclerk.com) for information on Grace Period registration.

## Shredding Event and Medication Disposal October 4th

Join us on Saturday, October 4, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. when Troy Township hosts our next shredding event and medication disposal collection. 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.** Again, shredding is for personal papers only. Shredding for business purposes is not allowed. Please be courteous to other residents and abide by the two box limit.

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, October 4, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. For more information please call 815-744-1968.

## Trustee Walden Elected to the TOI Trustees Division Board

Congratulations to Township Trustee Donald Walden who was elected in November of 2013 to serve his third consecutive term on the Township Officials of Illinois Trustee Division Board. The purpose of the Trustee's Division is to provide a medium through which members may:

- Promote educational opportunities for township trustees by conducting educational conferences.
- Promote and protect the interests of township trustees in Illinois.
- Disseminate information of interest and concern to all member township trustees and officials.
- Increase cooperation among member township trustees.
- Promote legislation beneficial to the operation of township trustees.
- Inform the public, the Illinois legislature and other governmental bodies of the advantages and benefits which are derived from township government.
- Coordinate and cooperate with organizations located in Illinois for the purpose of strengthening township government in Illinois.

We at Troy Township are very proud and very fortunate to be represented by Don at that State level and commend Don for his time and efforts to make township government the best it can be.

### YOUR TRUSTEES



Larry Ryan



John Theobald



Donald Walden



Brett Wheeler



### HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER Thomas R. Ward



This past spring and summer have been exceptionally busy for the Highway Department as we recovered from one of the harshest winters on record.

Over the past few months crews have been out working hard on the spring clean-up, road repairs, tree trimming, and keeping culverts and ditches clear. 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.

Again this winter I urge 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 travel

on these roads and extra care and caution should be used.

Lastly, when dropping off recycling at the Highway Department, please do not put garbage, furniture, etc. into the recycling containers as the recycling vendor will not take it. Please do not drop off household batteries of any kind. They are not accepted by any of our recycling vendors. However, we are able to accept automotive batteries. For information on where you can recycle items such as household batteries, light bulbs, paint, etc. please visit the Green Guide Database at [www.willcountygreen.com](http://www.willcountygreen.com).

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

### Open Burning Restrictions

Everyone loves a fall bonfire and along with fall comes leaf raking and sometimes leaf burning. Residents in the unincorporated areas of Troy Township must follow Will County's Nuisance Ordinance which restricts open burning. Both the Will County Sheriff's Office and the Will County Land Use Department have the authority to enforce the

ordinance. Specifics about what is allowed for open burning can be found at [www.willcountygreen.com](http://www.willcountygreen.com) or by calling the Will County Land Use Department, Resource Recovery and Energy Division at 815-727-8834. Residents who are in an incorporated area should check with their specific municipality for their open burning ordinances.

## Services for Unincorporated Areas of Troy Township

### LEAF VACUUMING

Starting the middle of October through November, Troy Township Highway Department will have the leaf vacuuming service for residents in the **"unincorporated" areas of the township**. 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.

### 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.

### BRANCH & BRUSH PICK UPS

The final branch and brush pick ups for this fall will be on Monday, October 6th, Monday, October 20th and Monday, November 3rd. This service will resume again at the beginning of April 2015 on the first and third Mondays of each month.



## NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson

The 2014 reassessment notices were mailed out on August 1, 2014 and were published in the Joliet Herald News on August 6th. If you did not receive a notice in the mail, this

means your property was not reassessed. If you would like to check your assessment, you may visit the Will County Supervisor of Assessments at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com) or you may call our office.

2015 is our quadrennial assessment year and every property owner will receive a reassessment notice whether you are reassessed or not.

Our three year sales study for 2014 did show some market stabilization. Our assessments came in much closer to market value so we did not realize as much of a decrease as we have in previous years. This is very encouraging news as the tax rates of the taxing bodies within the township may begin to stable out due to stabilizing market values. Please remember that a lower assessment does not always mean a lower tax bill. Your assessment, minus any exemptions, multiplied by the tax rate is what determines your property tax bill.

2013 brought 126 new homes to Troy Township and one new industrial building. To date, in 2014, we have 56 new homes, 2 new industrial buildings and 3 new commercial buildings. This brings our total parcel count for Troy Township to 20,116. This is a true sign that things are beginning to improve.

I have to complement my staff on the wonderful job they do for all of us. My department has a lot of parcels to maintain, assists our seniors with their senior freeze exemptions as well as other residents with their exemptions, and answer property owner questions. They are always friendly, courteous and helpful. I receive many compliments from you regarding my staff and we truly appreciate your kind words.

Please feel free anytime to stop in and view your property record card. You may also review your property information on our website under the property search section under the assessor tab. While we strive for accuracy, mistakes do happen. Should you find an error, we can certainly fix it. Please take a minute to review your card.

Office hours for the Assessor's Office are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our phone number is 815-744-5806; please call or stop in if we can assist you.

## Property Tax Exemptions

As stated in every newsletter, there are several assessment exemptions available to our homeowners. These exemptions are:

- General Homestead
- Senior Homestead
- Senior Assessment Freeze
- Disabled Person
- Disabled and Returning Veteran
- Home Improvement Exemption

Please visit our website [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) under the Assessor section or call the Assessor's office at 815-744-5806 to find the necessary requirements to receive these exemptions or to see if you are already receiving them.

### Volunteers Help Residents Learn Today's Technology at Troy Township

In 2008, thanks to grant funding received from the State of Illinois, Troy Township was able to establish the Cyber Niche in our Community Center. The Cyber Niche is a room containing 5 desk top computers and a printer and is staffed by volunteers from the Shorewood Glen Community. Our dedicated volunteers offer one-on-one computer and technology training for township residents. Training topics cover anything from iPhones and iPads to Kindle, Facebook and iCloud; from email to file and folder organization and from Microsoft Office programs to photo editing. Residents can also

get advice on password management, working with the "cloud", software upgrades, hardware upgrades, and disposal of obsolete equipment. Feel free to bring your own laptop, camera, whatever, along with the cables, books, CDs, etc. and our volunteers will try to help make it all more useful for you. For more information or to schedule a session, call 815-744-1968 and please tell us how we can help you. Walk-in appointments are taken on the first and third Friday of every month from 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. and there is no cost to attend a training session.

### Dial-A-Ride Bus Service

Troy Township contracts with PACE Dial-A-Ride Bus Service for residents within Troy Township. Rider eligibility under the program is for persons ages 60+ and persons with disabilities. Service is door-to-door transportation within the

designated ridership area at a cost of \$2.00 for each trip. Reservations should be made 24 hours in advance by calling 800-244-4410 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday; closed on some holidays.

### Troy Township Services

Annual Spring Clean Up\*  
Community Center  
Community Garden\*  
Computer Classes  
Early & Absentee Voting  
Emergency Preparedness  
Expos & Community Events  
General Assistance  
Leaf Pick Up\*  
Medical Equipment Exchange Closet  
Medication Disposal Events\*\*  
Mosquito Abatement\*  
Notary Public Services

Polling Place  
Property Tax Information  
Recycling Program  
Referral Services  
Road Maintenance\*  
Senior Nutrition Site & Senior Activities  
Shredding Events\*\*  
Snow Removal & Salting\*  
Tree Branch & Brush Pick Up\*  
Voter Registration  
Warming & Cooling Center\*\*\*  
Weed Control\*

\*Unincorporated Areas Only

\*\*Event Offered Twice Per Year

\*\*\*When activated by Will County EMA



## Do you Play Euchre, Bridge or Pinochle?



The Troy Township Seniors are looking for people who are interested in playing euchre, bridge or pinochle. Senior Center Director Lisa Imbody is trying to gather enough people to play and join our seniors who gather weekly on Friday. Please call Lisa at 815-744-1963 for more information and to let her know if you are interested in playing.

**YOUR  
COLLECTOR  
Sharon Cemen  
Hicks**



## 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 volunteers from Senior Services Center of Will County to assist seniors with the preparation of simple income tax returns which will be filed via

e-filing only. Complicated tax returns should be taken to other tax professionals. More information on dates and times of available appointments will be available after January 2, 2015. Please call 815-744-1968 or 815-744-1963 for more information at that time.

## Educational Tax Forum Held at Troy Township



On Tuesday, August 19, 2014, Will County Supervisor of Assessments Rhonda Novak in partnership with Troy Township Assessor Kimberly Anderson hosted an educational tax forum for the residents of Troy Township. The forum was held in the Troy Township Community Center and attendees learned about the assessment process, how to appeal their assessment, the relationship between their assessment and their property tax bill and also available exemptions. We are proud to have brought such an informative program to our residents.

## 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.

**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. Visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) to verify.



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

25448 Seil Road  
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

## IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION

**TROY**  
**TOWNSHIP**

Established 1850 Will County - Illinois

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 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