

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR

Joseph D. Baltz



Thank goodness it is spring! First and foremost, I would like to thank and compliment Highway Commissioner Thomas R. Ward and the entire crew at the Troy Township Highway Department for a job well done this winter. The volume of snow and extreme temperatures made this past winter challenging. The Troy Township Highway Department rose to the challenge and did an exceptional job keeping our township roads plowed, salted, and safe.

What's been happening since the Fall 2018 Communicator:

- Troy Township has officially partnered with Senior Services of Will County to become a satellite office. Senior Services of Will County is now on site at Troy Township and can help with services such as: Medicare open enrollment, case management, Benefit Access application assistance, Title XX, and Medicare and prescription drug counseling. Appointments are recommended and assistance is offered on the following days:

- 3rd Wednesday of every month from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (closed on holidays), and
- Every Thursday from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (closed on holidays)

For more information about Senior Services of Will County or to make an appointment please call 815-723-9713.

- On November 13, 2018 we were honored to invite our past 29 inductees of the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll and their guest to the unveiling of the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll Perpetual Plaque. They enjoyed a nice continental breakfast and visiting with fellow veterans. After the unveiling of the plaque they all went up to find their name plate that had been engraved with their name, military branch, dates of service, and induction date. It was a wonderful morning enjoyed by all.



To find out more about the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll or if you or a family member are a veteran and would like more information on being inducted, please visit www.troytownship.com or call 815-744-1963.

- Troy Township also continues to be a permanent drop off site for Operation Care Package. Thanks to Troy Township residents we have made several trips down to Operation Care Package in Manhattan, IL with our biggest drop offs during the holiday season. Please remember that care packages are sent out all year long. If you know anyone that is in the military and would like a care package sent to them or for information on Operation Care Package visit www.operationcarepackage.com.

All new redesigned Troy Township Communicator coming Fall 2019

***For more information about Troy Township and any upcoming events,
please visit www.troytownship.com or call 815-744-1968***

NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson



2019 is our quadrennial assessment year, this means that every four years, state statute requires that every property within a township's jurisdiction be looked at for possible reassessment and that a reassessment notice be sent whether your property has been reassessed or not. The notice will be sent to the property owner by Will County in early August. If you are unhappy with the assessment that was placed on your property, you will have 30 days to appeal with the Will County Board of Review. It is highly recommended that you discuss your new assessment with my office prior to filing an official appeal. This needs to be done as soon as possible as the appeal time is very short. On Troy Township's website www.troytownship.com there is a section under the Assessor's tab entitled "How to Appeal Your Property Assessment". There you will find a very detailed explanation of the appeal process. During the appeal season we will have extended hours on August 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 8:00 am to 6:00 p.m. to help you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 815-744-5806.

Please note: This appeal process is to appeal the value of your property – not your property taxes. The Assessor's office is only responsible for the value placed on your property - not the taxes you pay. If you wish to protest your property taxes, you must pay them under protest. For information on how to pay under protest, please contact the Will County Circuit Clerk at 815-727-8592.

Exemption News: There are several exemptions available to Township residents. The exemptions include General Homestead, General Senior Citizen

Exemption (65 years or older), Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze (65 years or older), Disabled Person, Disabled Veteran, Returning Veteran, and Home Improvement. To see if you are eligible for any of these exemptions, please visit our website under the assessor tab and click on exemptions. If you are unable to view this information online, please feel free to call us at 815-744-5806 or stop in to the office. A few changes for tax year 2018 and beyond were made. If you are a **Disabled Veteran**, you will need an updated letter from the VA for 2019. The letter must include your "service connected disability rating". You may phone the VA at 1-800-827-1000 or go online to your Veteran's E-Benefit account at ebenefits.va.gov to get your updated letter. Also, the **Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze** income threshold was changed from a total household income of \$55,000 to \$65,000. After your 2018 income tax has been completed, please feel free to give us call to see if you qualify. Please have your 1040 handy when you call.

All Exemption Renewals: All renewal applications will be mailed at the end of March from Will County. Once you receive this renewal in the mail, please feel free to stop in and we will be more than happy to assist you in filing your paperwork if you need any assistance.

As stated in every newsletter, I encourage you to review your property information that is on file with my office. You can go online at www.troytownship.com and under the assessor tab, click property search. You may enter your parcel ID number that is located on your property tax bill or search by address. If you chose to search by address, please only enter the street name. Example: your address is 111 S. Seil Road – only enter Seil in the street name field. A list of all properties located on Seil will appear, you may then click on your address.
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A MESSAGE FROM CLERK Kristin Cross



As the Troy Township Clerk, I have the honor of serving the residents of Troy Township. I also have the honor to witness the day to day operations at the Township and would like

to compliment our Township employees on their hard work. Be it helping seniors, conducting early voting, fairly assessing properties, or keeping our roads safe and in good condition, our Township employees are the heart and soul of our township operations and should be commended for such great work.

As this newsletter arrives in mailboxes, Troy Township will just be wrapping up as an early voting site for the April 2nd Consolidated Election. I cannot stress enough the importance of voting and

having your voice heard. As I have said before, our country's future, be it nationally, at the state level, or locally depends on your vote. For information on how to register to vote, your precinct voting location, early voting methods, etc. please visit www.thewillcountyclerk.com.

In every spring edition of the Communicator I like to remind residents to attend the Township's Annual Town Meeting held on the second Tuesday in April. The Annual Town Meeting brings township residents together and includes a presentation of year-end financial reports from Township Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz along with a summary of the prior year's activities. Please join us on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd., Shorewood.

If you have any questions about the Clerk's position, please contact me at 815-744-1968.

NEWS FROM ASSESSOR *Continued from Page 2*

After clicking on your address, you may view all the property information that goes into the assessment of your property. If you find an error, please contact us immediately so a correction can be made. **If there is an error that effects your value and if a refund is warranted, we can only go back one year.**

Have you recently added or removed an improvement to your property? Adding or removing improvements can affect your assessed value. Permits are required for most structural home improvements or modifications. Please make sure to check with your appropriate municipality or in unincorporated areas contact the Will County Land Use Building Division at 815-727-8634 regarding the need for such a permit. Failure to secure the required permit can cause undue burden and further complications for you down the road.

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 upon completion. Class dates are Tuesday, June 4th and Tuesday, June 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Both classes will be held at the Troy Township Community Center, located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood. The cost of the course is \$15.00 for AARP members and \$20.00 for Non-AARP members.

Advance registration is required. Contact Angela at 815-744-1963 or email ascaggs@troytownship.com by Thursday, May 31st to register.

A MESSAGE FROM HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

Thomas R. Ward



As I write this article in late January, I am anxiously awaiting the warmer weather and the road construction season. I am hopefully for dry start to the work season and there are still many projects left to be completed. As always, the Troy Township Highway Department strives to improve drainage issues

throughout the township. That said, please take note that **we will no longer be installing pipe and filling in open ditches** unless a major problem presents and that is the only solution. We have found that in areas where this practice was executed, we now have drainage issues and flooding problems. The

pipes are unable to adequately move rainwater during times of heavy rains as efficiently as an open ditch will.

Due to the overwhelming amount of branches that get dropped off at the Highway Department yard, we will only accept one pickup load per township residence, per week. This is a service for Troy Township residential homeowners and is not a service for commercial entities, contractors, etc. Abuse of this service by commercial entities jeopardized the continuance of this service for township residents.

As always, the condition of our township roads will be assessed after winter, evaluated, and prioritized for repair and maintenance work.

I am proud to serve the residents of Troy Township as their Highway Commissioner and I welcome your input and questions. I am only a phone call away and can be reached at 815-405-3378.

Services for Unincorporated Areas of Troy Township

Annual Spring Clean Up April 29th through May 3rd

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, May 3rd will be the last day for pickups. 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!

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.

Branch and Brush Pick Up

Beginning April 15th and continuing through October 21st 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. This service was implemented for the residents of the unincorporated areas to help them dispose of tree trimmings and any branches that may have fallen. If you have a large pile of branches out, they may not all be picked up in one day as we do have the entire township to cover. Please don't be alarmed if we only pick up half of your pile. We will make a second round as time allows and will make additional rounds in the event of a storm. As a reminder, brush and branches should be tied and bundled and no more than six (6) inches in diameter and six (6) feet long should be placed by the roadside, parallel to the road if possible. Do not put the branches into bags and please do not put grass clippings out with the branches. No other yard waste will be picked up and again, **grass clipping will not be picked up under any circumstances.**

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.

Shredding Event and Medication Disposal May 4th

Join us on Saturday, May 4, 2019, 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



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!

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.

Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on April 16th

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. 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 15, 2019.

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 Informational Seminars / Presentations

All seminars and presentations are informational and free to 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 email ascaggs@troytownship.com. If there is a topic you'd like Troy Township to consider having, please contact Angela.

Wills & Living Trusts

Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.—Register by: Tuesday, April 23rd

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; and
- protecting your assets and your privacy if you become incapacitated; and
- creating a plan to protect your assets before you need long term care in a nursing home, and
- 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.

Family Wealth

Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.—Register by: Tuesday, May 21st

Presented by: Christian Haymond, MFS and Adam Underhill, Edward Jones

Please join us for the enlightening workshop on Family Wealth Planning where you will gain greater insight into communicating and planning a seamless wealth transfer to your heirs that will help create a lasting legacy including the benefits of a Stretch IRA.

Long Term Care

Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.—Register by: Tuesday, June 25th

Presented by: David O'Dell, Delco Financial

Don't lose your life savings to home health care, assisted living, or nursing home! It's never too early to start planning!

This seminar will teach you about:

- How to legally protect your Assets.
- How qualifying Veterans may receive up to \$2,100 tax-free a month for Long Term Care needs.
- How IRA's may be used tax-free under the Pension Protection Act for Long Term Care needs.
- How an "Asset Protection Trust" really works.
- What legal documents are needed for Long Term Care Planning?

Social Security: How to Grow from Here

Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.—Register by: Tuesday, July 9th

Presented by: Julie Cronin, John Hancock and Adam Underhill, Edward Jones

Social Security has the potential to be a key financial asset, yet too many Americans fail to make the most of it. In this informational seminar you will learn: The basics of Social Security, incorporating Social Security into your retirement portfolio, and strategies for maximizing the benefits you deserve.

Global Market Outlook

Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.—Register by: Tuesday, Aug. 13th

Presented by: Matt Boren, T Rowe Price and Adam Underhill, Edward Jones

You can't predict the markets, but you can prepare for them. With more market volatility expected, learn about investing during such times of uncertainty, strategies that may help temper short-term market swings and support your long-term investment goals. Understanding the fundamentals of market cycles and how to best position your portfolio can potentially enhance returns and help you keep a long-term perspective.

How to Protect Your Assets in Retirement

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.—Register by: Tuesday, Sept. 17th

Presented by: David O'Dell, Delco Financial

Are you retirement ready or already thriving in Retirement? Whether you are retired or going to retire, working towards your goals is the most important thing you can focus on. Legal Documents, Retirement Savings, Long-Term Care and Taxes are each important area for you to address in retirement and we will be discussing each of these in this informational seminar. Please join us for a fun night.

ATTENTION: ALL TROY TOWNSHIP SENIORS



Join the Troy Township seniors every Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our seniors enjoy card games, bingo, dominoes, Wii bowling, different types of themed parties, lunch, monthly birthday celebrations, outings, and more. Come have some fun and meet new friends. Lunch is provided by Meals on Wheels for a suggested

\$4.00 donation. The seniors meet at the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd in Shorewood. For more information please contact Angela Scaggs at 815-744-1963 or email ascaggs@troytownship.com.

**YOUR
COLLECTOR**
Jerry Nudera



Matter of Balance

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A **MATTER OF BALANCE** is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.

YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
- make changes to reduce fall risks at home
- exercise to increase strength and balance

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- anyone concerned about falls
- anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength
- anyone who has fallen in the past
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns

Matter of Balance is offered in partnership between Senior Services of Will County and Troy Township.

Classes will be held at: Troy Township Community Center, 25448 Seil Road

8 Week Session Class Dates: April 22nd, 29th, May 6th, 13th, 20th, June 3rd, 10th and 17th

Class Times: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. All classes are 2 hours each.

This course is **FREE** to all Troy Township residents.

For more information and/or to register by Wed., April 17th please call Angela at 815-744-1963 or ascaggs@troytownship.com. Attendance is limited to the first 15 to register.



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

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.*