

Spring 2021

Issue 48



## A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR **Joseph D. Baltz**

2020 was quite a year. Covid-19 became a new everyday word in our vocabulary along with words like masks, social-distancing, mitigations, and phrases like “with an abundance of caution”. Covid-19 has changed our residents’ lives forever. You had to learn an entirely new way to live and work and so did the Township.

Within days of the mandatory stay-at-home order being issued by the Governor in March, our dedicated office staff transitioned seamlessly to a remote work from home scenario and our Highway Department continued to operate on the front lines with new PPE and precautions in place.

I am proud to say that our residents were always taken care of and we facilitated requests for help in all departments: Assessor’s, Supervisor’s, General Assistance, and our Highway Department.

Staff was never more than a phone call or email away. Office phones were answered on personal cell phones, emails were always returned, durable medical equipment was loaned out, our micro pantry stayed stocked, and residents’ needs were always met.

After time, the office staff transitioned back into the office with restricted/limited access by the public for in-person assistance.

Not only did we work with our staff to make sure they were provided with adequate PPE, but we also worked to make our work environment a safer one. Two new air purification systems were added to the Township office building which have been proven to help stop the spread of viruses. This provides a safer environment for our employees and visitors.



Throughout the pandemic the Township has been able to keep our regular monthly board meeting schedule by either zoom or in-person; always open to the public with guidelines in place.

We were able to induct 2 veterans into the Donald D. Walden Veterans Honor Roll via Zoom. As of February 22, 2021, we have inducted 46 Troy Township veterans into the Veterans Honor Roll. Veterans who reside in Troy Township may apply to be inducted into the Veterans Honor Roll. Inductees are invited to attend a Troy Township Board meeting where they will be honored with a certificate of appreciation and thanked personally for their service. Inductees will also have their names and service dates memorialized on an engraved name plate that will be placed on the Veterans Honor Roll perpetual plaque in the Troy Township Community Center. If you would like more information on being inducted, please visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) or call 815-744-1963.

My hope is that in 2021 we will start to get back to some kind of normalcy. I know that our staff is anxious for a return to normal times and cannot wait for the return of our township senior program, the shredding event, and many other programs that we offer.

I hope everyone stays healthy and keeps a positive attitude. We will get through this together!



## NEWS FROM ASSESSOR **Kim Anderson, CIAO**

Welcome 2021! I hope all of you had the best possible holiday season that you could. The Assessor's office has continued to work through the pandemic. Currently we have three employees in the office and two working remotely. With the constant changes to mitigations, we are doing our best to be available to our residents. No phone calls or emails are left unanswered. We are hopeful that we can all soon return to the office and reopen our doors. I would like to compliment all Troy Township staff members on their cooperation on making this huge change a successful one.

The Assessor's staff and I are currently working on the reassessment process for 2021 and general maintenance. There have been many changes in the way Will County processes reassessments, and we are doing our best to adapt to those changes. August is the month all final reassessments can be viewed by everyone via the internet. The Joliet Herald News will list assessments only if a change was made to your property. If there is a change to your property value other than a state or county factor, you will receive a notice in the mail. If you do not receive a reassessment notice in the mail within the first two weeks of August, you may check your revised value on the County website [www.willcountysa.com](http://www.willcountysa.com) under pin or address search or you can give us a call M-F 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at 815-744-5806 or email [Assessor@troystownship.com](mailto:Assessor@troystownship.com)

*As stated in every newsletter, please check your property record for accuracy. Most residential information can be found on our website [www.troystownship.com](http://www.troystownship.com) under the assessor, property search feature. If you cannot locate your information, please give us a call and we will be more than happy to assist you. If there is an error, we have a limited amount of time to get it corrected, so please let us know as soon as possible.*

2020 has been a rough year for businesses but residential has thrived. With lower interest rates and people moving out of the big cities, Troy Township has seen a record number of home sales. It is certainly a seller's market.

**Exemptions** – as a reminder please be sure to **check your property tax bill** when it arrives from the County to be sure you are receiving all the exemptions you are entitled to. Please remember exemption amounts are deducted from your assessed value not from your bill. You will be paying less due to those exemptions as the formula to create your bill is: assessed value minus (-) exemption amount, times (x) the tax rate.

Last year our State Legislators voted to carry over all renewable exemptions without a renewal application due to the pandemic. At the time of this article, it was unknown if the State would once again roll over all renewable exemptions. The County will be notified either way and they will notify the Townships as soon as they find out. If you did receive a renewal in the mail from Will County, it is likely that they did not carry over for 2021. Please check our website or give us a call for an update on the passage of this bill.

**If you are eligible for the first time for any exemption** such as the senior, veteran, and disabled exemptions, you will have to fill out the appropriate application and provide necessary proof. Please feel free to contact us for any assistance you may need.

As a reminder, these are the many exemptions that are available: General Homestead, Senior General Homestead, Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze, Disabled Veteran, Returning Veteran, Disabled Person and Home Improvement.

Information and requirements regarding these exemptions can be found on our website under the assessor tab, exemptions. Applications can be found at [www.willcountysa.com](http://www.willcountysa.com) under the forms tab for those exemptions that require the application be filed out by you. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

**Please have a safe and healthy 2021!**





## A MESSAGE FROM CLERK **Kristin Cross**

I hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and well.

You may vote in the upcoming April 6th Consolidated Election via any of the below methods that best suits your schedule and needs.

### **EARLY VOTING:**

Troy Township will once again serve as an early voting site for Township residents. Registered voters can early vote at the Troy Township Community Center Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. starting Monday, March 22, 2021 and ending on Thursday, April 1, 2021. The Troy Township offices will be closed on Friday, April 2, 2021 in observance of Good Friday, therefore, there will be no early voting conducted at the township. For more early voting options or questions, please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) or call 815-740-4615.

### **VOTE BY MAIL:**

For more information on voting by mail please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) or call 815-740-4615.

### **ELECTION DAY VOTING:**

Election Day is Tuesday, April 6, 2021. For more information on Election Day including hours of voting, precinct locations, etc. please visit [www.thewillcountyclerk.com](http://www.thewillcountyclerk.com) or call 815-740-4615.

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>**

I'd 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 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd., Shorewood.

## **SHREDDING EVENT AND MEDICATION DISPOSAL MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>**



Join us on Saturday, May 1, 2021, from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** when Troy Township will host its next shredding and medication disposal event. This event will take place 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 Iron Mountain. Each resident must show proof of township residency and are allowed no more than two letter size file or copy paper boxes shredded.

***The event will end early due to inclement weather, if the shredding truck fills up or may be cancelled due to COVID restrictions.***

Troy Township is proud to once again partner with the Shorewood Police Department and Bio One to be offering medication and needle disposal along with the shredding event. Township residents can bring their unneeded medication and/or needles so that it can be disposed of properly. Make sure to bring only residentially generated medication items. No medications or needles from businesses or doctor's offices will be accepted. Use a permanent marker to black out your name or personal information on the label or you may empty all your pills into a Ziplock bag and bring that.



### **NEEDLES APPROPRIATELY CONTAINED WITHIN AN APPROVED SHARPS CONTAINER WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT!**



A list of accepted medications and more information about the event can be found on our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) under the News, Notes & Events section.



## A MESSAGE FROM HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER **Thomas R. Ward**

After seven years of above average rainfall, the summer of 2020 gave us an opportunity to dry out. I and my crew understand there are still certain drainage issues in our right of ways. We will begin to address those issues when our main road projects are complete and when weather permits.

This spring I will be evaluating roads that need resurfacing and will prioritize our summer 2021 road projects accordingly. Grinding and resurfacing (blacktop) projects are very costly which limits the number of projects that can be completed in one construction season.

I am proud to serve as your Highway Commissioner and take pride in serving the residents of Troy Township. I am always just a phone call away so never hesitate to call me with any issues that occur on our roads and in our right of way. I hope that you and all your loved ones have stayed safe and healthy during these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,  
Highway Commissioner Thomas R. Ward

### **NOTICE! IMPORTANT CHANGES to the Branch Pick-Up Program for Unincorporated Residents!**

Our Branch Pick-Up Program began in the early 1980's and has long been a favorite service for our residents in the unincorporated areas. Unfortunately, due to some abuse of the program in recent years, we find that we must restructure it and revert to some of the original program rules. We must begin to enforce these rules to continue to provide this service in an efficient and affordable manner.

As spring yard work begins, please take the time to review the new program criteria. If the requirements outlined below are not followed you will receive a **RESTACK NOTICE** and your branches will be picked up on the next collection day, if stacked appropriately. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but these requirements are imperative to the program running smoothly, efficiently, and in a cost-effective manner. Your cooperation helps to ensure the continuation of this program.

**SERVICE AREA:** Residential homes in the unincorporated areas of Troy Township.

**COLLECTION DAYS:** Branch pick-up is the first and third Monday of every month beginning with the first Monday of May and ending on the 3rd Monday in October. If Monday is a holiday, collection will be on Tuesday of that week.

#### **ABSOLUTELY NO PICKUP FOR:**

- Grass clippings, leaves, root balls, stones, mulch, or any other yard waste.
- Tree removal and landscaping removal from private property will not be picked up. Branch pick-up is intended for branches removed during routine trimming or due to storm damage. Entire trees or

landscape removal that has been taken down/removed by a resident or private contractor will **NOT** be picked up. This includes any debris from the removal of shrubs, branches, stumps, root balls, and logs.

- Landscape timbers and wood fencing will not be picked up.
- **POISON IVY – ABSOLUTELY NO PICKUP** for poison ivy. **DO NOT** mix poison ivy in with your branches.

#### **BRANCH PICKUP REQUIREMENTS:**

- Keep branches as long as possible but they must be **no larger than six (6) inches in diameter**.
- Branches should be stacked in a neat manner with the "cut end" towards the roadside edge on the ground. **Crews WILL NOT go on private property to pick-up or move debris.**
- All branches should be facing in the same direction.
- Branches can be stacked in 3-foot-high by 3-foot-wide piles. Crews will accept up to 4 piles per household per collection day. Excessive trimming/pruning will not be picked up.
- Thorny branches must be tied and stacked **SEPERATELY** from other branches. Please put these branches to the side of all other.
- Branches must be placed out by 7:00 a.m. on collection day. We will not double back for residents that do not have branches out by 7:00 a.m.
- Do NOT put the branches into bags or any containers. They must be on the ground.
- Branches must be clear of all debris (i.e., no grass clippings, leaves, root balls, stones, mulch).

**NO CALL IN REQUIRED!!!**

***Annual Spring Clean-Up and Leaf Vacuuming information on Page 5***



## BE IN THE KNOW!

If you would like to be up to date and know about any upcoming events at Troy Township or current information, please email your name and email address to [information@troytownship.com](mailto:information@troytownship.com) to be added to our list. Email addresses are used for Troy Township information only. You may also visit our website at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com) for all current and up to date information.



### Have a Short-term Need for a Wheelchair, Walker, Cane, Crutches or Knee Scooter?

Troy Township's Durable Medical Closet offers short-term loans, up to 90 days, of wheelchairs, walkers, canes or crutches. Free for any Troy Township resident! Call 815-744-1963 for more information.



### Temporary Handicapped Parking Placards Now Available at the Township Offices

Troy Township can issue temporary handicap parking placards valid for a 3 month period to qualified individuals. Individuals in need of a temporary handicapped parking placard must complete an application that is signed by their doctor. Applications are available at the Troy Township offices or at [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com). Upon receipt of a properly completed application, the temporary handicapped parking placard will be issued immediately. For more information please call 815-744-1963 or visit [www.troytownship.com](http://www.troytownship.com).



## SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

### ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>

Starting Monday, April 26th, 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 30th 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!**

Visit [www.willcountygreen.com](http://www.willcountygreen.com) or contact Will County Land Use Recycling at 815-727-8834 to find out where to recycle electronics and other recyclable items.

### 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).



# BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS KEEP YOURSELF AND NEIGHBORS SAFE

## How to Report Suspicious Activity

Public safety and security is everyone's responsibility. If you see suspicious activity, report it to local law enforcement or a person of authority using the "5W's":



Across the country, in our communities, we share everyday moments with our neighbors, family, coworkers, and friends. We go to work or school, the grocery store, or the gas station. It's easy to overlook these routine moments, but as you're going about your day, if you see something that doesn't seem quite right, say something. By being alert and reporting suspicious activity to your local law enforcement, you can protect your family, neighbors, and community.

\* source: [www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something](http://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something)

## DO NOT OPEN YOUR DOOR TO STRANGERS!

- You're not obligated to open your door.
- Simply reply to whoever is at your front door without opening it by asking, "Who is it?"
- Again, don't let your guard down here. Many burglars and scammers will pretend like they're in danger or need help in order to get you to open your door.
- For example, someone might say they have a car issue and need to use your phone because they don't have a cell phone or their cell phone died. Instead of letting them inside, tell them you'll make the call for them. Ask for the phone number without opening the door.
- If they claim they're hurt for any reason, tell them to hang tight while you call 911 for them.
- If they claim to be any type of service person (like from the cable company), tell them to call you to set up an appointment. No service person should show up to your home without an appointment.
- Sometimes someone may look like a teenager selling something for school or trying to raise money for a scholarship. Tell them you're not interested without opening the door.
- If someone is trying to sell something or any type of service (like landscaping) tell them through the door to leave the information at the front door.
- But above all if you feel unsafe call 911.

\* source for 1—6: [www.ackermansecurity.com/blog/home-security-tips/what-smart-people-do-when-a-stranger-comes-knocking](http://www.ackermansecurity.com/blog/home-security-tips/what-smart-people-do-when-a-stranger-comes-knocking)

## Mobile Driver Services Unit Coming to Troy Township on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his Mobile Driver Services Unit will be at the Troy Township Community Center on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. The Community Center is located at 25448 Seil Road, in Shorewood, Illinois. Illinois residents will be able to renew their drivers' licenses (no driving test offered), obtain duplicate or corrected licenses and obtain Illinois identification cards between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. **REAL ID's can ONLY be issued at a Secretary of State facility and NOT at the mobile drivers.**

A Rules of the Road Review Course is tentatively scheduled to 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 want to participate in the Rules of the Road Review Course, please call 815-744-1963 to pre-register. **If the in-person program is not offered due to COVID restrictions a virtual option may be available.**

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)

**EVENT MAY BE CANCELLED UNEXPECTEDLY DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**





## Illinois Department on Aging - Benefits Access Program Programs Provided By: Senior Services of Will County

### 2020 Income Levels for RTA Bus Pass & License Plate Sticker Tax Discount

**\$33,562 - 1 person household**

**\$44,533 - 2 person household**

**\$55,500 - 3 Person Household**

To qualify, applicants must be 65 or older by December 31 of the current year or 16 years of age or older and totally disabled before January 1 of the present year and meet an income requirement.

- Applications submitted on or after January 1, 2021 through April 15, 2021 must use 2019 income to file.
- Applications submitted on or after April 16, 2021 must use 2020 income to file.

### What is REQUIRED to bring to the appointment:

1. ID's for everyone in the household- State ID or Driver's License
2. Social Security Card
3. **2019** Social Security 1099
4. **2019** Federal Income Tax Return (1040) if filed.
5. **2019** Pension/Annuities 1099 and all other 1099's
6. **2019** Alimony/TANF
7. **2019** Interest, Dividends, Wages and all other 1099's
8. **Proof of Disability (if disabled)**

**Appointments  
Required**



**Please Call  
(815) 723-9713**

**The Benefit Access Program application provides the Senior Ride Free Transit Card and the Auto License Plate Sticker discount.**

More information on these programs and others, maybe found on Senior Services of Will County's website at [www.willcountyseniors.org](http://www.willcountyseniors.org)

## Title Twenty (XX) Bus Pass - Elderly Paratransit Service

### Sign up for the Pace bus pass at:

**Senior Services of Will County**

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Call (815) 723-9713

or

**Troy Township**

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. by appointment only

Call (815) 744-1963 to schedule

Title XX is a door-to-door bus service for Central Will Dial-a-Ride program. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 for the processing of the card after which your rides are free. The card is valid from July 1 to June 30 each year and must be renewed every year.

Must be age 60 or over and have a need for door-to-door transportation - proof of age, such as a driver's license, state ID, or birth certificate must be presented at time of registration for the card.

### Transportation sponsored by and available in:

The City of Joliet, Township of Joliet, Lockport, Homer, Jackson, Plainfield, and Troy



PRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
JOLIET IL  
PERMIT #277

25448 Seil Road  
Shorewood, IL 60404-7620

**IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION**

**SUPERVISOR**

Joseph D. Baltz

**TOWN CLERK**

Kristin Cross

**ASSESSOR**

Kim Anderson, CIAO

**HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER**

Thomas R. Ward

**COLLECTOR**

John D. Greenwood

**TRUSTEES**

Bryan W. Kopman    Jerry Nudera    Larry Ryan    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

**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR**

Jennifer Dylik

***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.

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