

## A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR Joseph D. Baltz

When you ask people "what does my township do?" most residents are familiar with our Highway Department and our Assessor's Department. Many, however, are not familiar with the other services that Troy Township provides. From our senior program to financial assistance programs, your Township is here for you. We offer multiple programs and services, some of which are highlighted below.

I am always interested to hear from our residents and am regularly asking our staff "how can we do more to help?" If you have a comment, concern, or suggestion for our Township, feel free to reach me at 815-744-1968 or Jbaltz@troytownship.com. Please let me know how we can help you!

















For more information on the above services, call 815-744-1963 or email information@troytownship.com.

### **CLEAN WATER IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS**

The Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 established the NPDES storm water program. The act called for implementation in two phases; Phase I addressed the most significant sources of pollution in storm water runoff while Phase II addresses other sources to protect water quality. With Phase II requirements, the Troy Township Highway Department was required to establish a Stormwater

Management Program Plan. The plan along with information about how you can help keep our water clean and be found on the Township's website at https://www.troytownship.com/stormwater-management-program-plan/.

Residents can report instances of pollution or suspected pollution by contacting the Township Highway Department at (815) 828-5275.

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## NEWS FROM ASSESSOR Kim Anderson, CIAO

2023 is the quadrennial assessment year, that means every four years the state statute requires that every property within a Township's jurisdiction be looked at for possible reassessment and that a reassessment notice be sent to each property owner whether your property has been reassessed or not. The notice will be sent to whom the property tax bill goes to by Will County the early part of August. If you don't agree with the assessment that was placed on your property, you will have 30 days to appeal with the Will County Board of Review. Their deadline to file is September 11, 2023. It is highly recommended that you review your assessment with the assessor's office prior to filing an official appeal. This needs to be done as soon as possible after receiving your notice as time is very short. If you want to appeal your assessment visit our website www.troytownship.com which contains an entire section on "How To Appeal Your Property Assessment". Hover over the Assessor's tab to find this information. We encourage you to follow the directions for ease of your appeal. During the appeal season we will have extended hours from 4 pm to 6 pm by appointment only on Thursday August 17th, 24th and 31st. Please call 815-744-5806 to schedule your appointment.

<u>Please Note:</u> this appeal process is for the assessed value of your property NOT your property taxes. The Assessor's Office is responsible for the value placed upon your property not the taxes you pay. Property taxes are the result of taxing body need for funds to operate. You may appeal your actual property taxes by paying under protest. For more information on how to appeal your property taxes please contact the Will County Circuit Clerk at 815-727-8592.

#### **Exemption News:**

There are several exemptions available to Township residents. The exemptions include: the General Homestead, General Senior Exemption (65 years or older), Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze (65 years or older with total household income \$65,000 or less), 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 – Exemptions. You may also give us a call to find out more. There were a few changes made

to exemptions: for the disabled veteran exemption, you must include a new "service-connected disability percentage" for any applications filed for 2022-2023. You may call the VA at 1-800-827-1000 or go online to your ebenefits.va.gov to get your updated letter.

The state legislature approved an increase to the General Homestead and General Senior Homestead Exemptions effective this year payable in 2024. Both exemption amounts increased to \$8,000 vs \$6,000 and \$5,000 respectively. Please remember these two exemptions do NOT need to be renewed unless you move.

Exemption Renewals: All renewal applications will be mailed by Will County in mid-April including the senior freeze. Once you receive your renewal applications, please feel free to stop in for assistance or email your application to Will County at soaexemptions@ willcountyillinois.com. There will be an exemption event hosted by Will County on Monday, June 5th from 10:00-2:00 and held at Troy Township.

As Always: Please review your property information on our website or request to see your property record in person. If there is an error, we have a very limited time to correct it. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have concerning your property assessment, property information, any information on what we do, and if you need assistance with exemptions. Also, it is very important for you to let us know if you have removed any type of improvements from your property. Example: in-ground swimming pools, detached garages, decks, patios, etc. These improvements do add value to your property assessment and should be removed if it is no longer there. Please check with your appropriate municipality or in unincorporated areas contact Will County Land Use Building Division at 815-727-8634 regarding needed permits. Failure to secure a required permit can cause undue burden and further complications for you down the road.

Please note our website is constantly being updated. If there is something you're looking for and it cannot be found, please give us a call at 815-744-5806 or stop by our office Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Have a great summer.



As your Troy Township Clerk and Local Election Official, I would like to share a couple of thoughts on the importance of voting. The opportunity to vote is vital to pay tribute to those who fought for this freedom, to have fundamental input on who represents you, and for the impact it will have on future generations. Outlined below are several options with regards to method of voting, and the timetable in which an individual can cast their vote.

Additionally, the State of Illinois as well as Will County have experienced redistricting of legislative districts. On a local level, this may have affected your Troy Township Precinct and polling place. If you have not done so already, please take an opportunity to review your voter's card and/or visit the Will County Clerk's website. Under the "Election" category you can navigate to "Voter Services" and review many items such as sample ballots, polling place, and your elected officials.

You may vote in the upcoming April 4th Consolidated Election with 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 20, 2023, and ending Friday, March 31, 2023. For more early voting options or questions, please visit www.willcountyclerk.gov or call 815-740-4615.

*Vote by Mail:* For more information on voting by mail, please visit www.willcountyclerk.gov or call 815-740-4615.

*Election Day Voting:* Election Day is Tuesday, April 4, 2023. For more information on Election Day including hours of voting, precinct locations, etc. please visit www.willcountyclerk.gov or call 815-740-4615.

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING • TUESDAY, APRIL 11TH

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 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Troy Township Community Center located at 25448 Seil Rd., Shorewood.

### SHREDDING EVENT AND MEDICATION DISPOSAL SATURDAY, MAY 6TH

Join us on Saturday, May 6, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.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 4 grocery bags per vehicle of paper to be shredded.

The event will end early due to inclement weather, if the shredding truck fills up or may be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Troy Township is proud to once again partner with the Shorewood Police Department to be offering medication only at 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 or you may empty all your pills into a Ziplock bag and bring that.

Alist of accepted medications and more information about the event can be found on our website at www.troytownship.com.

SHARPS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED AT THE SHRED EVENT.

### TROY TOWNSHIP'S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Troy Township administers General Assistance as required by law and also administers: Emergency Assistance, Nicor Sharing, and is a Salvation Army Extension office. These programs are available for township residents in need. These locally administered welfare programs are income based and have helped many residents throughout the years.

For question about any of the above referenced programs, please contact the Troy Township General Assistance Office at 815-744-1963 or visit our website at www.troytownship.com under the Services and Resources tab. Appointments are required so please call-in advance to schedule your visit.

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

Ihope this article finds you and your family well. As I have mentioned in the last few editions of the Communicator, there is a lot of planned construction work coming up in Troy Township. Unfortunately, this brings detours and road closures in our township. Please slow down and talk to your young drivers about paying attention to the signage and preparing for heavier traffic on other roads; both incorporated and unincorporated.

We will be assessing roads in the spring to decide which roads are the best candidates for resurfacing and it goes without saying that material prices will be greater than in years past.

We will continue drainage and ditching work as needed.

I am very proud to serve as the Troy Township's Highway Commissioner. As always, feel free to contact me or my office with any problems that may arise. Office: 815-828-5275 Cell: 815-405-3378

### SERVICES FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

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



As spring yard work begins, please take the time to review the 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 May 1, 2023, and ending October 16, 2023. 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. <u>Crews WILL</u> 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 **SEPARATELY** 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: APRIL 17, 2023 - APRIL 21, 2023

Troy Township Highway crews will be picking up household items such as furniture, appliances, carpet (tied in rolls), etc. for residents in <u>unincorporated</u> Troy Township. Place items out in front of your residence near the road. Remember that Friday, April 21, 2023 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. <u>We will NOT pick up any electronics such as TVs, computers, etc.</u> Again, we have no way to handle garbage or papers so **PLEASE....NO GARBAGE OR PAPERS!** 

Visit 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.







# LOOKING FOR A FUN, NEW WAY TO BE MORE ACTIVE?

# Bingo + Exercise = Bingocize® Fall Prevention

BINGOCIZE® is a 10-week health promotion program that combines thegame of bingo with fall prevention exercise. Play bingo with us and meet new people while learning about techniques to reduce falls.

When: Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 4/11/2023-6/15/2023 Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Where: Troy Township, 25448 Seil Rd., Shorewood, 60404

PLEASE CONTACT KELLI AT 815-933-7791 EXT: 9910 BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5TH TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet is a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling other of goodwill to do the same.









Attendance at these events indicates consent for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet, Inc., to use my photo to promote and increase awareness of programs and services offered by the Agency. Photos may be used in Catholic Charities' printed materials, online, media, or by grantors.



Did you know that social connectedness and intellectual engagement are two lifestyle factors that contribute to your brain's health?

Simply put, coming together and learning new things are good for your noggin! Join the Wits Workout group where you'll engage in all kinds of interactive puzzles and games and learn what you can do in your daily life to keep your brain healthy.

Please contact Kelli at 815-933-7701 ext: 9901 to reserve your spot!

Wits Workout is a program developed by University of Illinois.





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When: Tuesday mornings 8/22/23 - 9/26/23

Time: 10:00-11:30AM

Where: Troy Township 25448 Seil Rd., Shorewood

Classes are for participants 60+.



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# MOBILE DRIVER SERVICES UNIT IS COMING TO TROY TOWNSHIP ON MONDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>



Troy Township will host the Secretary of State Mobile Driver Services Unit at the Troy Township Community Center on Monday, April 10, 2023. The Community Center is located at 25448 Seil Road, in Shorewood, Illinois. Illinois residents will be able to renew their driver's licenses, obtain duplicate or corrected licenses and Illinois identification cards between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

REAL ID'S, BEHIND THE WHEEL DRIVING TEST, AND WRITTEN
TEST can ONLY be done at a Secretary of State facility and NOT at the mobile driver services unit event.

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.

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

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

### **AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM COURSE**

Troy Township will host an AARP "Smart Driver" Driver Safety Program. 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 Monday, July 10th and Tuesday. day July 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Classes will be held at the Troy Township Community Center, located at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood (Location subject to change). The cost of the course is \$20.00 for AARP members (please bring membership card) and \$25.00 for Non members. Registration is required by contacting Angela at 815-744-1963 or email ascaggs@troytownship.com by Friday, July 7th.

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

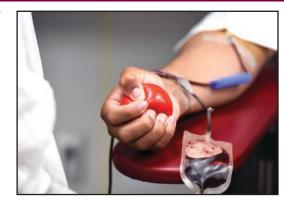
### GIVE THE GIFT OF A BLOOD DONATION ON TUESDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>

Troy Township to host a blood drive with Versiti Blood Center of Illinois on Tuesday, June 27th from 2:00pm – 6:00pm. The blood drive will be held at the Troy Township Community Center at 25448 Seil Road in Shorewood.

For more information, please visit our website at www.troytownship.com or to make an appointment on-line: https://bit.ly/troytownship6-27

Appointments for blood donations are preferred but not required. Walk-in donations will be accepted but can greatly increase the wait time.

Every donation saves 3 lives and is a true gift.



# 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 emailing ascaggs@troytownship.com.

If there is a topic you'd like Troy Township to consider having, please contact Angela.

### **Citizen Utility Board (CUB)**

Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Register by: Monday, April 10th Presented by: The Citizen Utility Board

Want to know how to navigate your utility bills and cable bills? Join the Citizen Utility Board for this presentation and bring any questions you have about your gas, electric, cable and/or cell phone bills.

**Topics:** • Why the energy prices are rising • Tips on saving money and energy • How to decode your utility bill

# Four Pillars of New Retirement Monday, May 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Register by: Thursday, May 4th

Presented by: Adam Underhill, AAMS, Financial Advisor

Adam will share insights from Edward Jones/Age Wave Research about how retirement is changing. You will also gain knowledge about the 4 essential pillars that can impact quality of life in retirement:

Health

Purpose

Family

• Finance

### **Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program**

Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Register by: Tuesday, June 6th

Presented by: Sharon McLemen

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) is a state and federal mandated program. The LTCOP advocates for residents in all long-term care facilities in both short-term rehab and long-term care. Residents include the elderly, people with physical and/or mental disabilities and the developmentally disabled.

### Calm, Cool & Invested

Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Register by: Friday, August 4th

Presented by: Christian Haymond, MFS

This presentation will include:

- Preparing for Retirement
  - Investment Strategy
    - Market Volatility

### LIVE GREENER & RECYCLE SMARTER 3-PART SEMINAR

Troy Township has partnered with Will County to bring you this 3-part seminar. All presentations will be held at: Troy Township 25448 Seil Road, Shorewood, IL. RSVP by calling 815-744-1968 or email ascaggs@troytownship.com.

### Home Energy Efficiency & EVs - Thursday, April 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Keeping your home comfortable in cold or hot conditions, running appliances, using lights, even playing games all use energy. Everyone benefits when making better choices in their homes and in the vehicles they drive. Learn about ways to make your home more comfortable while reducing your utility bills and how to add an EV or Plug-In hybrid to your life.

### **Greening Your Life/Composting Outside & Inside -** Thursday, July 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Every day we make choices from where to shop to what we buy and how we use what we have. Often we could make more environmentally beneficial choices while still meeting our needs and extravagant desires. Learn some tips for better buying, using and recycling or composting with an emphasis on how to start composting food scraps.

# Traditional, Paint, Batteries & Household Hazardous Material Recycling Thursday, Sept. 7th at 6:00 p.m.

Recycling infrastructure has been growing but not everything that is recyclable can be taken in the curbside bin. Let's sort out what goes where and why, along with how to handle the dangerous and toxic items in our homes. We can make our homes safer and be sure our "wish cycling" results in real recycling.



### 25448 Seil Road Shorewood, IL 60404-7620 IMPORTANT REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION



SUPERVISOR

Joseph D. Baltz

TOWN CLERK

Larry Ryan

**ASSESSOR** 

Kim Anderson, CIAO

**HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER** 

Thomas R. Ward

**COLLECTOR** 

Dawn Damiani

**TRUSTEES** 

Johnnie Greenwood Bryan W. Kopman Jerry Nudera Brett Wheeler

#### **INFORMATION:**

## TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR Jennifer Dylik

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## 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.