



Talk of the Township

Your St. Charles Township Newsletter
Exclusively for Township Residents

Spring 2012

St. Charles Township Board Meetings

All Board meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and begin at 7pm at the Township Offices in the Donald E. Scheib Hall.

- April 10 Annual Town Meeting
- April 11 Town Board Meeting
- May 9 Town Board Meeting
- May 28 Closed: Memorial Day
- June 13 Town Board Meeting
- June 20 Cemetery Board Meeting
- July 4 Closed: Independence Day
- July 11 Town Board Meeting
- August 8 Town Board Meeting
- September 3 Closed: Labor Day
- September 12 Town Board Meeting
- September 19 Cemetery Board Meeting
- October 8 Closed: Columbus Day
- October 10 Town Board Meeting

Additional Meeting Dates are available online.

Future Township Newsletters to be available on our Website...

The *Talk of the Township* Spring 2012 edition will be the last newsletter printed and mailed to the residents of St. Charles Township.

The Fall 2012 issue of the *Talk of the Township* will be available on our Website under the Supervisor's drop down menu bar on the home page.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to give the Township Office a call at 630-584-9342. Thank you.

Be sure to visit us on our Web at www.stcharlestownship.org. If you have bookmarked this previously, you will need to update/refresh the bookmark.

Burr Road Bridge Update:

Burr Road will be closed to thru traffic from Bolcum Road to Silver Glen Road from April thru August for the replacement of the bridge over Ferson Creek. Message boards will be up 7 days prior to any closure.

Township Website Boasts a New Look, Easier Navigation



News from Lazarus House

For 14 years, Lazarus House has been providing a “hand up” to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The emergency shelter is located in downtown St. Charles and provides assistance to persons who are connected to St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia and western rural Kane County.

In addition to meals and safe lodging, shelter guests receive individualized case management, life skills and job preparedness training and more to help them overcome their issues. Lazarus House also administers rental assistance grants for qualifying individuals. Unfortunately, grant funding remains limited at this time.

If you know someone who needs shelter, encourage him or her to call Lazarus House at 630-587-2144. If someone needs help with rent, have he or she call 630-587-5872 and staff will do their best to connect them to any resources that may be available.

Lazarus House could not exist without the hundreds of supporters who provide meals, donate food and needs list items such as toilet paper, laundry soap and garbage bags, assist staff at the shelter, lead classes, donate funds, hold fundraisers and more.

Volunteer orientations are held about every six weeks. An open house is slated for June 9.

There will be a June 4 golf outing/auction and July 4 walk/run are also on the calendar.

The September 16 Fox Valley Marathon Races will benefit Lazarus House. Register Now!

Long-distance runners are encouraged to run for the good of others! Registration is now open.

Make a donation of \$100 or more to Lazarus House and TELL US that you will be registering for a Half Marathon, Full Marathon, Fall Final 20 or Weather Flex through the charity partner program. We will then e-mail you special registration link and a code for a 50% discount on your race registration fee. Call 630-587-2144 or e-mail info@lazarushouseonline.com if you have questions. Don't delay. Races have sold out in the past! Offer expires September 10, 2012. See www.foxvalleymarathon.com for more race information.

Details on events and how to donate or volunteer are available on the website: www.lazarushouseonline.com.

Brush Collection Schedule for INSIDE the City Limits of St. Charles

East Side of the Fox

April 16
May 21
June 18
July 16
Aug. 20
Sept. 17
Oct. 15
Nov. 19

West Side of the Fox

April 23
May 29
June 25
July 23
Aug. 27
Sept. 24
Oct. 22
Nov. 26

As an alternative to the brush pickup program, place twigs, trimmings and leaves in paper yard waste bags (purchase bags with City logo on them or use generic bags and place one refuse sticker on each bag) and leave for collection on the normal refuse pickup day.

When available, free mulch is offered at the City's facility on Rt. 38/Lincoln Hwy., west of Peck Road. Hours are Mon.- Fri., 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please bring a shovel and containers. The City does not deliver or load mulch.



Second Annual St. Charles Heritage Ball



Saturday, April 14, 2012
6:00 p.m. to Midnight
Royal Fox Country Club
4405 Royal and Ancient Drive
Limited Seating by Reservation Only
\$125 per person*
Black Tie Optional
Open Bar & Silent Auction
Followed by Dinner
Music, Dancing, Live Auction

*Second Annual St. Charles Heritage Ball
Celebrating 90 years of the
St. Charles Chamber of Commerce*

RSOP
Call Natalie at 630 - 584 - 6967
by March 21, 2012 for tickets

* Ticket price, silent auction bid and/or raffle purchases are partially tax deductible as allowed by the Internal Revenue Federal Tax Code.





1725 Dean Street
St. Charles, IL 60174

www.stcharlestownship.org

Supervisor's Office: 630-584-9342

Supervisor's Fax: 630-584-7082

Assessor's Office: 630-584-2040

Assessor's Fax: 630-584-7963

Road District Office: 630-584-3496

Road District Fax: 630-762-0861

Cemetery Office: 630-584-8699

Cemetery Fax: 630-584-4301

Elected Officials

Jerry Swanson,
Supervisor 630-584-9342
Jack Brainard,
Clerk..... 630-584-9342
Ron Johnson,
Highway Commissioner 630-584-3496
Colleen Lang,
Assessor 630-584-2040

Township Trustees

John Arthur Anderson
Terry Cross
Paul Lencioni
Todd Wallace

Township Office Hours

Supervisor's Office

8am to 4pm • Monday through Friday

Road District Office

8am to 3pm • Monday through Friday

Assessor's Office

8am to 4pm • Monday through Friday

Kane County Sheriff

Non-emergency: 630-232-6840
EMERGENCY: 911

Kane County Animal Control

630-232-3555

Kane County Environmental

630-208-3841

Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue District

630-584-3473

From The Highway Commissioner

Ronald C. Johnson

Spring came early this year, much to the delight of most everyone! With the warmer weather, we can also look forward to the next season in Illinois and that is "Construction" season. Our Bridge Project across Burr Road at Ferson Creek is scheduled for construction to start this summer. At this time we don't have exact dates but there will be construction and detour signs posted when construction starts. We will also keep you posted on our website for any updates.

With costs of blacktop escalating because of the increase in fuel prices the 10 year schedule for resurfacing is more like 15 to 20 years now. When I first started the price of blacktop was \$18 to \$20 per ton to have put down. The price now is about \$70 per ton. We are therefore doing a lot less then we were able to do in previous years.

Just a reminder to those of you that should have any trouble with flooding, if you need immediate assistance, first please call Kane County Office of Emergency Management, Don Bryant at 630-232-5985. Then call the Township for sand bags or sand if during regular office hours 630-584-3496 or the Sheriff's Department if after hours 630-232-6840 for an emergency and they can get a hold of us. Remember, we can't help if we are not contacted.

Our crew will still be doing Brush Pickup again this summer, along with all their other road projects which should keep them pretty busy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Steve, my foreman, his entire crew, and my secretary, Marie, for all the good work they have accomplished throughout the year.

Please feel free to call me at my office if you need more information or have any concerns.

REMEMBER TO CALL J.U.L.I.E. BEFORE YOU DIG UNLESS YOU HAVE A CONTRACTOR DOING THE WORK AND THEN THEY ARE TO CALL IT IN! THE NUMBER TO CALL IS 800-892-0123 AND BE SURE TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFO READY WHEN YOU CALL:

- Your name, address, and telephone number
- County and City or Unincorporated Township
- Location of the dig site
- Extent of work involved (reason for dig)
- Date work will begin
- Σ Permit number (if applicable)
- Σ Section and quarter section numbers (if available)

Please do not dig without marks unless utility has indicated there are no facilities in the dig area. For more info about J.U.L.I.E. visit them online at www.illinois1call.com.

Road District News... continued

Brush Pickup for Unincorporated Township NOT City of St. Charles

St. Charles Township is the most extensive of all township pickups in Kane County. Our schedule for brush pickup in the unincorporated areas will begin in April and continue every three weeks from spring until early fall. We start on Mondays and continuing thru the week until we are done. Here are the dates we will be picking up brush:

**April 2 & 23 • May 14 • June 4 & 25 • July 16
August 6 & 27 • September 17 • October 9 & 29***
***This is the last pickup week for 2012.**

If you want to use this service, please call our office by the Friday before the scheduled pickup date and leave your address with the Highway Commissioner's secretary at 630-584-3496.

If you do not call to request this service for your address, and if no else from your subdivision calls, we won't know to come and your brush may sit for three more weeks. Also, calling helps us to know how much work we will need to plan.

St. Charles Township has offered this service for almost 20 years now and the township does have a chipper. Because of the size chipper we have, we are able to take up to 12 inches in diameter for tree limbs to be chipped. Longer limbs are easiest for the crew to handle, so don't

feel you need to cut them. Please pile brush neatly, with cut ends facing the roadway. Any piles just thrown together will not be picked up. They must be neatly stacked! Brush Pickup usually takes at least three days or more to work our way through the entire Township, so don't be concerned if we are not at your address on the first day (Monday) of the scheduled pickup.

Please do not include wire, fencing, rocks, etc. in the brush pile, because these items damage Township equipment and present a danger to crew members.

St. Charles Township does not provide brush pickup to homeowners that hire and/or contract someone to cut down their trees or trim their trees/bushes. We are not landscapers nor will we clean up after them. This service is for homeowners only doing their own trimming, not for contractors hired by the homeowner. If you hire a contractor or have a landscaper doing this work they are required to haul your brush away as part of your contract with them. If you have a tree(s) taken down by a contractor, they must haul all of your limbs and logs away. This program is also not meant for lot clearing. If you clear a lot you are responsible for the disposal of all that brush. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated by us and the taxpayers whose taxes provide this service.



Leaf Disposal and "Brush Only" Burning Regulations

Kane County has a burn ordinance that prohibits the burning of "landscape waste," which means all accumulations of grass cuttings, shrubbery cuttings, leaves, flowers and weeds. Residents may, however, still burn "brush" as long as they follow the Standard Restrictions.

Standard Restrictions:

- Only on the property where the landscape brush was generated;
- Only on sunny days from 10am to 3pm;
- Not when wind exceeds 10 mph;
- Not within 20 feet of any building, structure or property line;
- Not during announced inversion conditions or ozone alerts

Any burning must be supervised until the fire is extinguished; a fire extinguisher, garden hose or water source must be available at the burning site.

Exemptions

- Any property zoned or used for agricultural purposes.
- Burning for prairie restoration or firefighter training.
- Burning of brush for recreational fires, but the fire cannot be larger than 3 ft. x 3 ft. x 3 ft.
- Ceremonial fires for a scheduled public or private event.

Notice must be given to the local Fire Department, and a permit obtained from the Kane County Health Dept. (630-208-3801).

Penalties

- Any person who violates any provision shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100 for a first offense and a fine of \$500 for subsequent offenses.

Complaints

- Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm, please call the Kane County Health Department at 630-208-3801.

All other days/hours, please call the Kane County Sheriff's Office at 630-232-6840.

More Information is available from the Kane County Department of Environmental Management, 719 Batavia Ave., Geneva, IL 60134. Phone 630-208-3841.

Township Right-of-Way Info

The road right-of-way is the area usually 33 feet from the center of the road (some roads vary). That 33 ft. area from the center of the road belongs to the Road District. You must obtain permission from the Highway Commissioner to do anything in that easement area. Boulders, underground fencing and sprinkler systems, etc. must be kept out of the road right-of-way. Make sure you stay within your property line when installing these things.

Also, MONUMENT MAILBOXES on right-of-ways are illegal and are not safe to the motoring public. Mailboxes must not be bigger than a 4x4 post per USPS regulations. When these regulations are not followed and things are built or planted in the right-of-way, it costs the taxpayers because the Township is forced to pay legal fees to have these situations remedied.

Please contact us before putting anything in the easement (AKA: right-of-way) in front of your home.

Safety Tidbits - Changes on Township Roads

Please be aware and watch for construction workers on the roads. Their safety is in your hands. Whether it's Township, County, State, Municipality, Utility, or Blacktop Crews - they all should be obeyed. Please reduce your speed, stop talking or texting on your cells and pay attention to the road signs and the Flagger's!

Speed Limits & Signage

Kane County Division of Transportation did pass authorization for us to put up signs in subdivisions that read: EX. "Speed Limit (fill in) on all streets unless posted otherwise. This will greatly reduce the amount of signs needed to be posted within a subdivision and save the township monies.

You may have also noticed on some of the main roads in the townships that we have gone to a larger street sign. This is in compliance with MUTCD laws.

With the expansion of the new sign shop in our garage now we are able to make our own signs. The new sign shop enables us, with the help of computer software and a new cutting machine, to make new signs at a cost saving at so that we will be starting to update all the signs in our township to meet with the MUTCD laws.

Resurfacing Project for summer of 2012

Bids on the contracts for resurfacing will be out soon for the following roads or subdivisions:

- Thornly & Wild Rose Sub: Oak Ridge Lane, Wild Rose Lane and Wild Rose Road
- Wild Rose Sub: Ferson Creek Road (from 4-way north)
- Rainbow Hills Sub: Cibis Road
- Baker's Acres Sub: Baker Lane and Ronsu Lane

Homeowner's Association Information

St. Charles Township is in need of Homeowner's Association information for subdivisions that are in the unincorporated township. We would like to keep you informed of any road improvements that may be happening in your subdivision, for instance blacktopping or road closures. If we have a way to get a hold of your homeowner's association we would be able to pass this information on to you so that you will be prepared. Please call the Road District at 630-584-3496 to leave any info. If you call after hours, please leave a message and we'll call back if we need to. Thanks in advance for all your help and to those who have already called to keep us up to date.

Junk Cars

If you have a problem with vehicle parking, please call the Sheriff's Office first. If you have a problem with junk cars that are abandoned in your neighborhood please call the Kane County Health Department because it is a health problem. Their number is 630-208-3801.

A Word about Yard Waste

Residents in the unincorporated areas who would like yard waste pickup service (not brush pickup) should contact their refuse hauler for details. St. Charles Township does not provide yard waste pickup; however, many of the contracted waste haulers do offer this service.

Meeting Space is Available

The Donald E. Scheib Town Meeting Hall is available to local, not-for-profit, non-political groups and organizational meetings at nominal rates.

For more info, contact Sharon Bober at 630-584-9342.



Be Very Wary of Traveling Scam Artists this Summer

For local law enforcement purposes, the word “gypsy” refers to people who travel in small groups across the country perpetrating crimes of petty theft, larceny, burglary, and fraud. Over the past several summers, residents of Kane County and other local communities have been victims of what have become known as “gypsy scams.”

This is the time of year when the “Gypsies” and “Travelers” come out of their winter retirement and start targeting our communities with one thing in mind and that is to rip off our seniors.

Home repairs are at the top of their list, as they are the easiest to con people into doing by using many different tactics.

A specific gypsy scam that was seen throughout Kane County last year is the ruse burglary.

These burglaries occur in daylight hours, more often than not, targeting our elderly citizens. One suspect will con you, informing they are from the water department, electric department or some type of contracting business. They will have you take them to a back room, basement or somewhere in your home, in order to get you secluded. They have also acted as a new neighbor or real estate agent who needs to check your property line. While you are secluded and distracted, their partner(s) will, literally, walk right into your home for the purpose of stealing jewelry or money.

If these individuals are caught, they give some kind of excuse as to why they are in the home or on the property. So far, these individuals have not been violent and usually run from the residence as soon as they are discovered.

The best way to keep these individuals from victimizing you is to simply keep your home locked and do not open the door for anyone you do not know. Lock your doors when you are outside of your home, you cannot possibly see every door on your home that a would-be thief would use. If you are working in the yard and are approached, go directly inside and call the police. Let the police verify who these people are. If they are legitimate, they will stay, if not, they will scam!

As with any suspicious circumstance, call the Kane County Sheriff’s Office immediately. The non-emergency number is 630-232-8400. And, of course, 911 is still the number to call for emergencies.

Lt. Kevin Williams
Community Policing
Kane County Sheriff’s Office

A Safe & Free Way to Dispose of Unused Medications



Prescription drug misuse is on the increase and most people who misuse them get the prescription medications from friends or relatives.

Having leftover medications at home is risky. Disposing them in your weekly garbage caused more harm to our environment.

The Kane County Sheriff’s office accepts unused and expired medications from residents free of charge. The Over-the-Counter/Prescription Drug Drop-off box is located in the lobby of the Kane County Sheriff’s office at 37W755 Route 38, St. Charles, Suite A. This is at the southeast corner of Route 38 and Peck Roads. Drop-offs are accepted from 8am to 4pm, Monday through Friday.

Senior Rides

As of September 1, 2011, many senior citizens who once received free transit rides will now be required to pay at reduced rates. The senior free-rides permits on the CTA, Metra and Pace have been deactivated.

However, seniors enrolled in the current free-rides programs who meet the low-income requirements are expected to still qualify.

Seniors who have not received a replacement permit should call the RTA at **312-913-3110**. Individuals can apply for the Illinois Circuit Breaker program online at www.cbrx.il.gov or call for free at **800-624-2459**.

News From Your Fire District Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue

The catastrophic storms recently experienced in many of the southern states reinforce the incredible power weather events can have. Many of the stories on the news and Internet speak about the value of preparation in dealing with these events. This need for preparing is one of the four core areas that Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue is focused on: preparation, prevention, response and recovery. Fox River Fire personnel can assist homeowners and residents in taking the steps needed to prepare for potential severe weather. Excellent resources are available through local, state and federal agencies. This includes:

Kane County Office of Emergency Management:

www.kcoem.org/prepare/Prepare.htm

DuPage County Homeland Security and Emergency Management:

www.dupageco.org/OHSEM/Emergency_Preparedness/29830

FEMA: www.ready.gov

Fox River Fire has a highly experienced staff to further assist your family in developing the most appropriate plan. The District Office can be contacted at 630-584-3473 to arrange for a visit from our emergency management planner.

CPR

The benefits of citizen cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) have been realized twice within the district in recent months. In both cases, trained bystanders stepped forward to initiate CPR after a sudden cardiac arrest event. After further Advance Life Support (ALS) care provided by responding paramedics, both patients were resuscitated at the scene, treated and released from the hospital. Unfortunately not every sudden cardiac arrest has the same happy ending. Without CPR initiated immediately, there is little chance of recovery. Studies in major US cities have concluded that survival rates can be increased 30-40% by a CPR trained population. The American Heart Association has continued to update CPR techniques eliminating rescue breathing. Chest compressions alone are found to be adequate until arrival of trained responders.

Fox River Fire has a number of CPR educators who can provide your organization or business with training on-site, at your convenience. The District Office can be contacted to schedule CPR training.

Fire Signs

Replacement of missing and damaged signs remains a major undertaking. The fire sign number is your house number and the only way emergency vehicles can find you. Fox River Fire crews are conducting neighborhood surveys to replace missing signs.

In the meantime call the District Office or visit the website at: www.frcfr.org/documents/Requestforfiresign.pdf to print and fax in a fire sign request form. Every effort is made to replace or install a new sign within 7 days.

File of Life

The Fox River & Countryside Fire Department has implemented the use of the File of Life (FOL) program. The FOL is a voluntary program designed to help Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue quickly obtain your necessary medical history, your support needs, and your emergency contact information.

The FOL contains a tri-fold card on where vital medical information can be recorded and stored on a magnetic strip which can be affixed to your refrigerator. This information can be valuable to responders in an emergency providing critical medical information.

FOL can be obtained at the District Office, either fire station or by calling 630-584-3473. Crews can be scheduled to visit your home and assist with recording the information.

St. Charles Township Cemetery Info

The Office is on the east side of St. Charles at the Union Cemetery, 1206 N 5th Ave. (Rt. 25, north of Rt. 64 Main Street). Office hours and contact information are as follows:

7am to 3:30pm – Roger Ronzheimer,
Cemetery Superintendent
630-584-8699 (office) • 630-584-4301 (fax)

The St. Charles Township Cemetery Board of Trustees is comprised of three (3) St. Charles residents. Currently they are Timothy Bober, James Holderfield and Steven Catlin.



St. Charles Township
1725 Dean Street
St. Charles, IL 60174

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. CHARLES, IL
PERMIT NO. 82

To the St. Charles Township Resident at

TRI CITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP: Free Quality Medical Assistance

What comes to mind when you think of charity care? The free clinic located in St. Charles provides quality primary care to those residents of central Kane County who are uninsured and low income. Uninsured and low income can today represent individuals who have been unemployed for an extended amount of time as well as the individual who maintain entry level positions, part time employment or perhaps are homeless.

Tri City Health Partnership, the free medical clinic has been serving central Kane County for 10 years. Since opening the doors, 16,100 medical appointments have been provided to approximately 3000 local residents. Dedicated medical professionals donate their time to provide primary care to patients at no charge. The volunteers are assisted by a small proficient staff. Specialty programs are provided for asthma, diabetes and hypertension. Acupuncture, dermatological, limited dental and vision services are also provided to qualified individuals. Many local medical providers generously provide needed specialty care and Delnor Hospital provides diagnostic testing, labs and occasional surgery to assist the clinic with comprehensive care.

Tri City Health Partnership
318 Walnut Street • St. Charles, IL 60174
630-377-9277 • www.tchpfreeclinic.com

Services Provided:

- Health care for Children & Adults
- Treatment for Chronic & Acute illnesses
- Specialist Referrals on a Limited Basis
- Limited Diagnostic Services

Operating as a not-for-profit organization, Tri City Health Partnership depends on donations from the community, local trusts and foundations, United Ways, service clubs, churches, merchants, charity and fund raising events. “The benevolence of our local community is the key to successfully providing medical assistance to those residents who are caught in the current health care gap and we are honored to be able to offer help,” states Shannon Watson, Executive Director.

Services are available, by appointment only, for acute and chronic issues to those living in central Kane County who are low income and uninsured/underinsured. For further information; to volunteer, donate or schedule an appointment, contact the clinic at 630-377-9277.