



Spring 2013

Talk of the Township

Your St. Charles Township Newsletter
Exclusively for Township Residents

St. Charles Township April 9, 2013 Election Results

The St. Charles Township Elected Officials for the new term has some old faces and some new. Last spring Jerry Swanson retired as Township Supervisor and John Arthur Anderson was appointed to finish out his 4-year term. Jerry graciously agreed to step into John Arthur's place as Trustee.

John Arthur Anderson was elected as Supervisor for the next 4 year term on April 9, 2013. Jerry, we wish you well. We will miss you after 32 years in township government.

Ron Johnson, Highway Commissioner; Colleen Lang, Assessor; and Jack Brainard, Clerk, will be with us for another 4-year term.

Three Trustees will remain the same. They are Terry Cross, Paul Lencioni and Todd Wallace. The new kid on the block is Mary Lynn Swanson (not a relation to Jerry).

Mary Lynn and her husband Jan have been residents of St. Charles for 33 years. They have 2 adult married daughters who attended St. Patrick's and St. Charles schools, and four wonderful grandchildren.

Since 1979, Mary Lynn has been active in volunteer positions in civic and community organizations, along with serving on schools and church committees in St. Charles. She is an active parishioner of St. John Neumann Church. A graduate from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in Residential Planning in 2007, currently Mary Lynn is employed with United States Gypsum as an Inside Sales Representative in the Building and Materials division.

Mary Lynn says, "I am looking forward to this opportunity to serve the great people of St. Charles as a St. Charles Township Trustee."

The St. Charles Township Elected Officials would like to thank you for your support. They are here to **serve** you.



L to R, top: Todd Wallace, John Arthur Anderson, Paul Lencioni
Jack Brainard, Mary Lynn Swanson, Terry Cross

Township Board Meetings

All Board meetings begin at 7pm at the Township Offices in the Donald E. Scheib Hall.

May

8.....7pm - Town Board Meeting
27.....Closed - Memorial Day

June

12.....7pm - Town Board Meeting
19.....7pm - Cemetery Board Meeting

July

4.....Closed - Independence Day
10.....7pm - Town Board Meeting

August

14.....7pm - Town Board Meeting

September

2.....Closed - Labor Day
11.....7pm - Town Board Meeting
18.....7pm - Cemetery Board Meeting



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

John Arthur Anderson,
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

Terry Cross
Paul Lencioni
Mary Lynn Swanson
Todd Wallace

Township Office Hours

Supervisor's Office

8am to 3:30pm • 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

Emergency Assistance Reinstated

Township Supervisor, John Arthur Anderson, and the Township Board of Trustees authorized the reinstatement of Emergency Assistance at the October 10, 2012 board meeting.

Emergency Assistance is offered to all Township residents. Assistance is based on household size and income, and will cover past-due rent or utilities up to \$400 per household, payable one time in an 18-month period.

Township residents will need to complete an application at the Township offices, 1725 Dean Street, and will be subject to the same process as is required under the General Assistance program.

More information is available at **630-584-9342** or email at **HKatz@stcharlestownship.org**.

News from Lazarus House

Sign up and join St. Charles Kiwanis and Lazarus House on June 10 for their "Golfing For Good" and Evening Entertainment event. You can register for all activities (golf followed by the evening event) or the evening event only, to be held at the beautiful Royal Fox Country Club in St. Charles. This event benefits both agencies equally.

Golfers Event

Join in the fun starting at 9am for a day of 18 holes of golf at Royal Fox Country Club. There will be games galore, boxed lunches, and plenty of competition on the course.

Evening Event

The evening begins at 4pm with a cash bar and opportunities to win some wonderfully creative silent auction and raffle baskets. A delicious buffet starts at 5:30pm, followed by a special live auction. All of this is wrapped up with a dessert bar and live entertainment featuring Jacque Miller. Don't miss out on this opportunity to enjoy a wonderful evening at a beautiful country club.

Event details and sign up are available online at: **www.lazarushouseonline.com**.

For those interested in participating in our community of support, donations of our needs list items (toilet paper, over-the-counter medications, laundry detergent, etc.) are always welcome. Our Needs Lists is also posted on the website.

Don't Let Mosquitoes Ruin Your Outdoor Summer Fun



Together we can eliminate potential breeding areas and increase our enjoyment of the great outdoors.

Health issues

Mosquitoes carry diseases transmittable to animals and most important, to humans. Mosquitoes are carriers of West Nile Virus (WNV), St. Louis encephalitis, malaria and yellow fever. They can also infect heart worm to pets.

Prevention

All mosquitoes need water to breed. Standing water is a haven for generating mosquitoes, and deposited eggs can hatch in just a few days. However, they also have the ability to lay eggs in old tires, tin cans and anything else that can hold water. The eggs may remain unhatched for weeks or even months until they are covered in standing water.

Checklist for Residents

Prevention is everyone's responsibility whether you own or rent your home or apartment. A quick tour of your yard, balcony, patio and other outdoor areas is a good start; then...

- Get rid of buckets, plant trays, tires and any other container that could hold unmoving water
- Fill in or drain any low spots in the yard or patio/balcony where water can stand
- Make sure gutters are unclogged and water is draining properly
- Keep ditches, drains and culverts weed and trash free so rainwater will drain
- Cover trash containers to keep out rain
- Dump and rinse wading pools after each use; store upright against a wall or in a garage/shed
- Make sure your permanent swimming pool is covered/cared for when on vacation
- Repair leaking pipes/outdoor faucets so water does not accumulate
- Change water in bird baths and drain drip trays for potted plants at least once a week.

More information can be found on the Internet at www.mosquitoes.org/LifeCycle.html or www.clarke.com.

The Free Clinic Tri City Health Partnership

Contrary to what you may think or have heard, The Free Clinic at 318 Walnut Street in St. Charles is very much in demand.

Since 2001, Tri City Health Partnership has been providing quality medical assistance to those in the community who have few choices when it comes to medical care. The Clinic has served 3,285 individuals with 18,650 medical encounters. In 2012, approximately 600 local residents who are uninsured/underinsured and struggling financially, received medical attention on 2,513 occasions at The Free Clinic. Patients also received hundreds of appointments and treatments through referrals to local volunteer specialists who see free clinic patients in their private practices.

Tri City Health Partnership (TCHP) provides primary care through a unique delivery system that involves 100+ medical professionals who volunteer their time to provide patient care, a small staff of five who assist the volunteers and a strong collaboration of health providers throughout the community.

As the Affordable Care Act is rolled out into full implementation, it is estimated that more than 20 million individuals will remain uninsured. That number will be much higher if a good number of people determine that the tax penalty is more affordable than the monthly payment for subsidy insurance. Bottom line: The uninsured will continue to need some form of health care and The Free Clinic is committed to serving those who are uninsured and are truly unable to pay for 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 available by appointment only, for acute and chronic issues to those living in central Kane County who meet low income guidelines and are uninsured/underinsured. For more information to volunteer, donate or schedule an appointment, call 630-377-9277 or visit www.tchpfreeclinic.com.

Road District News... from the Highway Commissioner

It's the middle of April as I am writing this letter and I think we can all say this had been a pretty mild winter until February came along with almost 20 inches of snow for the month! March just was not letting winter go away and the beginning of April wasn't much better, but soon Mother Nature will bring on the warm weather!

We can also look forward to the next season in Illinois and that is "Construction" season. With the county and state having projects going on all the time, we can always expect some kind of traffic detours, so be careful.

Just a reminder to those of you who 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 at 630-584-3496 or the Sheriff's Department if after hours Call the department at 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 providing 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 have any concerns.

Ronald C. Johnson, Highway Commissioner

Safety Tidbits - Summer Construction

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—all speed limits must be obeyed. Reduce your speed, stop talking or texting on your cells and pay attention to the road signs and the Flagger's! BE ADVISED that talking on cell phones and/or texting is illegal in work zones. Fines do and will apply. *Save your calls, save your texts and save your money!*

Speed Limits & Signage

Kane County Division of Transportation passed authorization for the Township to put up Speed Limit signs in subdivisions. This has reduced the amount of signs needed within a subdivision and has saved taxpayer and township monies.

In compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), larger street signs have been placed on some main roads in the Township.

Resurfacing 2013

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

- Middlecreek Subdivision: Fieldstone Court, Meadows Court, Middlecreek Lane, Oak Court, Stonebridge Lane
- Thornly Road and Thornapple Road
- Crane Road (from west side of drive at 36W885 to Randall Road)

Curious About What Services Your Road District Performs?

There's an old saying that "sometimes you can't see the forest for the trees." When we look around at Township areas and neighborhoods, most don't think about how the public spaces, roads, ditches and signage are maintained.

Your Highway District sees and safeguards both the "forest and the trees." Here is a short list of services the District provides to residents in unincorporated St. Charles Township:

- Blacktop Patching
- Blacktop Overlay
- Brush Pickup
- Crack Sealing
- Gravel or Black Dirt Shouldering
- Litter Pickup
- Mulch Program
- Roadside Mowing
- Ditch Cleaning
- Streetlights
- Street Sweeping
- Traffic Control Signage
- Tree & Brush Trimming & Removal
- Winter Snow & Ice Control
- Access/Culvert Permits

For more information on all the latest regarding your St. Charles Township, bookmark our web page at: www.stcharlestownship.org. And check out the history of township government on page 8 of this issue.

Township Highway News...

2013 Brush Pick-up

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. The following are brush pickup dates:

- April 1 & 22
- May 13
- June 3 & 24
- July 15
- August 5 & 26
- September 16
- October 7 & 28*

*This is the last pickup week for 2013

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.

NOTE: 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 we do have a chipper. Because of the chipper size, we are able to take up to 12 inches in diameter for tree limbs. 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.

This service is **ONLY** for homeowners doing their own trimming, not for contractors hired by the homeowner. If you hire a contractor or landscaper, 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. In addition, this program is **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 for this service.

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.

J.U.L.I.E.

Remember: Call before you dig unless you have a contractor doing the work. CALL: 800-892-0123 and be sure to have the following information ready:

- County and City or Unincorporated Township
- Location of the dig site
- Extent of work involved (reason for dig)
- Date work will begin
- Permit number (if applicable)
- 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 visit: www.illinois1call.com.

Homeowner's Association Information

The Township is requesting 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 your neighborhood. Please call the us at 630-584-3496 to leave any info. If calling after hours, please leave a message; we'll get back to you if needed. Thanks in advance for your help and to those who have already called us.

St. Charles Township Provides the Following Services

Voter Registration
Notary Public (no fee)
Ride in Kane (See article this issue)

Soliciting Guidelines

Anyone soliciting in unincorporated St. Charles Township must register with the Kane County Sheriff's Office at 37W755 Route 38, St. Charles.

Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue District

Greg Benson, Fire District Chief

From the Chief...

Ensuring that emergency services are available and delivered appropriately to the community is a complex process affected by multiple factors—Increased service demands, legal mandates and declines in funding to name but a few.

The FRC Board of Trustees recently took steps to initiate the fire service accreditation process as a means to meet community needs while balancing operations and finances. Implementation of the accreditation process is a proven method to determine future needs based through a structured process of self-evaluation measured against national best practices and standards. The goal of the accreditation process is to not only perform an in-depth analysis of current performance but also define performance objectives based upon community expectations and comparable departments. The end game is to provide improved, more efficient services to residents.

The Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) serves as the governing body for fire service accreditation. The accreditation process itself is guided by the standards established through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International

(CFAI). The self-assessment process outlined by CFAI evaluates the effectiveness of the organization, its progress toward meeting goals and objectives and finally

identifying what success factors and limitations are needed for continual improvement.

The process of accreditation includes self-assessment, a community risk analysis, standard of cover and a strategic business plan. Self-assessment encompasses a review of 10 critical department categories including governance, administration, finance, human resources, operations, etc. Community risk analysis evaluates specific hazards in our community. This avoids the cookie-cutter approach that many department use in deploying resources. A Standard of Cover is a comprehensive evaluation of the community served. Demographics, population, density, infrastructure are all considered in evaluation of resources in use. Finally the strategic business plan ties the other three components to goals to be achieved.

The accreditation process requires 12-24 months for completion. Benefits will be identified immediately and can be implemented prior to completion. Once completed, FRC will join a small group of approximately 150 accredited departments out of the 32,000 nationwide. The process requires involvement of governing body, community members and firefighters to fully achieve accreditation goals. Progress will be reported through the Responder and the district website at www.frcfr.org.

ST. CHARLES TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER WEBSITE UPDATE...

Good News! You can now sign up for an email notification as to when the “Talk of the Township” Newsletter will be available online.

At the bottom of the home page of the St. Charles Township website, www.stcharlestownship.org, it reads: “Sign up for our Email Newsletter.” Register your email address and you will receive an email notification when future newsletter issues are available.

Your email address will only be used for receiving St. Charles Township information. Thank you for signing up and reading this local publication online. Should you have any questions, please feel free to give the Township office a call at 630-584-9342.

Discount Prescription Program Available

St. Charles Township in conjunction with Township officials of Illinois are now offering a free discount prescription card to all residents of the Township through the "Rx SavingsPlus" plan.

The plan offers an average savings of 22% on medication depending on the prescription. It can be used by anyone at more than 60,000 pharmacies nationwide, and offers discounts on medical visits at local walk-in clinics. No fee is ever charged for the use of the card, and it can be used in conjunction with health insurance plans if the use of this card would result in a lower co-pay.

Rx SavingsPlus can also be used for any pet medications that you would pick up at the pharmacy, such as insulin.

Cards can be obtained at the Township offices, 1725 Dean Street or at our St. Charles partner organizations:

- Salvation Army, 1710 S. 7th Avenue
- Tri-City Health Partnership, 318 Walnut Street
- Lazarus House, 214 Walnut Street

Interested residents may also go online at:
<http://stcharles.rxsavingsplus.com>.

Helping Your Community through The Salvation Army

Spring and all times of the year are perfect times to assist your community. Here are ways you can contribute.

Food Pantry

The Salvation Army Tri-City Corps accepts donations of nonperishable food items as well as some household items for use in our food pantry. Please remember the following when donating:

- All items must be new and unopened.
- Please check expiration dates of foods.
- We also accept baby consumables including diapers, wipes, formula, and bottles.
- Plastic sandwich bags, dish soap, household cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items.
- *Please* no commercial-strength cleaners.

Used Items

The Salvation Army Tri-City Corps serves as a donation drop-off center for the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center in Chicago. Because of limited space, we can only accept small quantities of clothing and small household items. Although we appreciate your donations, we cannot accept furniture and large quantities of items, say after a neighborhood garage sale. You may drop off your small item donations at 1710 S. 7th Ave in St. Charles during operating hours listed below.

Donation Drop Off Hours

Mon., Wed., & Fri.	8:30am to 7pm
Tuesday & Thursday	8:30am to 4pm
Saturday	10am to 7pm
Sunday	1pm to 7pm

New Items

Please contact us at 630-377-2769 about new items that you wish to donate.

Monetary Donations

Donations accepted online at www.satricity.org. Visit the Donations page and click on the "Donate Now" Kettle icon. Donations may also be made by check or cash at your local Salvation Army facility.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to volunteer. At this time please contact us at 630-377-2769 to Volunteer at the Salvation Army Tri-City Corps.

RIDE IN KANE UPDATE...

Currently residents of unincorporated St. Charles Township are sponsored for 2 round trip rides (or 4 one way) per week for medical visits or employment.

Effective May 1, 2013, Seniors can ride to Elderday Center in Batavia.

For any questions, please call 630-584-9342.

Just a Little Bit of History!

Township government was first established in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1636 and is the oldest existing unit of government continuing to serve on the North American continent.

Township government was in existence for 140 years prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The wording of the Declaration of Independence reflects the fact that 38 of its 56 signers had experienced the benefits of township government.

The Declaration's statement that "government should derive its just powers from the consent of the governed," is demonstrated at the Annual Town Meeting held on the second Tuesday of each April. The Annual Town Meeting is still an important function of our nation's 17,000 townships after more than 360 years.

Township government began in Illinois in 1849. The Illinois constitution of 1848 allowed voters in each county the opportunity to adopt township government. Today, 85 of the 102 counties in Illinois operate under the township form of government. There are currently 1,433 townships in the state serving more than 8 million people.

Illinois townships are required by law to perform three functions: general assistance, property assessment and road and bridge maintenance.

Many townships provide a variety of services beyond the three mandated functions, including senior citizen, disabled citizen, youth, relief, health, emergency, cemeteries, and environmental services. Truly, Illinois' townships serve from the cradle to the grave.