



Spring 2014

# Talk of the Township

Your St. Charles Township Newsletter  
Exclusively for Township Residents

## Spotlight on the Township Road District

by Ronald C. Johnson, Highway Commissioner

It's now April, and like you, I am ready for Mother Nature to bring on the warm weather, please! This winter, we've used more than 5,000 tons of salt along with 1,200 plus tons of sand to help stretch out the salt. We prefer to use salt alone but it was not an option this year. Therefore, since the roads are the responsibility of the Road District and we are responsible for the safety of the motoring public, we had to use both salt and sand. Our crews this spring will be street sweeping and repairing lots of potholes due to the extreme temperatures and abundance of snow we received this year. It's been a long winter for all of us!

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.

Speaking of construction, to the right are pictures of the new bridge replacements on Bolcum and Burr Roads. It took a few years but I think it was well worth the wait. Both these bridges were done with grant money so the township only had to pay 4% of the engineering and construction costs. The Burr Road Bridge over Ferson Creek project is complete except for some landscaping left to do this spring!

### April Showers...

Those who may have trouble with spring flooding, when seeking help, first call Kane County Office of Emergency Management, Don Bryant at 630-232-5985. Then call the Township — if during regular hours — for sand bags or sand at 630-584-3496. For after hours, call the Sheriff's Department at 630-232-6840 if it's an emergency and they can get a hold of us. Remember, we can't help if we are not contacted.

### Office Updates...

I am currently still President of Kane County Township Highway Commissioners Association. This association is made up of the all 16 township highway commissioners in Kane County. The association meets once a month with other Kane County departments and the Sheriff's Office to help keep us informed on activities happening in Kane County.

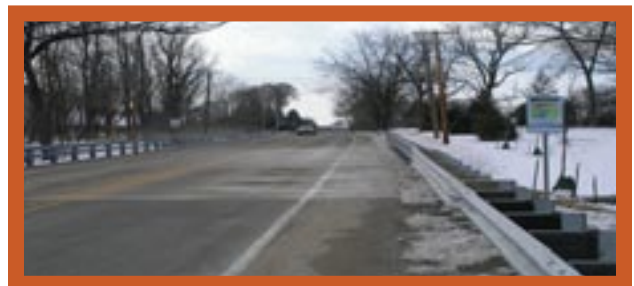
In closing, I would like to thank my foreman, Steve and his entire crew, along with my secretary, Marie, for all the good work they have accomplished throughout the year.

Please feel free to call me at my office if you have any concerns.



Bolcum Road Bridge (above)

Burr Road Bridge (below)



*For more Road District news, see inside this issue*



1725 Dean Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174

[www.stcharlestownship.org](http://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*

8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. • Monday through Friday

*Road District Office*

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. • Monday through Friday

*Assessor's Office*

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. • 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

## **2014: The Need for Free Medical Care Continues**

Tri City Health Partnership (TCHP) the free medical clinic in St. Charles has been serving central Kane County for more than 12 years. Thousands of local residents have received quality health care during a time in their lives where they are uninsured/underinsured and struggling financially. Through the efforts of volunteer medical professionals, a small staff, Delnor Hospital and medical providers within the community, approximately 600 free clinic patients continue to receive the priceless gift of health care each year. We are hopeful that many of the free clinic patients will be able to attain health insurance or qualify for Medicaid through health care reform, but for most there remains much confusion and uncertainty surrounding the affordable care act.

The results of health care reform will not be fully known for years to come. Patients of the clinic are not well versed on health care reform, but they are aware of the significant shortage of medical providers who receive Medicaid for primary care and the challenge of finding specialists who will see Medicaid patients. A number of free clinic patients have enrolled for Medicaid and indicate they have been waiting for a response for months. A number of free clinic patients have been told they are qualified for subsidy insurance. Many are working more than one job and continue to experience unemployment (52%) and struggle to pay rent and feed their families. Patients have reported that insurance providers have suggested they purchase the "Silver" insurance packages at a higher cost to receive lower co-pays, deductibles and provide for a better chance at finding a physician who actually accept their policy. The overwhelming majority of clinic patients truly cannot afford these Silver packages. What are they to do?

Enrolling is not the issue. Access to care is.

TCHP is honored to provide care for those in the community who are without insurance and are considered low-income. We are able to offer our services because of the generosity of the local community through individual donations, private trusts and foundations, service clubs, churches, charity events and United Way.

Patients of the free clinic are our neighbors. They baby sit for us, work at the cleaners, provide landscaping, paint, carpentry and serve us in our favorite restaurants. TCHP is committed to providing quality medical care to fill gaps that remain in our local health care system. As health care reform evolves, TCHP will also evolve; striving to meet existing gaps to provide for a healthier community.

TCHP is located at 318 Walnut Street in St. Charles. Operating hours are Monday –Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 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](http://www.tchpfreeclinic.com).

# St. Charles & Kane County "GO GREEN" Recycling Programs

In August 2012, the City of St. Charles started an Electronics Recycling Drop-Off Program. The program has been well-received by residents as a convenient way to dispose of unwanted home electronics properly.

Since the inception of the program, a total of 112,000 pounds of electronic materials have been collected for recycling as of June 2013. Televisions and computer monitors account for 40% and 11% (respectively) of the materials recycled.

The Electronics Recycling Drop-Off container is located at the St. Charles Public Works Facility at 1405 South Seventh Avenue. Drop off hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (excluding holidays). Please note there is no unloading assistance available at the facility.

Please participate and help keep these recyclable materials out of landfills:

- Cable/satellite receivers
- Cables and cords
- Calculators
- Camcorders/cameras
- CD drives
- Cell phones/PDAs
- Christmas/holiday light strands
- Computers [CPUs, hard drives, laptops, tablet PCs, computer batteries]
- Copy machines
- Digital converter boxes
- Digital recorders
- DVD/VCR/Video game players
- Keyboards/mice
- Media: All types
- Microphones
- Microwaves
- Monitors [all types, flat-screen or glass tube]
- MP3 players/portable music players
- Network equipment [servers, hubs, mainframes]
- Phones, phone systems, answering machines, intercom systems
- Power tools
- Printers/scanners/servers/fax machines/modems
- Small appliances [blenders, fans, toasters, toaster ovens, vacuum cleaners, microwaves]
- Stereos/receivers
- Toner and printer cartridges [must be contained in a bag]
- TVs [all sizes, all ages]
- Typewriters



## Did you know...

Worldwide, an estimated 20-50 million tons of electronics are discarded annually, and the U.S. EPA estimates that 85% of it ends up in landfills. But that is changing; Illinois is one of 25 states that now have electronics related legislation.

The following electronic items are banned from Illinois landfills (Public Act 97-0287):

Televisions • Monitors • Printers • Cable Receivers  
Stereo Equipment • Electronic Keyboards  
Fax Machines • Scanners • Satellite Receivers  
Speakers • Video Game Consoles • Electronic Mice  
Small Scale Servers • Computers (All Types)  
Digital Converter Boxes • Videocassette Recorders  
Portable Digital Music Players • Digital Video Disc  
Recorders & Players

## Also FREE in Kane County...

The Kane County Monthly Electronics and Book Recycling is held at 540 S. Randall Road, St. Charles 630-208-3841 on the **2nd Saturday of each month**.  
Summer 2014: April 12, May 10, June 7, July 12, August 9, September 13 (8 a.m.-2 p.m.):

- They will unload for you!
- Open to all Kane County residents. Businesses please contact a recycler directly.
- Kane County works with an R2 (Responsible Recycling) certified and EPA Registered recycler.
- Rest assured that all data stored on computer hard drives will be completely erased or destroyed under the highest security, so it is not necessary to wipe your drives before recycling.

The county also takes BOOKS of any age, in any condition, either paperback or hard cover. They are assessed for reuse, redistributed if possible, and the rest are recycled.

## The following are NOT accepted at Kane County:

- White goods/large appliances
- Extra-large wood speakers (please remove speakers from wooden box, dispose of wood, and bring speaker mechanism for recycling)
- Batteries not contained in equipment
- Household Hazardous Waste

For more information, please visit:

[www.countyofkane.org/Recycling/pages/default.aspx](http://www.countyofkane.org/Recycling/pages/default.aspx)

# Road District News... from the Highway Commissioner

## Safety Tidbits - Summer Construction, Driving with Cell Phones and Texting...

As of January 1, 2014, it is **ILLEGAL** to drive and talk while holding a cell phone in the entire state of Illinois. If you must talk and drive, you must be using a hands-free device or have the phone on speaker. It must be out of your hands.

“If I have that phone up to my ear and I’m talking and driving, I’m subject to a citation,” said David Byrd, Illinois State Police.

The law does have exceptions. In an emergency, a phone to driver’s ear is allowable. And there are other caveats: Stopping at a red light and checking your email, making a phone call or texting can only be done after you put your car in neutral or in park. If not, you are subject to a fine.

“The first offense is \$75 and it increases \$25 after that,” said Byrd. And if you are stopped three times in one year, you will lose your driver’s licence.

And while you are driving and NOT using your cell phone, 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, pay attention to the road signs and to the Flaggers!

## 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 2014

Bids on the contracts for resurfacing will be out soon for the following subdivision and roads:

River Grove Subdivision: Brookwood Rd., Grove Ave., Lambert Ave., Lilac Ave., Maple Lane, Oak Lane, Rockwell Ave., and Willow Lane

Grandma’s Lane  
Steven’s Road  
Peck Road  
Dean Street

## Homeowner’s Associations

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 thank you to those who have already called us.

## Township Board Meetings

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

### April

8.....7 p.m. - Annual Town Meeting  
9.....7 p.m. - Town Board Meeting  
**18.....Closed 1/2 Day - Spring Holiday**

### May

14.....7 p.m. - Town Board Meeting  
**26.....Closed - Memorial Day**

### June

11.....7 p.m. - Town Board Meeting  
18.....7 p.m. - Cemetery Board Meeting

### July

**4.....Closed - Independence Day**  
9.....7 p.m. - Town Board Meeting

### August

13.....7 p.m. - Town Board Meeting

### September

**1.....Closed - Labor Day**  
10.....7 p.m. - Town Board Meeting  
17.....7 p.m. - Cemetery Board Meeting



# 2014 Brush Pick-up for Unincorporated St. Charles Township

This year, we are starting up a new brush pickup program. The brush program was becoming way too big for our crew and equipment to manage. The new program will run much as in the past; however, you will **no longer need to call for brush pickup**. You also will be putting brush in large piles rather than smaller ones.

St. Charles Township Road District has contracted with Kramer Tree Service to pick up the brush in unincorporated St. Charles Township. This will replace the previous Brush Pickup Program that was provided for more than 20 years.

The following procedures must be followed to ensure brush pick-up:

- Brush/limbs are to be out by the road, not in the road, no later than 7 a.m. on the Monday of the scheduled week pick-up
- Maximum diameter is 12 inches; Maximum length is 12 feet
- Stack brush in large piles, not several small piles like before, with cut ends facing the road keeping away from mailboxes, utility poles/boxes, hydrants and parked cars
- Brush should be placed in the front or side parkway and will not be picked up from vacant lots; we do not pick up after any lot clearings
- Do not tie or bundle brush/limbs or put brush/limbs in containers or bags
- Do not place stumps, roots, landscape material, lumber, firewood, or foreign objects in piles
- This program is strictly for residentially generated brush only; **IT IS NOT FOR CONTRACTOR REMOVALS OR TRIMMINGS**. If you hire a tree service to cut down any tree(s) then they are responsible for taking away all logs and brush
- Residents with limbs/brush exceeding the requirements for the Residential Brush Pickup Program can contact a private service to have them removed at the resident's expense
- If your brush was out at 7 a.m. on Monday of the scheduled pickup week and not collected by the end of the workday on Friday, notify the Road District no later than the following Monday. For calls on missed brush received after that Monday, they will be picked up on the next scheduled brush pickup

The following are 2014 pick-up dates:

- April 28
- May 27
- June 23
- July 28
- August 25
- September 22
- October 27: This is the last pickup week for 2014

## And 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.

---

## 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.

---

## 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](http://www.illinois1call.com).

# Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue District

Greg Benson, Fire District Chief

## From the Chief...

The Board of Trustees of Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue District is proud to announce the opening and staffing of Fire Station #3 located at 34W500 Carl Lee Dr. This station replaces a temporary facility.

The planning and construction process began almost 2 years ago in order to better serve the residents located on the east side of the district including Valley View, Fox River Estates, Village of Wayne and areas west of the Fox River. Your new station began operation on February 27 and is fully staffed with firefighters/paramedics. The 15,000 sq/ft. facility was constructed for \$2,500,000.

Fire apparatus includes an engine, water tender, Advance Life Support (ALS) Ambulance, rescue boat and various support vehicles and equipment. An area in the station has been designated for housing of MABAS equipment to meet specialty rescue and EMS needs.

The district will be hosting a formal open house in early spring once landscaping and outside work is completed. The opening of this station is the second phase of a comprehensive plan to meet district fire and EMS needs. The third phase will involve construction and staffing of Station #2, to be located at Crane & Bolcum Roads.. The time line for this phase will be dependent on the availability of funding for the facility, apparatus and personnel required.

FRC has recently become a Registered Agency with the Commission of Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). This is the first step in achieving accreditation. During an extensive process, ten critical areas of department operations will be evaluated against standards and best practices. Continued high levels of operational, administrative and fiscal actions result from this intensive assessment process. One of the first steps will consist of evaluation and development of a Standard of Cover. This process identifies current community risks against resources available. Each department has differing risks requiring differing resources. More on the accreditation process will appear in future newsletters.

Fire signs are residents' physical street address. Clear, visible, unobstructed fire signs are vital to ensure that emergency responders can easily locate your home. Signs that are damaged, faded or not visible may delay response crews. FRC personnel have replaced over 600 fire signs in the last two years. Residents can contact the district office at 630-584-3473, or by email at [admin@frfr.org](mailto:admin@frfr.org) if your sign needs replacement.

Developing a system to contact our residents by email is critical to providing timely information and warnings. Email [admin@frfr.org](mailto:admin@frfr.org) to add your name and address to our list. This is not shared and only used for official district communications such as the district newsletter or important community events.

## 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](http://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.

# Elderday Center: More than Meets the Eye

It has been said, that the one thing you will have in common with all of your fellow man is that we are all aging. It's a fact of life. What is not always understood is that dementia is not a normal sign of aging. But with the rising number of senior citizens and the prevalence of dementia diagnoses (Alzheimer's Disease is now ranked the 6th leading cause of death and one person is diagnosed every 67 seconds), it can seem common.

For 24 years, Elderday Center has been specializing in dementia and age-related illness care. Elderday Center's program is unique. As the only community-based nonprofit adult day program in the Tri-Cities, Elderday Center uses evidenced-based techniques to engage senior citizen members affected with these heart-breaking diagnoses. From the moment senior members walk through the Elderday Center door, every activity has a therapeutic value.

Senior members benefit from access to a nurse each day, a wide variety of therapeutic activities, art therapy, podiatry services on site, music therapy, inter generational programming, community outings, pet therapy and more. A licensed clinical social worker is on-staff to assist with care plans and provide free caregiver counseling.

Each activity chosen is selected with care to keep bodies, brains and spirits healthy. The program has been shown year after year to slow the progression of cognitive and bodily decline. Senior citizens suffering from depression, anxiety and isolation also benefit. Depression rates have been shown to lift as a result of program involvement.

One unfortunate trend that the agency has observed is that many people wait too long to take advantage of this great service. The program can actually assist in keeping people in their own home (or with family) and in the community they know, for longer than without therapeutic day services. A dementia diagnoses does not necessarily mean nursing home placement. And because Elderday Center is a nonprofit, families often can use these services without sacrificing financially for future care.

If you know a senior citizen suffering from dementia or isolation and think Elderday Center might be a good fit or you'd like to learn more about Elderday Center or volunteer, please call 630-761-9750. Tours and guests are always welcomed.

## **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, employment, school and to the Elderday Center in Batavia.

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

---

## **Home Repair Help Line**

## **630-375-7227**

If you are on a limited or fixed income, in need of minor household repairs and can't afford to hire a commercial service contractor, help is near.

Health, safety and quality of life repairs are provided to homeowners in Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles school district boundaries.

Labor is FREE and work is provided by a group of trustworthy volunteers experienced in plumbing, electrical, carpentry and other types of repairs. All volunteers are insured. Charges for materials will vary according to need and project. Depending on circumstances, materials may be free to low-income homeowners.

For assistance and more information, call 630-375-7227. A volunteer will set up a meeting to assess your needs. Work is then scheduled based on those needs, repairs are evaluated and materials are assembled.

### **Home Repair Assistance services include:**

- Handicap ramps
- Railings and grab bars
- Stairs and steps
- Light switches and light bulbs
- Plumbing fixtures/drains
- Doors and windows
- Furnace filters
- Shower stalls
- Smoke detectors ...and numerous other repairs

If you are a tradesperson and would like to volunteer or donate, monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday at the Congregational Church of Batavia, 21 S. Batavia Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

# Cemetery Columbarium Update

*By Supervisor John Arthur Anderson*

We are moving forward with the construction of a columbarium area in Union Cemetery on north 5th Avenue (Rt. 25). Plans are being completed so the Township can go out for bids this spring. Site preparation and landscaping should be completed by fall of this year, followed by the delivery of the first set of columbaria structures around Thanksgiving.

As sales of the two person niches progress, more columbaria sets will be ordered until a total of 5 sets will be in place. When completed, this will give a final resting place for 3,120 cremains.

Below is a rendering of what the completed area will look like. Sale of the cremation niches will begin in the fall. Any questions can be directed to Supervisor John Arthur Anderson at 630-584-9342.



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