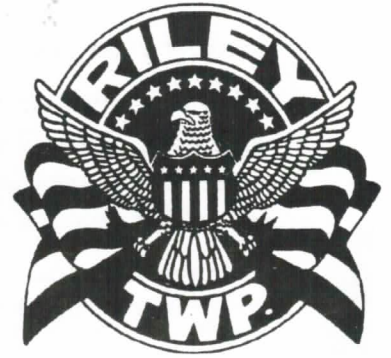


THE RILEY REPORT

News of the Township,

by Supervisor Donna Bernardi



Page 1

May, 2003

*Mark your
Calendars!*

Your Riley Township Board of Trustees meet on the second Tuesday of every month. We meet at 7 pm in the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

Inside this issue:

News of the Township	1
Assessor Rooney	2
Clerk's Corner	2
Riley Road District - Further Thoughts on Dumping	3
Directory	4

A Plan Commission is a five member board appointed by the Township Supervisor, with the consent of the Township Board. Their goal is to prepare and recommend to the Township Officials plans for present and future development or redevelopment, of the unincorporated areas of the township. Although, this is done on a volunteer basis, this "team" puts forth a lot of energy and hard work.

We welcomed three new members to the Riley Township Plan Commission, Jim Gallagher, Cathy Johnson, and Alan Stromberg. They will join Jim Faber and Wally Butchenscheon on staggering terms. I would like to extend my appreciation to all who applied for the position.

The Riley Plan Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Riley Town Hall.

The McHenry County Conservation District, to the best of my knowledge, has now acquired 3 parcels of land in Riley Township. Their locations are in the very northwest corner of the township, outlined by Burma, and Jackson Roads. These parcels total over 350 acres.

Another Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is being applied for in our township. Maple Valley Materials LLC, has an application pending to the McHenry County Zoning Board of Appeals for a CUP on parcel #16-13-300-003 in Riley Township. This parcel is located northwest of the intersection of Maple and Beck Roads. The petitioner, Maple Valley Materials LLC, is requesting that a Conditional Use Permit be issued to them for the operation of a commercial sand and gravel business and asphalt batch plant, including the extracting, processing and transporting of sand, gravel and other earth materials, and to also conduct a redi-mix and concrete recycling operation on the property, and for site reclamation. The first Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Hearing was held in the gymnasium of Riley School on May 14th per our request to keep the hearings in Riley. This next Hearing date will be Monday, June 9th, at 6 pm. The hearing will take place at the McHenry County Courthouse, located at 2200 N. Seminary Avenue, in Woodstock. These hearings **are** open to the public. Your attendance is encouraged.

A Volunteer Position is available on the Riley Cemetery Board;

The Riley Township Cemetery Board consists of 7 board members. Their main responsibility is to oversee the maintenance of the Riley Cemetery located on Riley Road, across from the Town Hall. We do have an opening to be on the board. This position is to fill a vacancy whose term is due to expire 12/31/04. If anyone would like to volunteer their time and be a part of the Board, please contact the Township Supervisor at (815)597-4011.

Reading your assessment notice:

You will be receiving a post card from McHenry County Office of Assessments around August/September. This will give you your assessment levels for 2003. Everyone will receive one of these cards. On the postcard will be an explanation of why your assessment changed. Some of the reasons why your assessment will change will be because of the following:

1. If you have added, deleted or improved your property
2. Or the township equalization has changed.
3. State Multiplier
4. Board of Review Multiplier
5. Farmland revaluation
6. Rate increase due to a referendum
7. Senior or Elderly Homestead Exemption (owner/occupied as of January 1st of current year and applicant 65 years or older).
8. Annual Homestead Exemption (owner/occupied as of January 1st of current year).
9. Senior Assessment Freeze Exemption (owner/occupied 65 years or older with household income \$40,000 or less.

When referring to your assessment or if you have questions regarding you tax bill, please make sure you have the PIN (PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER) or Parcel Number available. Example: 16-01-000-000

If you qualify for any of the exemptions listed above (7-9), check the bottom right column of your tax bill to see if you are receiving them.

Barbara Rooney

Riley Township Tax Assessor

(815)568-8326 (Please leave a message)

Clerk's Corner BY Karen Schnable

As Township Clerk, I want you to know that as of the first of the year, I am now authorized to register voters in Riley Township. So if you are new to the area or have never registered before, give me a call at 568-2729 to make an appointment. You know how it is; the next election will be here before you know it!

FURTHER THOUGHTS ON DUMPING

Rural townships such as Riley confront many different issues that larger more populous townships don't have to contend with. Many of the roads throughout the township are very lightly traveled and may only see traffic when you go to and return from work. Unfortunately, these lonely country roads are preyed upon by individuals from nearby towns and townships looking to dispose of their garbage. These individuals can dispose of their undesired items out in the country and return to their homes knowing that they are compliant with the local ordinances that prohibit burning or disposing of paint, tires, construction debris, and automotive batteries in the weekly trash pickup. Nearby communities have made it so difficult to dispose of waste, that dumping along country roads is a routine occurrence in Riley Township. Virtually all roads under our care have been subjected to these heinous acts of dumping. On one occasion, we had an underground diesel fuel storage tank (500 gallon capacity) unearthed from the ground and dumped alongside one of our roads. In this day and age when nobody wants to get involved, these shameless criminals are bold enough to take truckloads of debris into Riley Township and dump along our roads any time of the day and night.

I believe that together we can help deter some of these acts. Our roads may be rural, but eventually they lead to our homes, work and school. All residents can take part by acting as an extra pair of eyes as I cannot be all places all the time. Please consider getting involved when you see something suspicious by calling the McHenry County Sheriff at 338-2144 or me at 568-6221 or 568-4854.

The next time you or a family member want to throw something out the window and think it's gone, think again! The following table illustrates the amount of time that many items take to decompose. Everyone has the ability to help keep Riley Township and other roadsides clean. Consider this table when you want to throw something in the ditch, to get rid of it. The rest of us may have to look at your garbage for years after you think it's gone.

DECOMPOSITION TIME

ITEM		ITEM	
Glass Bottle.....	Approx. 1 million years	Painted Wooden Stake.....	13 years
Plastic 6-pack Cover.....	450 years	Plastic Bag.....	10-20 years
Aluminum Can.....	200-500 years	Plastic Coated Paper.....	5 years
Rubber-Boot Sole.....	50-80 years	Wool Clothing.....	1-5 years
Leather.....	Up to 50 years	Cigarette Butt.....	1-5 years
Nylon Fabric.....	30-40 years	Cotton Rag.....	1-5 months
Plastic Film Container.....	20-30 years	Orange Peel or Banana Peel.....	2-5 weeks

(Table reprinted from Illinois Interchange Publication of Illinois Department of Transportation, Spring 2002 edition)

SPRING ISSUE, 2003

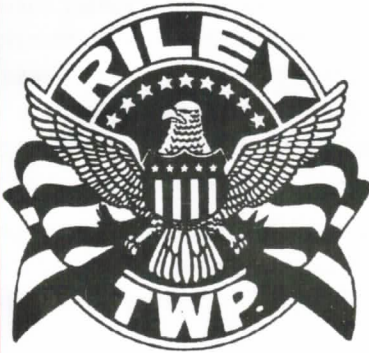
Supervisor Bernardi
7918 Marjorie Dr.
Marengo, IL 60152

Phone: 815-597-4011
Fax: 815-597-4011

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WOODSTOCK, IL
PERMIT NO. 50

or current resident

We Work for you!



- Supervisor: Donna Bernardi.....597-4011*
- Assessor: Barb Rooney.....568-8326*
- Highway Commissioner:.....Dave Diamond*
- Township Garage, Riley Road.....568-6221*
- Clerk:.....Karen Schnable*
- Trustees:.....Arlene Genell*
-Jim Gibbons*
-Pat Grimm*
-Doug Kunde*

Your Comments and Concerns are Welcome

Articles and/or tidbits of information that may be of interest to the residents of Riley Township will be considered for inclusion in the next township newsletter. We reserve the right to edit upon available space in the publication. Send your comments to: **Riley Township Supervisor**, Donna Bernardi at 7918 Marjorie Dr., Marengo, IL 60152.

Also, should you know someone who has not received a copy of this newsletter and that person would like to be placed on our mailing list, please contact Supervisor Bernardi.

**Dial-A-Ride
In Riley Township
1-800-273-5939**

All residents of Riley Township are serviced by Dial-A-Ride, the R.T.A.'s Pace Bus. This service covers the Marengo-Union area. All pick-ups are made on first-come, first-serve, basis. The cost per ride is a \$1.50, the fare for students, seniors, or the disabled is \$.75. Hours for available service are 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You will need to call for a pick-up at least one half hour prior to your desired pick-up time. Call 1-800-273-5939 for more information.