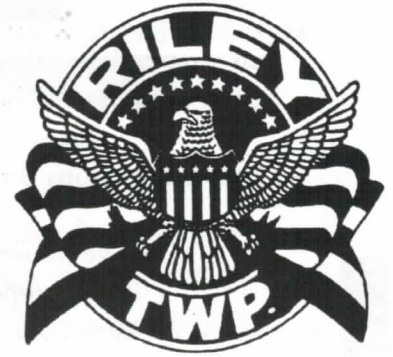


THE RILEY REPORT



News of the Township, by Supervisor Donna Bernardi

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.

Township

Directory

Supervisor:

Donna Bernardi
.....597-4011

Assessor:

Barb Rooney
.....568-8326

Highway Comm.:

Dave Diamond

Township Garage,
Riley Road
.....568-6221

Clerk:

Karen Schnable
.....568-2729

Trustees:

Jim Gibbons
Pat Grimm
Doug Kunde
Ted Oberg

This spring finds us welcoming a new Trustee to our Township Board. Ted Oberg has been appointed to finish the term of Trustee Arlene Genell. Arlene has relocated to Lake County. Trustee Genell had been instrumental in the design of the Riley Township Comprehensive Plan as a member of The Riley Plan Commission and then as Trustee. She will be missed by many in the community.

Donna Oberg has volunteered to finish Ted's term on the Riley Cemetery Board. Best wishes to all!

The Route 23 property that the Riley Township Board purchased from Meyer Material last year included, the old Griebel house and garage. The Town Board is interested in anyone who is an experienced building inspector, who would be willing to assess the condition of the buildings for future improvements and/or maintenance.

Anyone interested is asked to please leave a message on the Township Phone at 815-597-4011 or my home phone at 815-597-1510.

A zoning change has been approved by The McHenry County Board, (21-0, with 3 members being absent) in Riley Township. The southwest corner of Maple and Coral Roads has a 17 acre parcel that has gone from an A-1 (Agricultural) to E-2. E-2 is a zoning classification given to mean an "E" -estate that is at least "2" acres in lot size. A lot of public interest has been taken to this area due to the expansion of the gravel industry on Maple Road.

The Riley Township Planning Commission

Our plan Commission is a group of 5 volunteers that were appointed by the Riley Township Board to meet and discuss any zoning, any conditional use permits, any land use change in Riley Township. After giving consideration to the many different aspects that a land use could have upon our township, the Plan Commission then gives their opinion to the Riley Township Board at their regularly scheduled meetings. The Riley Township Board of Trustees, then would ordinarily pass a resolution to present to the McHenry County Board as to its opinion of the said land use change in question. The Board of Trustees, felt that a consistent approach to the McHenry County Board would obtain a significant voice, compared to that of one in use when only controversial issues are in place.

Anyone interested in going before the Riley Township Plan commission should contact the Secretary Alan Stromberg at 568-6712 or Chairperson Cathy Johnson at 568-7692. The Plan Commission has put together a set of guidelines they would like to see followed when presenting before them as a board. The Plan Commission meets every 1st Monday of the month, at 7pm.

**FROM THE RILEY TOWNSHIP TAX ASSESSOR
BARB ROONEY**

Just a reminder to those of you who may qualify for the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption and the Senior Citizen's Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption:

The qualifications for the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption are as follows:

1. The house must be owner occupied and having a legal, equitable interest in the property.
2. Must be a single family residence.
3. You or your spouse must be 65 years of age or older sometime in that tax year.

First time applicants must provide proof of age and provide a copy of a document showing your name, legal description and the legal or equitable interest in the property i.e., warranty deed, policy, etc. If you are currently receiving this exemption, you no longer have to reapply each year (Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption only).

The qualifications for the Senior Citizen's Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption are as follows:

1. The house must be owner occupied and having a legal, equitable interest in the property.
2. Must be a single family residence.
3. You or your spouse must be 65 years of age or older sometime in that tax year.
4. Total household yearly income must be \$40,000 or less.

You must reapply yearly for this exemption (Senior Citizen's Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption only).

If you qualify for any of the above exemptions, please contact Barb Rooney, Riley Township Assessor at (815) 568-8326 (leave a message) or McHenry County Assessors office (815) 334-4290 to have either or both forms mailed.

CLERKS CORNER

by

KAREN SCHNABLE

**THE PEOPLE OF RILEY TOWNSHIP VOICE
THEIR OPTION ABOUT THE MARENGO AREA BYPASS**

At the annual Town Meeting on April 13th, the people of Riley Township had the opportunity to speak out about the Marengo area bypass. The city of Marengo has set up a Marengo Bypass Task Force, for the purpose of gathering information, investigating alternative solutions and in general providing direction. At our annual meeting the Supervisor of Riley Township, Donna Bernardi, asked the people how they felt about the bypass. There was no question that the majority of the people were against it, so a resolution was drawn up by the people of Riley Township, to let all the interested parties know how they felt.

This is just one example of the important things that can be discussed at an Annual Town Meeting. You are always welcome to attend our regular monthly meetings, which are on the second Tuesday of every month, at 7:00 P.M. at the Riley Town Hall. Be sure to mark April 12, 2005 on your calendar for next year so you don't miss the next Annual Town Meeting. We hope to see you there!

Riley Road District by Dave Diamond, Highway Commissioner

As the price of gasoline continually increases these days it is hard to imagine any benefits that buying gas may present. However, without tax revenue generated from purchasing fuel in Illinois, Riley Township Road District would be able to complete little or no road resurfacing. Townships across the state receive Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funding based on the miles of roads within their jurisdiction. This amount averages about \$5000 per month year round. The vast majority of road resurfacing work is completed with MFT funds and would be unattainable with regular township funds. Our Permanent Hard Road Fund for Riley Township totals about \$50,000 annually. By combining Township and MFT funding we can perform more paving at a single time and get a better bid. The cost for resurfacing a mile of roadway in McHenry County with a paving contractor averages about \$30,000. The work includes a 1 ½ " pavement overlay, no milling or base coat of asphalt is included.

Riley Township has 47 miles of road in our jurisdiction. Many of the roads are seal coat with a thin layer of asphalt on top. We still have 2 miles of gravel road in the township and upgrading them will take several years. To protect the roads from further deterioration, Illinois law allows the imposition of weight limits and a frost law period prevents most heavy truck traffic every spring. While many of these roads are in good condition, several have been upgraded to better condition in recent years with resurfacing. While some road Districts may opt to use MFT funds for purposes other than paving, I have directed every available dollar of MFT money that Riley gets to be used for road resurfacing to improve our network of roads. Without receiving MFT funding, resurfacing Township roads would take even more years in between paving. While we still have nowhere near the revenue needed, the Motor Fuel Tax actually does come back home and direct benefits are observed in better roads.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY?

At a recent meeting with the McHenry County Highway Department, they informed the Townships of the success they have had with their Adopt-A-Highway program throughout McHenry County. They have offered to support the Townships if we have any residents interested in such a program. The program involves volunteers collecting litter along the road several times a year. A sign is placed with your group name of each end of the section of road that you would be sponsoring. If there are any residents or groups, that are interested in 'Adopting' a section of road in Riley Township, please contact me at the Township garage.

SPRING ISSUE, 2004

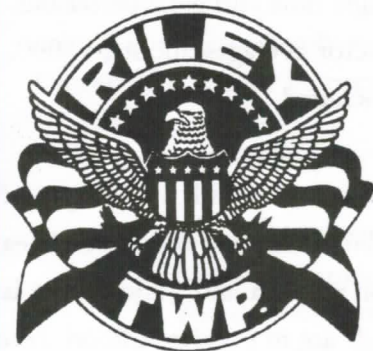
Supervisor Bernardi
7918 Marjorie Dr.
Marengo, IL 60152

Phone/fax:
815-597-4011

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WOODSTOCK, IL
PERMIT NO. 50

or current resident

We Work for you!



McHenry County Historical Society Heritage Fair

Sunday, July 11, 2004

10 am to 4 pm

6422 Main Street, Union Illinois

ANTIQUES AUCTION

(auction starts at 1:00 pm)

For more information call 815 923 2267

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

*****RILEY TOWNSHIP DAY SCHEDULED*****

**THE RESIDENTS OF RILEY TOWNSHIP WILL BE ADMITTED ON SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 10TH, TO THE MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM FREE OF CHARGE.**