



from your Associate Director

By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Associate Director / Education Coordinator

Connecting the Dots

AS WE ENTER THE FALL SEASON, so much change is in the air. Personally, I watched my second child, Caroline, leave to start the next leg of her academic career as a pre-pharmacy student at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. Along with her sister Hannah, who attends the University of Mississippi "Ole Miss" in Oxford Mississippi and her younger brother Carter who is a sophomore in high school, I have many reasons to be thankful and exhausted all at the same time. But it is this change, this constant reminder that our lives must continue to evolve and expand that drives my message this month. Don't be afraid to embrace change and prepare for a

great, innovative future in all aspects of life. This type of change and focus is needed, especially in township government, as we soon enter the election season. The consolidation spotlight has not dimmed. We must all be prepared to connect the past and future success of township government for all involved.

In an effort to innovate, encourage and drive focus on the importance of township government, I encourage you to initiate a focus on the positive impact your township has had on your local community. It is also important to look at ways to improve your services and programs to become even more efficient and effective in delivering local government goods and program services.

Often, it is suggested that we go back to our roots or the beginning of what drove us to become the government closest to the people. That may involve reaching out to your community and showcasing the services provided by township government. I would recommend taking a look at the township code or the establishing statutory provisions located at 60 ILCS 1.

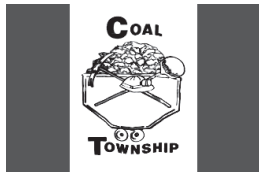
The statutorily mandated services that all townships are required to provide are (1) Road and Bridge Maintenance; (2) Property Assessment; and (3) General Assistance. Across our great state, townships provide many more services than required. It is these additional services that promote the diversity of local government.

Take some time and have a discussion at your next township board meeting to connect the past to current practices of your individual township and improve on those services as we move toward a solid future in township government.

2017 will bring legislative challenges as other legislative years have. We have to improve our communicative efforts in our township communities to eradicate the negative.

Take the time to register and bring a fellow township official to the 2016 Annual Educational Conference. What better way to initiate a consistent effort at embracing the past, present, and future than to attend the fall conference. I hope that you can take time out of your schedule and make it happen.

The 2016 Education Program closed with our final Professional Development program on August 12th in Springfield. The program was a success with over 100 in



Does your township have a flag?

Yes _____ No _____

Do you need assistance in creating a township flag?

Yes _____ No _____

Would you like to participate in a flag parade at opening session of our Annual Educational Conference Nov. 13?

Yes _____ No _____

Please contact Jerry at jerry@toi.org, or fax 217-744-7419

Name/Title _____

Township/County _____

Email or phone _____

attendance. We are now in full planning mode for the 2017 calendar program year.

Start today and connect your township to an efficient and effective future! Create change that promotes local government—township government in your area of our great state—ILLINOIS!

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

As we stated in the last issue of *Township Perspective* we have asked for support of a food bank pantry program this year at the 2016 Annual Educational Conference. If we are able to generate the required funds, conference attendees will have an opportunity to fill a food basket at the exhibit hall for those in need. The donations are requested from INDIVIDUALS ONLY. NO TOWNSHIP FUNDS CAN BE USED. All donations will be listed at the food basket area. We encourage all township officials to participate individually or as a group (township). No one should go hungry in our great state. Let's show just how successful we can be with this program. If we do not receive sufficient donations by October 7, 2016, we will reserve the right to cancel the program and return the funds already

received. Mail all donations to my attention at the TOI office. Thank you for supporting this and other events of the association.

CONFERENCE APP DOWNLOAD



Don't forget to download the conference app early this year and plan early for your conference experience. We continue to receive positive feedback from the development of the app. Don't forget to pay close attention to the sponsors of the app as their donations make the technology possible.

WEBINAR TOPICS NEEDED

As I stated above, the 2016 program year is over and we are not resting. Planning for the 2017 program year is already in place. As we continue to meet with the education committee and look at possible areas of education, I call upon you to tell us what you would like to see as programs. If you have a webinar topic you would like to see please forward the information to me.

CONFERENCE LINEUP

Below is an overview of educational programs that will offered at this year's conference. A complete listing, with times and locations for each session, will be available in our October issue.

Course Title	Speaker
Personal Persuasion Power: How to Present Yourself and Your Ideas	Speaker Chris Egelston
DCFS 101: Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect	Nora Harms-Pavelski
Hiring and Firing Practices in Township Government	John Redlingshafer – Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen
The Township Budget Crisis	Bob Porter, Administrator – Ancel Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer
Government Consolidation: New Laws, Proposed Laws – Do Townships Need to Worry?	Ancel Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer
Check Lists for Survivors	Susan Dillon, Director of Adult and Senior Services – Ela Township
What You Need to Know to Prepare for the Upcoming Election	Jeff Jurgens, Attorney – Sorling Northrup
Mind and Body Skills for Reducing Stress	Bridget Rolens, Certified Wellness Coach – BSHS St. John's Hospital Mind-Body Health Services
Legislative RECAP with Tim Bramlet	Tim Bramlet, TOI Legislative Consultant
What Happens After You Make the Call	Nora Harms-Pavelski
The POWER of TED (The Empowerment Dynamic)	Cheri Neal, Zion Township Supervisor/Professional Life Coach – Candid Coaching and Conversations
Developing a Township Program That Works	Roger Larson, Administrator – Richwoods Township
Top Tips to Keep Your Township Out of Court	Ancel Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer
The Protector of Township Highway Commissioners From Liability	Jay Judge team – Judge, James, Hoban & Fisher, LLC

Prevailing Wage and How It Works In Illinois Townships	Heyl Royster, Voelker & Allen
TOIRMA Program/Coverages – Questions & Answers	Jim Donelan, Simphi Lenover, Katie Musgrave, Matt Knight, Sean Richardson, and Rhonda Grubb – TOIRMA
Ask An Attorney Panel	Attorneys Division
When the Investigation is Finished	Nora Harms-Pavelski
General Parliamentary Procedure in Township Government	Ancel Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer
Citizen's Arrest Program	Bob Russell, Attorney – Russell, English, Scoma & Beneke, P.C.
Stress Relief Painting	Tracey Colagrossi, Senior Services – Hanover Township
Township Record Keeping	Gregory Moredock, Attorney – Sorling Northrup
Terrorism in the Midwest	SA Adam Topping – FBI Springfield Division, Peoria RA Squad 8, International Terrorism
Polishing Your Township Image	Jill Bremer, AICI CIP – The Edge Executive Coaching & Training
A Briefing on the 2017 Illinois Election Process	Jamye Sims, Election Specialist – State Board of Elections
Township Day Tool Box	Susan Dillon, Director of Adult and Senior Services – Ela Township
Social Security Administration Seminar	Jack Myers – Social Security Administration
Township Records Maintenance: Are You Doing It Correctly?	Robert Boots, Chief Deputy Director – Illinois State Archives
Social Security Disability: Change and Confusion	Jeffrey Rabin – The Law Offices of Rabin, Kodner & Brown, Ltd.
Enbridge: Update on the Pipeline in Illinois	Cheryl Harvey, Senior Advisor Public and Government Affairs – Enbridge Energy
Right of Way: Common Problems and What is Required	Heyl Royster, Voelker & Allen
How a Bill Becomes a Law: A Presentation on What It All Means to TOI	Dr. Kent Redfield, Professor Emeritus – University of Illinois at Springfield

Neighbors Serving Neighbors

Help make the 2016 Holiday Food Pantry Project a success

AS PART OF NOVEMBER'S conference theme this year, *Township Government: Neighbors Serving Neighbors*, the conference committee is wanting to generate support for a food basket program offering all conference attendees an opportunity to assist in giving back to the community.

We are asking for private donations (not township funds) to assist in purchasing nonperishable food basket items. Each conference attendee will have an opportunity during conference exhibit hours to fill food baskets to be delivered to a local Springfield charity in anticipation of offering a needy family a holiday meal. The baskets preparation area is part of the TOI vendor booth space this year.

We are requesting monetary donations and will display a list of the names of the individuals, as well as the townships they represent, as sponsors of the program. Please note that Township funds CANNOT be

used as a donation for this program. We are asking for personal donations from elected officials. Checks may be made payable to the Township Officials of Illinois. Please help us help others and participate in giving back to the community. Food items will be purchased from local grocery stores with sufficient support. If we do not receive a minimum of \$350, TOI reserves the right to cancel the project. If you have any questions or are interested in assisting at the TOI booth with this program please let me know.

Feel free to contact us with questions at (217) 744-2212 or by email at jerry@toi.org.

All donations can be mailed to:

TOI - Food Pantry Project
3217 Northfield Dr.
Springfield, IL 62702

Checks may be made payable to the Township Officials of Illinois.

