

THE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS

# township Perspective

July/August 2022



*Troy Kost Scholarship*  
**Alexis Vogel**



*George Miller Scholarship*  
**Emma McCammon**



*Delbert Miller Scholarship*  
**Graham Stocksdale**



*William Abrends Scholarship*  
**Lucas Kessinger**

## Seven Scholarship Winners



*Carolyn Langan Scholarship*  
**Ellis "Zane" Coulter**



*Robert Turner Scholarship*  
**Maria Bender**



*Barbara Behm Scholarship*  
**Molly Dalzot**

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**Township Officials of Illinois**

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Springfield, IL 62702  
Phone: 217-744-2212  
or 1-866-897-4688  
Fax: 217-744-7419

**Web Site: [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org)**

**TOI E-mail Addresses:**

- Jerry B. Crabtree**, Executive Director - [jerry@toi.org](mailto:jerry@toi.org)
- Brad Ruppert**, Director of Member Services - [brad@toi.org](mailto:brad@toi.org)
- Pam Butler**, Office Manager & Drug & Alcohol Program - [pam@toi.org](mailto:pam@toi.org)
- Kayla Jeffers**, Associate Editor, *Township Perspective* - [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org)
- Teresa Ruenger**, Database Manager - [teresa@toi.org](mailto:teresa@toi.org)

The **Township Officials of Illinois**, organized in 1907, serves as a resource center for state and federal legislative agencies, as well as its member townships. The organization's attention to and involvement with the legislative process enables it to exert influence on behalf of its member units, as well as to report to them on decisions which affect their functioning.

In addition to offering information and guidance, **TOI** promotes and supports strong township government in the State of Illinois. To that end, it offers a series of continuing education programs designed to provide a sense of responsibility, assurance, dedication and unity.

**TOI** recognizes that offering service benefiting the citizens and taxpayers of Illinois requires the representation of diverse constituencies. Its Board of Directors is structured to accommodate that purpose, as are its respective divisions.

The organization provides leadership for the continuation and effectiveness of strong grassroots government in the state. Through education, dedication and unity, **TOI** has achieved and surpassed the goals of its founders and provides leadership for grassroots government in the 21st Century.

**Subscription Rates** TOI membership automatically provides a subscription for all elected township officials. Subscription rate is \$25.00 per year. Single issues are \$5.00.

**Graphic Design** KK Stevens Publishing Co., Astoria, IL.

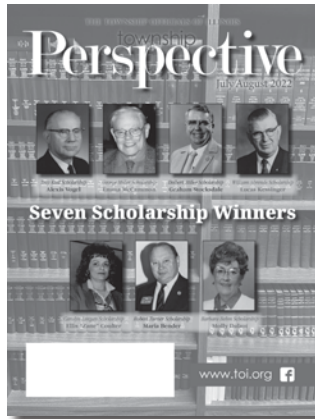
**Article Submission** Address all article submissions to Kayla Jeffers. **Deadline:** Copy is due by the tenth day of the month preceding the issue in which the article will appear. Send all article submissions to Township Officials of Illinois, 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702 or e-mail [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org). Telephone 217-744-2212 Fax 217-744-7419.

**Advertising** Address all display advertising and Professional Directory inquiries to Kayla Jeffers. **Deadline:** Both display and directory ads are due by the first day of the month preceding the issue in which the ad will appear. Send all ads to Township Officials of Illinois, 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702. Telephone 217-744-2212.

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# township Perspective

July-August 2022 • Vol. 24 • No. 3



**This month's cover:**

The Seven Scholarship Winners have been awarded! See page 24 to read their award-winning essays.

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**Editorial staff**

**Editor** Jerry B. Crabtree

**Associate Editor** Kayla Jeffers

# Coming Events

2022

July 4	TOI Office Closed – Independence Day
July 15	TSI Zone Meeting – Bloomington
July 20	Lunch & Learn Webinar
July 22	TOI Q & A Day
July 28	Education District Event – Bloomington
Aug. 1-3	THCOI Summer Seminar – Peoria
Aug. 9	Education District Event – Township Board Meeting Gone Bad – Wood River, 6 pm to 8 pm
Aug. 11	Lunch & Learn Webinar
Aug. 12	TOI Q & A Day
Aug. 12	TSI Zone Meeting – East Peoria
Aug. 20	Local Officials Day State Fair – Springfield
Aug. 25	Professional Development Day 3 – Quickbooks for Intermediate Users
Sept. 5	TOI Office Closed – Labor Day
Sept. 9	TOI Q & A Day
Sept. 14	Lunch & Learn Webinar – Agendas, Minutes, and Best Practices
Sept. 15	Education District Event – Carbondale, 6 pm to 8 pm
Oct. 10	TOI Closed – Columbus Day
Oct. 12	Lunch & Learn Webinar
Oct. 20	Professional Development 3
Nov. 13-15	115th Annual Educational Conference

## Advertising Gets Results

### Township Perspective ads get results!

Advertisements in *Township Perspective* reach over 11,000 readers across Illinois every month.

Publication reaches:

- More than 11,000 township/road district officials
- More than 605 miscellaneous subscriptions (including state and federal agencies, township staff, news media, and libraries)
- 177 state legislators and 21 U.S. Senators and Congressmen

To learn how you can target this audience with your company's ad, call Jody Bunker at (309) 693-9667 ext. 14 or Email: [jodyb@rbpro1.com](mailto:jodyb@rbpro1.com)



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Huntsville Township, Schuyler County
- Judy Herrman**, 1st Vice President  
Spring Lake Township, Tazewell County
- Christopher Kain**, Treasurer  
Addison Township, DuPage County
- Craig Paulek**, Secretary  
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## TOI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# From the Executive Director's Desk



By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Executive Director

**A**S I REFLECT ON THE PAST YEAR, it was this edition of *Township Perspective* in 2021 that announced my new role with the association as Executive Director. The journey continues to include a multitude of experiences, expectations, the unexpected and the occasional surprise but the result of assisting elected township officials perform their job effectively and efficiently makes the task worth it. I have spent the past 12 months incorporating minor changes into the office administration and staffing and feel that we have achieved a solid foundation.

The most recent member of the TOI team, Mr. Brad Ruppert is Director of Member Services. Brad is focusing among other things—member services. Something that we have been wanting to do for quite a while is focus on the past, present and future of member services. The way these services are delivered has changed significantly. There is a segment of our membership that continues to prefer in-person events. The challenge is to meet both electronic, virtual and in person offerings. We need to continue the innovative perspective of meeting the needs of our members in their role as an elected township official. I am confident that having Brad lead this effort will provide a great outcome.

As we enter conference season, I am excited to provide a conference experience like no other in November at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, Illinois. We have all experienced the pandemic and are ready to resume the new normal of conference programs. The overall format is changed. However, one thing remains intact—the benefits of face-to-face interaction. The

program this year is streamlined a bit to accommodate social distancing and the demands on the hotel property for a conference the size of the fall conference. We want everyone the experience a safe and comfortable conference.

The Legislative survey is scheduled to be distributed soon to our membership. Please consider completing the survey online. If you have an area of the township code or highway code that you would like to recommend a change, we want to hear from you. This survey assists the legislative committee in their recommendations to the full board for the TOI legislative agenda in January 2023. Your input is appreciated and assists in identifying potential problematic areas of statutory law impacting township government.



Diane Mathis

TOI has a few new faces this year that are assisting with our conference planning and executing. I would like to introduce you to Ms. Diane Mathis who is managing our exhibit hall. Diane will be reaching out to all vendors that supply township goods and services offering an opportunity to become a vendor at the fall conference. Diane has years of experience in exhibit hall and advertisement management. We welcome Diane to the TOI Family and look forward to a great conference exhibit hall. If you are a vendor or know of someone that would benefit from being an exhibitor, please direct them to the TOI website for exhibitor information or they can email Diane direct at [diane@toi.org](mailto:diane@toi.org).



Jodie Brooks

I would also like to introduce everyone to Ms. Jodie Brooks. Jodie manages and implements the entire conference including the education and special events. Jodie has over 20 years experience in event planning. We welcome Jodie to the TOI family as well. Please stop her at the conference and say hello. If you have any conference questions you can reach out to her by email at [jodie@toi.org](mailto:jodie@toi.org).

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So as we wind down my first year I am excited to introduce you to the association staff and support our efforts to provide you with efficient and effective services.

- Jerry B Crabtree, Executive Director/ CEO [jerry@toi.org](mailto:jerry@toi.org)
- Brad Ruppert, Director of Members Services [brad@toi.org](mailto:brad@toi.org)
- Pam Butler, Office Administrator [pam@toi.org](mailto:pam@toi.org)
- Kayla Jeffers, Associate Magazine Editor / Communications [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org)
- TJ Ruenger, Database Coordinator / Office Operations [teresa@toi.org](mailto:teresa@toi.org)
- Jodie Brooks, Conference Meeting Planner [jodie@toi.org](mailto:jodie@toi.org)
- Diane Mathis, Conference Exhibit Hall Manager [diane@toi.org](mailto:diane@toi.org)

Please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance. I look forward to what our team can provide you in the 2023 calendar year and beyond as we improve our member experience and programming to meet the challenges township officials face daily in their communities.

*Jerry B. Crabtree*  
[jerry@toi.org](mailto:jerry@toi.org)

## 115th Annual Educational Conference Course Offerings

The following is the current listing of education programs scheduled for the 2022 Fall Conference. 22 Education Opportunities for township officials and guests. There is something for everyone. We will be adding more where we can.

- **A Year in the Life of a Township Clerk” Skit**
- **Administrative Strategies in Township Government**
- **Civics 101 (The Need for Local Government Education in Illinois in 2022 and Beyond)**
- **Communication Tactics for Township Officials**
- **Consolidation Issues in Township Government**
- **Email Triage - Why You need a Professional Email**
- **Food Banks and How They Operate**
- **GATI - Overview**
- **How to Accurately Respond to FOIA Requests**
- **HR/Personnel Matters**
- **IMRF Discussion**
- **Intergovernmental Agreements**
- **Legal Do’s and Don’t’s for Highway Commissioners**
- **Navigating the IDOR Website**
- **Record Retention in Township Government**
- **Running an Efficient Township Board Meeting**
- **Safety in Township Government**
- **Social Media for Township Government**
- **TOI Legislative Agenda Review**
- **Township Budgeting 101**
- **Township Cemeteries**
- **Township Levy and Ordinance Process**

## Your assistance is needed ...

To make sure that you, or the officials in your township, receive their issue of *Township Perspective*, please make sure that TOI is notified when there is a change of official or address. We are receiving several address changes from the postal service and sometimes is after we have already sent out another mailing.

Please call the TOI Office toll free at 1.866.897.4688 and ask for Pam or Kayla, or email your change to [pam@toi.org](mailto:pam@toi.org) or [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org).

**Your assistance is much appreciated!**





## *Lunch & Learn Webinar Series*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Description</u>
July 20, 2022 \$25	Shop Safety	Is my shop safe? Common sense goes a long way in shop safety. TOIRMA discusses some of the items most often overlooked when providing a safe shop and work area for you and your employees. Shop safety guidelines, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other safety recommendations will be the topic of this presentation. <i>Sponsored by TOIRMA.</i>
August 11, 2022 \$25	Township Board Meeting Gone Bad	Instructional video: Township Board Meeting Gone Bad with Questions and Answers hosted by TOI.
September 14, 2022 \$25	Agendas, Minutes, and Best Practices	A discussion of meeting agendas, meeting minutes, and best practices. Hosted by Chuck Davis of Brown, Hay + Stephens.
October 12, 2022 \$25	Benefits of Intergovernmental Agreements	Join Tony Schuering from Brown Hay + Stephens to learn more about Intergovernmental Agreements.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for webinar topics, please send them to the TOI office by contacting [jerry@toi.org](mailto:jerry@toi.org) or [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org).

*Webinars are convenient, affordable, and interactive.*

***Visit [toi.org](http://toi.org) for more information and to register!***

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: The information to be provided at this webinar is provided by the Township Officials of Illinois for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. It is intended to provide timely general information of interest but should not be considered a substitution for legal advice. You should contact your attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem. Participation in the webinar does not create an attorney-client relationship with any attorneys participating in the webinar and participants.

# Township Officials of Illinois 115th Annual Educational Conference

## Advance Registration Form

### November 13–15, 2022

(Please use one form per delegate; if paying for multiple delegates with one check/credit card, please submit all forms together for accurate processing)

**EARLY BIRD Registration Deadline is August 1, 2022 | Advance Registration Deadline is October 28, 2022**

<p><b>SECTION I – REGISTRATION INFORMATION</b></p> <p>County: _____ Township: _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>	<p><b>Township Position:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Assessor</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Attorney</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> GA Caseworker</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Highway Commissioner</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tax Collector</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Township Clerk</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trustee</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Youth Committee</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(specify)</p>
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**SECTION II – REGISTRATION FEES**

**MEMBERS**

<p><b>EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2022</b></p> <p>Full Registration: \$175</p> <p>Monday Registration Only: \$100</p> <p>Tuesday Registration Only: \$85</p>	<p><b>Registrations received on or before October 28, 2022</b></p> <p>Full Registration: \$185</p> <p>Monday Registration Only: \$110</p> <p>Tuesday Registration Only: \$95</p>	<p><b>On-site registration</b></p> <p>Full Registration: \$225</p> <p>Monday Registration Only: \$135</p> <p>Tuesday Registration Only: \$125</p>
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Full Registration     
  Monday Only Registration     
  Tuesday Only Registration

**NON-MEMBERS**

**EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2022:** \$240 per person  
**Advance Registrations received on or before October 28, 2022:** \$250 per person  
**On-site Registrations:** \$310 per person

Single-day registration includes admittance to non-ticketed activities occurring on that day ONLY. Monday only registrants MAY NOT attend Sunday or Tuesday events, and Tuesday only registrants MAY NOT attend Sunday or Monday events. Registration information may only be picked up on the day you have registered.

Full Registration     
  Monday Only Registration     
  Tuesday Only Registration

**GUESTS *Does not include admission to education sessions***

<p><b>EARLY BIRD Registrations received on or before August 1, 2022</b></p> <p>Full Registration: \$85</p> <p>Monday Registration Only: \$45</p> <p>Tuesday Registration Only: \$30</p>	<p><b>Registrations received on or before October 28, 2022</b></p> <p>Full Registration: \$95</p> <p>Monday Registration Only: \$45</p> <p>Tuesday Registration Only: \$30</p>	<p><b>On-site registration</b></p> <p>Full Registration: \$110</p> <p>Monday Registration Only: \$150</p> <p>Tuesday Registration Only: \$40</p>
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**Guest Registration**     
  Full     
  Monday Only     
  Tuesday Only

Name of guest as it should appear on badge \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (see all fees above).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Tickets must be ordered on or before October 28, 2022. Special event tickets will not be sold on-site.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Awards Breakfast ticket – \$35.00 each.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_



### SECTION III – PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payment must accompany advance registration form and should include Registrations and Award Breakfast tickets. A \$3.50 credit card processing fee is added if using a credit card.

Check Enclosed     Visa     MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION IV – SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate any special requirements (dietary restrictions, handicap accessibility, interpreter, etc.) in this space or contact the TOI office. Special requirements can only be accommodated if requested at least two weeks in advance of Conference:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION V – CANCELLATION POLICY & TICKET ORDER INFORMATION

Cancellations received by **October 14, 2022** will receive full refund.

Cancellations received from **October 14 to October 28, 2022** will receive a partial refund (\$20 administrative fee).

**NO REFUNDS** on cancellations received after **October 28, 2022**.

Registrations are transferable.

**Advance orders and pre-payment for all Award Breakfast tickets MUST BE RECEIVED by October 28, 2022 in order to meet facility meal guarantee requirements. Special event tickets will not be sold on-site.**

### SECTION VI – HOUSING

Hotel reservations will only be made through the Housing Bureau and only those individuals registered for the Conference by **October 5, 2022** will be assigned hotel reservations. Hotel reservations may be made online via a link on the TOI website, [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org) or by submitting the Housing Form. The Housing Form is available in the *Township Perspective* or on the TOI website, [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org). Reservations must be received by **October 5, 2022** and guaranteed with a credit card. Hotel assignment confirmations **WILL NOT** be emailed until the week of **October 21, 2022**. Read all of the Hotel Reservation Procedures in the *Township Perspective* or on the TOI website to make certain you comply with all requirements.

**Send this Registration Form to:  
Township Officials of Illinois  
3217 Northfield Dr.  
Springfield, Illinois 62702**

**HOUSING FORM**  
**TOI Annual Educational Conference**  
**November 13-15, 2022**

Please complete one form per room reservation and **mail to:**

TOI Housing Bureau  
3217 Northfield Drive  
Springfield, IL 62702

Or **Fax:** 217-585-1373  
ATTN: Darlene Sidwell

**Read Housing Information for all reservation requests policies and procedures.**

This information is available in the *Township Perspective*, and on the TOI website, [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org).

Housing forms will only be accepted **when accompanied by credit card information.**

Confirmation of hotel assignments will be **emailed** the week of October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Please type or print all information legibly**

Name in which reservation should be made: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people in room: \_\_\_\_ Name of additional people in room: \_\_\_\_\_

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of departure: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS REQUIRED FOR RESERVATION ASSIGNMENT CONFIRMATION**

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

You will be placed at the Crowne Plaza, Holiday Inn Express, or at an overflow hotel if needed. All requests are considered on a first-come, first-serve basis, and hotel assignment will be made based on type and length of reservation and hotel availability. **Preference will be given to those requests for a minimum of two nights.** Reservations made for two nights and later changed risk being charged for two nights and/or moved to another hotel. **Room rate at the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Express is \$98 plus tax per night.**

Indicate your preferred room type. This is a request only and cannot be guaranteed.

**King:** \_\_\_\_ **Double/Double:** \_\_\_\_ **Indicate any special requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Handicap Accessible:** \_\_\_\_ **Type of Handicap accessibility required:** \_\_\_\_\_

Housing forms **MUST BE RECEIVED** by the TOI Housing Bureau by **October 5, 2022**. Housing forms received after October 5th will not be processed.

Confirmation of hotel assignment will be **emailed** after October 17, 2022.

**Card Type:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Card #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name on Credit Card:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

# 2022 Professional Development Course 3

## QuickBooks for Intermediate Users

The TOI Education Program is pleased to offer several Professional Development Courses in 2022 for township officials and staff. The third program of the year is **Thursday, August 25, 2022**, at the TOI Office in Springfield and online. We are offering this as a **hybrid course**. The **in-person session** capacity is limited to 25 attendees; the cost is \$75 and includes lunch. The **online session** capacity is unlimited; the cost is \$25. The seminar is scheduled from 10am – 3pm to accommodate travel time.



All online registrants will receive the login link prior to the scheduled event.

This class is designed for individuals who are responsible for the Township bookkeeping processes who have some experience in QuickBooks Desktop and would like a better understanding of how to use, customize, and navigate the software. This course is aimed at intermediate QuickBooks Users.

**\*Deadline to register is Thursday, August 18, 2022\***  
**Please fill in all information below and print clearly.**

\$75 In-Person Course

\$25 Online Course

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Township Position: \_\_\_\_\_

County/Township: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration is \$75/person OR \$25/person, depending on course type. Refunds cannot be given for any cancellations received after the deadline to register.**

**Payment method: Check or Credit Card. Please make checks payable to Township Officials of Illinois.**

**Credit Card (Visa / MasterCard only) Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to the TOI office by fax at 217.744.7419, email to [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org), or mail to 3217 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702.**

# 2022 Professional Development Course 4

## Update on Cyber Liability and Ransomware & Other TOIRMA Hot Topics



The TOI Education Program is pleased to offer several Professional Development Courses in 2022 for township officials and staff. The fourth program of the year is **Thursday, October 20, 2022**, at the TOI Office in Springfield. The capacity is limited to 25 attendees; the cost is \$75 and includes lunch. The seminar is scheduled from 10am – 3pm to accommodate travel time.

These days, your inbox is filled with scam and phishing emails. Join Hunter Maskill to learn more about how protect your computer and yourself from cyberattacks. TOIRMA will also present on other hot topics to help protect you and your township.

**\*Deadline to register is Thursday, October 13, 2022\***  
**Please fill in all information below and print clearly.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Township Position: \_\_\_\_\_

County/Township: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration is \$75/person OR \$25/person, depending on course type. Refunds cannot be given for any cancellations received after the deadline to register.**

**Payment method: Check or Credit Card. Please make checks payable to Township Officials of Illinois.**

**Credit Card (Visa / MasterCard only) Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to the TOI office by fax at 217.744.7419, email to [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org), or mail to 3217 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702.**

# Rockford

On May 26, TOI held an education event in Rockford, Illinois.



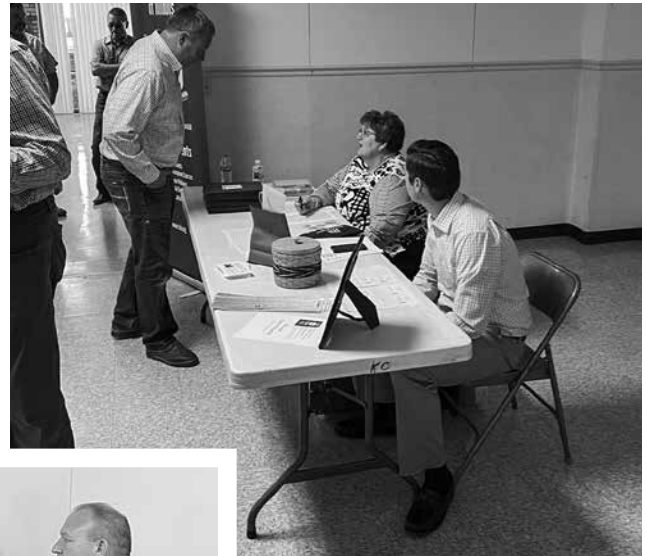
**ATTENDEES** of the Rockford Education Event



**TOI DIRECTORS** Chuck Layer (Supervisor, Blackhawk Township/Rock Island Co.), Sherry Tite (Township Clerk, Wood River Township/Madison Co.), and Kay Starostovic (Supervisor, Grant Township/Lake Co.) helping to check in attendees at the Rockford Event.

# Mt. Sterling

On June 7, TOI held an education event in Mt. Sterling, Illinois.



**TOI OFFICE MANAGER Pam Butler and TOI Director of Member Services Brad Ruppert check in attendees at the TOI Education Event held in Mt. Sterling.**



**TOIRMA LOSS CONTROL Sean Richardson and TOIRMA Associate Director Matt Knight greeting attendees at the TOI Event held in Mt. Sterling.**



**ATTENDEES at the Mt. Sterling Education Event.**



# WCIHCA

On June 14-15, West Central Illinois Highway Commissioners Association (WCIHCA) held their annual Summer Seminar in LaHarpe, Illinois.



**TOI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** Jerry B. Crabtree and TOI Director of Member Services Brad Ruppert speak to attendees of the WCIHCA Summer Seminar.



**ATTENDEES** of the WCIHCA Summer Seminar in LaHarpe.

# Member Services

By Brad Ruppert

TOI Director of Member Services



## Benefit of Member Services

**W**HAT DOES BEING A MEMBER of the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) mean? In my position as Director of Member Services, the goal is to provide members with the best experience and information needed to be effective township officials and stewards of taxpayer funds. A once in a generation pandemic has changed the way we all do business, and my goal is to help educate our members on the workings of township government and how to best serve the public at the most local level.

I come to TOI from the office of U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin's office. There, my duties included assisting constituents navigate the federal bureaucracy, as well as, providing outreach and traveling the state of Illinois. My knowledge and experience with the largest, urban areas as well as working in the smallest, most rural parts of Illinois gives me a unique perspective into the diversity of our state and the different needs of its citizens and public servants. I am looking forward to working on innovative programs and services.

My goal at TOI is to provide our members with the best resources they need to succeed. I am available to help answer your questions, no matter how big or small. With a background in communications, I will lead member outreach and public relations projects.

One of the first projects I will soon be starting is a survey of our members to gauge the condition of township government post-pandemic and detail some best practices to efficiently administer programs and services in your respective townships. We want to hear directly from you—the township officials—on your needs, wants and what works and what doesn't. This shapes the services we provide and our legislative strategy moving forward.

Our members are a diverse group of young and older officials. We live in a world more electronically connected than ever before. We want to continue to educate our members on the benefits of technology and how to effectively communicate and stay connected. We want our dues-paying members to get the most out of their membership and we will always be thinking of new, forward-thinking ideas how to best accomplish this goal.

As we prepare for our annual November conference in Springfield, I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible. Feel free to call or email me with any questions, comments, concerns you may have, or just to say "hello." You can email me at [brad@toi.org](mailto:brad@toi.org) or reach me by phone at (217) 744-2212. As Director of Member Services, I am here to assist YOU. My goal is to provide the best possible member experience possible.



**Building and running a Township Website is easy through TOI's Website Program.**

Contact Kayla Jeffers at (217) 744-2212 or [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org) for more information



# Legislative Report

By Taylor Anderson

Anderson Legislative Consulting, Ltd.



**T**HE PRIMARY ELECTION SEASON ENDS when voters head to the ballot on June 28th. Since the General Assembly adjourned on April 8th, attention is heavily focused on the lead up to this primary and most of the attention of legislators have been on it, in one form or another. In many primary races we see record levels of spending and depending on some of the results of June 28th that trend could well continue into the November general elections.

As a result of the intense focus on the primary, policy conversations have taken a bit of a back seat thus far. However, that is expected to change after June 28th and discussions on legislative issues, held over from the spring session, will begin in earnest as legislators try and position bills to be moved during veto session. Due to the truncated spring session, many are speculating a very busy veto session and legislators will need to work on their issues over the summer if they want to advance them in the fall.

Speaking of spring session, this year there have been 3,838 bills introduced. Of that number, 437 bills passed both chambers and were sent to the Governor's desk. At the time of writing, 400 of those bills have been signed into law and only one has been vetoed. Below are a few bills followed closely by TOI and where they currently stand in the process.

## **Bills signed into law by the Governor:**

**P.A. 102-0728 (HB 4251)** – Rep. Tony McCombie (R-71st) / Sen. Neil Anderson (R-36th Rep.)

Provides that any purchase by a township for services, materials, equipment, or supplies in excess of \$30,000 (rather than \$20,000) shall be contracted in specified ways. Provides that contracts for construction work whose estimated cost will exceed \$30,000 (rather than \$20,000) for township waterworks and sewerage systems shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder. This would bring townships in line with counties and municipalities. **TOI Supports** (note: A clean up bill will be introduced to ensure that this law also applies to road districts in the Fall Veto Session).

**P.A. 102-1088 (SB 3789)** – Sen. Julie Morrison (D-29th) / Rep. John Carroll (D-57th)

Decennial Committees on Local Government

Efficiency Act. Within one year after the effective date of the Act and at least once every 10 years thereafter, each unit of local government that may levy any tax (except municipalities and counties) must form a committee to: study local efficiencies, create a report with recommendations regarding efficiencies, increased accountability, and consolidation. Provides that the duties of the committee include, but are not limited to, the study of the unit of local government's governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other units of local government and the State. Provides that the committee shall collect data, research, analysis, and public input. Dissolves the committee after completion of its report. *TOI worked with sponsors to address many of our concerns.*

**TOI took a Neutral position on this legislation.**

**P.A. 102-1092 (HB 4489)** – Rep. Jay Hoffman (D-113th) / Sen. Scott Bennett (52nd)

Removes the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act requirements from awards, including capital appropriated funds, made by the Department of Transportation to units of local government for the purposes of transportation projects utilizing State and federal funds. Provides that the Act shall recognize that federal and federal pass-through awards from the Department of Transportation to units of local government are governed by and must comply with specified federal guidelines. **TOI Supports**

## **Bill that could possibly be moved during veto session:**

**HB 5538** – Rep. Michael Halpin (D-72nd) / Sen. David Koehler (D-46th)

Provides that prevailing wage be paid on the construction or demolition of public works performed by an employee of a public body engaged in the construction or demolition of public works on behalf of another public body. *This bill would gut intergovernmental agreements and be an unfunded mandate on local governments that would result in an increase of property taxes.*

**TOI Strongly Opposes and will be monitoring closely.**

# TOIRMA Update

By Jim Donelan

TOIRMA Executive Director



## ATVs “Non-Highway Vehicles” on Local Roads

**T**OIRMA HAS BEEN RECEIVING CALLS from our membership with questions relating to the use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) on road district roads. This topic was recently discussed at the annual meeting of the Western Illinois Highway Commissioners Association in La Harpe, IL. When asked if any of the highway commissioners had been approached by entities or individuals about allowing the operation of ATVs on their roadways, well over a majority raised their hands. The following questions and answers have been developed to help township officials better understand the serious considerations regarding the use of “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads.

**Question 1:** Do “non-highway vehicles” alter liability exposures on road district roads?

**Answer:** Yes. The mixing of vehicles such as automobiles, trucks, and “non-highway vehicles” logically creates considerations that were not in place when roads were designed and constructed. This alone creates a possibility of a loss for which there may be consequences.

**Question 2:** What is a “non-highway vehicle”?

**Answer:** According to the Illinois Vehicle Code [625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1] a “non-highway vehicle” means a motor vehicle not specifically designed to be used on a public highway including:

- (1) “all-terrain vehicles,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-101.8]
- (2) a “golfcart,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-123.9]
- (3) an “off-highway motorcycle,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-153.1]
- (4) a “recreational off-highway vehicle,” as defined by [625 ILCS 5/1-168.8]

**Question 3:** Do road districts have the authority to allow “non-highway vehicles” on road districts roads?

**Answer:** The Illinois Vehicle Code [625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1] provides road districts with the ability to allow “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads. However, there are specific steps that must be considered (see question 6).



**Question 4:** Does a highway commissioner have a choice on whether to allow the use of “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads?

**Answer:** Yes. Highway commissioners have the ability to not exercise the statutory authority, or to follow the statutory requirements, then decide whether to proceed or not.

**Question 5:** Can a road district allow the use of “non-highway vehicles” on *any* road district road?

**Answer:** No. There are specific statutory requirement outlined below that must be followed. Further, “non-highway vehicles” may be operated only on roads where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.

**Question 6:** What are the statutory requirements relating to the use of “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads?

**Answer:** According to the Illinois Vehicle Code [625 ILCS 1426.1(b)], a road district (highway commissioner) may authorize, by ordinance or resolution,

the operation of “non-highway vehicles” on roadways under its jurisdiction if:

- (1) The unit of government (road district) determines that public safety will not be jeopardized.
- (2) Before allowing the operation of “non-highway vehicles” on its roadways a road district must consider:
  - a. **Volume** of the traffic on the roadway
  - b. **Speed** of the traffic on the roadway
  - c. **Character** of the traffic on the roadway; and
  - d. Determine whether “non-highway vehicles” may safely travel on or cross the roadway.

TOIRMA strongly recommends the involvement of a licensed engineer when evaluating the volume, speed, and character of the roadways, when assessing that public safety will not be jeopardized, and when determining that “non-highway vehicles” may safely travel on or cross the roadway.

**Question 7:** Does a road district have the ability to allow only certain types of “non-highway vehicles” as defined above on road district roads?

**Answer:** Yes. The unit of government (road district) may restrict the types of “non-highway vehicles” that are authorized to be used on its roads (i.e., “golfcart” only).

**Question 8:** Are there signing considerations when allowing “non-highway vehicles” on road district or township roads?

**Answer:** Yes. The statute requires that appropriate signs be posted when determining that “non-highway vehicles” may safely operate on a roadway. The highway commissioner would need to receive written approval from the county engineer to post the appropriate 35 mile per hour speed limit signs and “non-highway vehicle” warning signs along the applicable roads.

**Question 9:** Should a highway commissioner contact TOIRMA when considering/evaluating “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads?

**Answer:** Yes. As your risk partner, **prior to** allowing “non-highway vehicles,” TOIRMA needs to see the professional evaluation as outlined in Question 6 above. Also, TOIRMA would like to review any draft ordinance or resolution before its adopted.

**Question 10:** People are already using “non-highway vehicles” on road district roads, why shouldn’t the

highway commissioner adopt an ordinance or resolution?

**Answer:** The operator of the “non-highway vehicle” is doing so at their own risk and the liability is on them, not the road district.

**Question 11:** Are “non-highway vehicles” presently allowed for use on road district roads for farming purposes?

**Answer:** Yes. There is no need for a road district to adopt an ordinance or resolution for farming purposes for existing statute [625 ILCS 1426.1(h)] allows the operation of “all-terrain vehicles” and “recreational off-highway vehicles” on road district roads for the purpose of conducting farm operations to and from the home, farm, farm buildings, and any adjacent or nearby farmland. Note that this does not apply to “golfcarts” and “off-highway motorcycles.”

Thank you for your attention to these matters. As always, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me toll-free at (888) 562-7861 or by email at [jdonelan@toirma.org](mailto:jdonelan@toirma.org).

**Think Safe ... Drive Safe ... Work Safe**



**Save The Date!**

**Michael W. Frerichs**  
**Illinois State Treasurer**

Cordially invites you to

**Local Officials Day**  
**at the Illinois State Fair**

**Saturday - August 20, 2022**  
**11:30am - 1:30pm**

Illinois State Fairgrounds  
*Director's Lawn*  
801 East Sangamon Avenue  
Springfield, IL

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/local-officials-day-2022-tickets-358888534267>

Join us for great food, speakers,  
entertainment and more!

**For questions please contact:**  
[IllinoisFunds@illinoistreasurer.gov](mailto:IllinoisFunds@illinoistreasurer.gov)

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

By David Hoover, The National Association of Towns and Townships

## Reducing “Forever Chemicals” in Drinking Water

**I**N RECENT YEARS, policymakers in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere have increasingly expressed concern regarding the impact to the public from “forever” chemicals—commonly known as PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances)—that are contained in products and materials throughout society. There is evidence that exposure to PFAS can lead to cancer and other adverse health impacts, including increased cholesterol levels, decreased fertility, and low birth weight.

PFAS includes a group of roughly 5,000 man-made chemicals that have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States since the 1940s. PFAS also includes an “alphabet soup” subset of chemicals, commonly referred to by their acronyms. Two of those chemicals—per-fluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and per-fluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)—have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. Both are very persistent in the environment and in the human body because they do not break down and they can accumulate over time.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), certain PFAS chemicals are no longer manufactured in the United States because of phase-outs in the mid-2000s under the PFOA Stewardship Program, in which eight major chemical manufacturers agreed to eliminate the use of PFOA and PFOA-related chemicals in their products and as emissions from their facilities. Nevertheless, these chemicals are still produced internationally and can be imported into the country in consumer goods such as carpet, leather and apparel, textiles, paper and packaging, coatings, rubber, and plastics.

### Federal Regulation

In April 2021, the EPA established the EPA Council on PFAS to coordinate work across to the agency to better understand and ultimately reduce the potential risks caused by these chemicals. In October 2021, the agency announced plans to develop a “PFAS Strategic Roadmap 2021-2025,” which identifies actions the EPA plans to take using several statutory author-

ities. In January 2022, the EPA submitted its draft federal regulation to designate PFOS and PFOA and as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund Act). The impacts of the proposed regulation, expected to be released to the public for comment this fall could have far ranging implications on towns and township operations, depending on the treatment requirements expected of local governments.

In preparation for the release and requirements associated with the pending regulation, the EPA announced in June 2022 new drinking water health advisories for PFOA and PFOS and identified the concentration of those chemicals in drinking water at or below which adverse health effects are not anticipated to occur.<sup>1</sup> Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the EPA may publish health advisories for contaminants that are not subject to any national primary drinking water regulation. The agency set new advisory levels for PFOA of 0.004 parts per trillion (ppt) and 0.02 ppt for PFOS—a standard much stricter than the 70-ppt level that the Obama administration set for these two chemicals.

The EPA considers these levels “near zero” and admits they are “below EPA’s ability to detect at this time,” meaning the safe level of consumption for those two chemicals is practically zero. These interim health advisories will remain in place until EPA establishes the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation.

### Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grant Funding

As part of the June 2022 announcement, the EPA said it was making \$1 billion available this year in grant funding to help communities address emerging contaminants, including PFAS. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, enacted in November 2021, provides \$5 billion in grant funding (\$1 billion per year from 2022-2026) for the new Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant Program. A community is eligible if it has a population of less

<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos>

than 10,000 individuals and is determined to be disadvantaged under the affordability criteria established by the state under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Funds can be used for scoping, planning, testing, and remediating emerging contaminants in drinking and source water.

For states to be eligible for the non-competitive grant funding, they must submit a letter of intent by August 15, 2022. Documentation to assist states and territories in the development and implementation of their respective programs and project awards will be released later this summer.

### Tools for State and Local Governments

The Administration is advancing additional tools state and local governments can use to address PFAS pollution and protect drinking water:

- Implementation of a recently launched new nationwide monitoring program for PFAS in water systems to detect more types of PFAS, at lower levels, in more drinking water systems<sup>2</sup>;
- Proactively using the EPA's Clean Water Act federal permitting authorities to restrict discharges of PFAS at the source and to obtain more comprehensive monitoring information on potential sources of PFAS<sup>3</sup>;

2 See <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-nationwide-monitoring-effort-better-understand-extent-pfas-drinking>

3 See [https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-04/npdes\\_pfas-memo.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-04/npdes_pfas-memo.pdf)

- Developing a national drinking water standard for certain PFAS that will be proposed this fall; and,
- Publishing the results of water quality tests in non-DOD drinking water systems that are located near and downstream of military installations.

In addition, the EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) is seeking ongoing comments regarding upcoming regulatory and policy actions under its PFAS Strategic Roadmap. Given that these processes can take several years, LGAC is seeking feedback on how the agency can support local governments to address PFAS contamination in the interim. Written comments should be submitted electronically to [LGAC@epa.gov](mailto:LGAC@epa.gov).



*David Hoover is the Legislative and Policy Manager for the National Association of Towns and Townships (NATA). He is also a Principal at The Ferguson Group (TFG), providing strategic counsel on tech and telecom policy issues to county, township, and municipal governments. TFG specializes in securing policy and regulatory changes, federal funding, grants and authorizations on behalf of its clients.*

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Are you a TOI member but not receiving emails from us? To get access to emails on upcoming TOI Events, Legislative Reports, and TOI News send your valid email address to [pam@toi.org](mailto:pam@toi.org) or go online at <https://www.toi.org/about-us/update-contact-information/>

# MEDICAL ASSISTANCE CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE PROGRAM

Administered by Allied Benefit Systems, LLC



Your township is liable for medical claims of your G.A. recipients.

**You can still enroll for the balance of the Policy Year!**

*Please keep in mind your premiums can be legally paid from GA funds.*

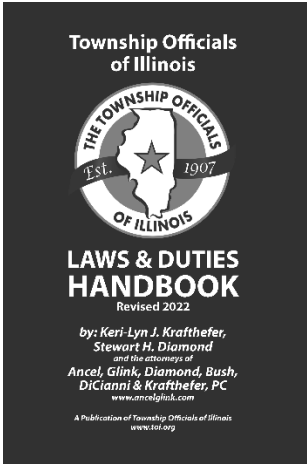


## MEDICAL ASSISTANCE CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE PLAN PRICING SHEET

August 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023						
POPULATION	\$25,000 Deductible			\$15,000 Deductible		
	ADMIN FEE	PREMIUM	TOTAL COST	ADMIN FEE	PREMIUM	TOTAL COST
0 - 499	\$92	\$252	\$344	\$92	\$504	\$596
500 - 999	\$183	\$353	\$536	\$183	\$706	\$889
1,000 - 1,999	\$275	\$479	\$754	\$275	\$958	\$1,233
2,000 - 3,499	\$367	\$605	\$972	\$367	\$1,210	\$1,577
3,500 - 4,999	\$458	\$807	\$1,265	\$458	\$1,613	\$2,072
5,000 - 9,999	\$550	\$958	\$1,508	\$550	\$1,916	\$2,466
10,000 - 24,999	\$688	\$1,160	\$1,847	N/A	N/A	N/A
25,000 - 49,999	\$802	\$1,361	\$2,163	N/A	N/A	N/A
50,000 - 74,999	\$917	\$1,513	\$2,429	N/A	N/A	N/A
75,000 - 99,999	\$1,146	\$1,765	\$2,910	N/A	N/A	N/A
100,000 - 124,999	\$1,375	\$2,521	\$3,896	N/A	N/A	N/A
125,000 - 149,999	\$1,650	\$3,025	\$4,675	N/A	N/A	N/A
150,000 - 174,999	Individually Underwritten			N/A	N/A	N/A
175,000 - 200,000	Individually Underwritten			N/A	N/A	N/A

The application process is simple and swift. Please contact Steve Barrett, if you require an application or have any questions.

Call toll-free **TODAY** at 1-800-540-6566  
or email: [s-barrett@comcast.net](mailto:s-barrett@comcast.net)



# TOI Laws & Duties Handbook is Revised: Order Your Copy Today!

The Revised 2022 Edition of the Township Officials of Illinois *Laws and Duties Handbook*, a valuable resource for township officials, is available!

The revised Township Officials of Illinois Laws and Duties Handbook helps officials perform their duties as township officials. **EVERY** township official should have their own copy of this handbook.

## TOI Laws and Duties Handbook

Fill out this order form and mail to:

**Township Officials of Illinois, 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702**

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of "Township Officials of Illinois Laws and Duties Handbook." Single Copy \$35 or 2 or more handbooks \$30 each to one address.

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of "Township Officials of Illinois Laws and Duties Handbook" with CD \$45, for book and CD combination. For **ONLINE PURCHASE**, use code **LDCOMBO**.

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of "Township Officials of Illinois Laws and Duties Handbook" with CD only \$30, for handbook on CD.

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Multi-Township Assessment Districts Redistricting Due to the 2020 Census

By Adrienne Suits Bailey, Illinois Department of Revenue

**I**T IS TIME AGAIN for county and township officials to work together to form multi-township assessment districts (MTADs) as required by law. These decisions will affect the counties and townships for 10 years. The mechanics of this process are set forth in Sections 2-5, 2-10, and 2-15 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/2-5, 2-10, and 2-15). Redistricting that is completed in 2022 will take effect when the next township assessor term begins on January 1, 2026 (elected in 2025).

Assessment districts must form MTADs when a single township has less than 1,000 inhabitants or when an existing MTAD has less than 1,000 inhabitants in all townships that comprise the MTAD. Population counts used are from the 2020 Census data.

It is mandatory for the supervisor of assessments in counties under a township form of government to prepare a map of the county that shows each township, the total inhabitants in each township, and the total equalized assessed value of each township for the preceding year, along with the recommended multi-township assessment district alignments. The map must be sent to the county board, each township supervisor, board of trustees, sitting township or multi-township assessor, and to the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR). The maps must be sent before August 1, 2022, to each of those referenced above even if a redistrict-

ing or change is not required by law.

Any number of contiguous townships (townships that share a common boundary line or meet at any point) may be combined to form a MTAD that will have 1,000 or more inhabitants. In some cases, smaller townships with less than 1,000 inhabitants will be joined together to form MTADs with 1,000 or more inhabitants, but in other cases one or more smaller townships may be joined with one or more townships over 1,000 inhabitants.

A timeline of the required events and deadlines appears below.

## **All of the following are required prior to August 1, 2022:**

The Chief County Assessment Officer (CCAO) is required to prepare a county map of the township and multi-township assessment districts. The map must denote the following:

- the number of inhabitants according to the 2020 Census
- the preceding year's equalized assessed value (EAV) in each township

The map is then distributed to the county board, township supervisors, board of trustees, sitting township or multi-township assessors, and to IDOR.

## Call for Submissions

**Want to share the accomplishments  
and achievements of your Township?  
Submit any pictures and articles to  
[kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org) and you might just be  
in the next issue of *Township  
Perspective!***



**All of the following are required prior to September 15, 2022:**

- The township boards of trustees will first meet separately to determine by majority vote if the proposed multi-township district is acceptable or unacceptable.
- The boards must notify the CCAO and IDOR of their decision in writing.
- The township boards of trustees may then meet as a body to discuss alternative suggestions if they disagree with the proposed MTADs. The meeting is called by the township supervisor of the township containing the most population. The township supervisor is required to provide notification of the meeting in accordance with the township code. The township supervisor calling the meeting is the temporary chairperson until a permanent chairperson is chosen at the meeting.
- If a MTAD is still not acceptable to any board of trustees, they must determine an alternative MTAD and notify the CCAO and IDOR. The CCAO and township assessor(s) should attend these meetings.

**All of the following are required prior to October 1, 2022:**

The CCAO will determine whether any suggest-

ed or alternative MTADs meet the requirements set forth in Section 2-5 through 2-10. If any board of trustees fails to properly notify the CCAO and IDOR, the township will be part of the originally suggested MTAD.

**All of the following are required prior to November 15, 2022:**

It may be necessary for the county board to hold a public hearing in the county seat to resolve a dispute between two or more townships' inclusion or exclusion in a MTAD. The county board will make a final determination as to the composition of the district and notify IDOR.

**Prior to January 1, 2023:**

IDOR will finalize the list of MTADs by county and file the list with the Secretary of State as provided in the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act and notify the township supervisors, boards of trustees, and county clerks of the townships and counties subject to Sections 2-5 and 2-10.

If you have questions about the township redistricting process, please contact IDOR by email at [Rev.PropertyTax@illinois.gov](mailto:Rev.PropertyTax@illinois.gov).

# Upcoming Changes

## with TOI DOT Drug & Alcohol Testing Consortium

**S**TARTING ON OCTOBER 1ST, members who participate in the Township Official of Illinois (TOI) Department of Transportation (DOT) Drug and & Alcohol Consortium will work directly with Mid-West Truckers Association (MTA). TOI is becoming a referral agency and will move the day-to-day management/operations of the program to MTA. From the beginning, MTA has been the backbone of the TOI DOT D&A Testing program and continues to provide the same great customer service members are accustomed to.

The TOI and MTA board of directors mutually agreed to change the partnership from a back-office support agreement to an exclusive preferred provider program to serve TOI members better and more efficiently taking into consideration the recent changes to the registration process.

The transition to a preferred provider program

is seamless and has minimal impact on any participating TOI member. Prior to October, MTA and TOI will send a joint letter to participating members verifying driver lists and preferred communication processes (email, fax, or postal service). On October 1st, all drug & alcohol testing questions and billing will be handled directly with MTA for the TOI DOT Drug & Alcohol Testing Consortium. Many TOI members are already working directly with MTA for their DOT Clearinghouse services and are familiar with many of the MTA D&A staff.

Through this change, the TOI and MTA partnership is able to provide faster DOT employee onboarding and DOT compliance for TOI members while still maintaining the same level of TOI service you are familiar with.

Please contact either office if you have any questions. TOI at (217) 744-2212 or MTA at (217) 525-0310.

# 2022 TOI Scholarship Winners

**S** EVEN HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS were chosen from 67 applicants to receive \$2,000 scholarship awards in this year's TOI Scholarship Program.

**Lucas Kessinger**  
Cambridge Township/Henry County  
*William Ahrends Scholarship*



**LUCAS KESSINGER** was presented the William Ahrends Scholarship Award by Cambridge Township Supervisor and TOI Director David Dobbels.

Lucas Kessinger of Cambridge interviewed Cambridge Township Supervisor and TOI Director David Dobbels. Lucas graduated from Cambridge Jr./Sr. High School. He is attending Monmouth College in Monmouth, majoring in Business Administration.

Lucas was an accomplished student at Cambridge Jr./Sr. High School. He played football, basketball, and track for four years. Along with being a standout athlete, Lucas had a passion for the arts. Lucas was a member of marching band, concert band, and jazz band where he played trumpet. Lucas served as a section leader for his trumpet ensemble. And was selected to take part in the Lincoln Trail Honor Band. Lucas also was a member of the National Honors Society.

His essay:

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**T**OWNSHIPS HERE IN ILLINOIS have been around since 1848 and that goes deep into our state's history. All of Illinois' 1,426 Townships still are intact, township governments are the closest level of

governments to the people here in Illinois. By law, in Illinois, townships are charged with three separate functions. One of them is general assistance for the indigent. The next is the assessment for real property for the basis of local taxation, and the third is to maintain all roads and bridges outside of federal, state, and all local jurisdictions. I think that the role of township government today does all of those too. I think that the maintenance of the roads is the most important in today's world. In rural areas, like where I live, townships play a huge role in our small villages. Townships are really here for us rural areas whereas the state government is usually considering the bigger cities rather than the rural areas. They keep our towns clean and representable. Today and in the future, town and township governments enjoy a tradition of stewardship over even small amounts of money, and that means a lot to the people. A lot of people may think that townships are out of style and that the counties should just run everything. I think that they are going to be used just the same as they are today in the future and will not really change much as time goes on. I mean, they are the oldest form of government in our nation, and they still are here for a reason.

I think there are just going to be more and more people that live in cities as time goes on but it will not take away the rural areas because a lot of people prefer that lifestyle anyways. I think the main responsibilities that the townships hold could change because maybe state governments would rather just take in some of the qualities and jobs of the townships. According to the main theory of "bigger-is-better" township governments do not stand a chance and just seem like they are a waste. Getting rid of townships would lower taxes and reduce spending. However, combining local government does not automatically mean cost savings. For example, the abolishment of towns and townships would lead to the replacement of many volunteer fire departments in more lightly populated areas with the career fire departments typical in urban centers. Towns and townships are also more responsive to community needs than larger localities because their elected officials are closer to the people and far more accessible to voters. In bigger governments, people have less of a say in who leads them, which will make townships still very relevant in the future. Overall, townships work more efficiently than other local forms of government. Townships have been here 140 years prior to the declaration of independence. They will continue to thrive in the future.

**Molly Dalzot**  
**Hall Township/Bureau County**  
**Barbara Behm Scholarship**



**MOLLY DALZOT** will be presented her award on July 11, 2022 by TOI Executive Director Jerry B. Crabtree.

Molly Dalzot of Spring Valley interviewed LaMoille Township (Bureau Co.) Supervisor David Weeks. Molly graduated from Hall High School. She is attending Illinois Valley Community College in Oglesby, majoring in Wildlife Biology.

Molly was involved in array of activities while attending HHS. Molly lettered in Cheerleading, and thus became a member of Hall's Letterman's Club. Molly's athletic dedication did not stop there, as she also played on the volleyball team and on the track team. She was a member of the Pep Club and Hype Club. Molly was a member of the National Honor Society. She also was a member of the Spanish Club and Student Council. Molly was an active volunteer, taking part in Hallunteers and volunteering at St. Margaret's. Molly works as a Coach at Stick It Tumbling in Princeton.

Her essay:

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“**T**HE BEST THING a human being can do is help another human being know more” a quote from Charlie Munger, a 98-year-old author, attorney, and businessman. Perhaps a young student, such as myself, may reflect on those words, when first glancing over the criteria detailed in the requirements section of this scholarship application. And thus, the assignment begins: An essay of “The Role of Township Government in Today's Society and in the Future”. It would seem safe to assume that a high percentage of people of my age may question, What is a township? With much said, initial research surfaces that township government is in fact one of the oldest forms of government in existence today, with roots dating back over 170 years in our fair State of Illinois. At present there are over 1400 townships within 85 of the 102 counties in Illinois. Over 80% of the counties in Illinois operate under a township form of government, while the remaining counties have chosen, by vote, to provide the many services and provisions that a township unit would normally perform, and attempt to accomplish these tasks themselves. I was born and raised in agriculturally rich Bureau County, which is divided into 25 townships, 23 which consist of 36 square miles each, with the remaining 2 townships being smaller in territory, as they border

the zigzag shoreline of the Illinois river. Nearly 35,000 people occupy Bureau County. Perhaps now may be an appropriate time to disclose where the wealth of my informational data has been attained. It has been through a lengthy interview with Dave Weeks, of LaMoille Township, Bureau County, that I shall confidently proceed on with my interpretation and summarization of a vast collection of facts and figures, that Mr. Weeks has kindly shared with me. Mr. Weeks has served on the township board for over 21 years, as Trustee, Clerk and is currently the Township Supervisor.

In further conversation with my resourceful contact person, I learned that every four years a general election is held to elect a Supervisor, Clerk, Highway Commissioner, Assessor and four Trustees to serve in our case the approximate 8,000 residents of our Hall Township.

Upon a victory in the election these new township officials shall be sworn in, pledge an oath to abide by the Constitution of the United States, and to offer their commitment to serve the residents to the best of his/her ability. Through added discussion, Mr. Weeks stated that while not all the townships in Illinois are equal to geographical size or population, the elected officials in all townships are required by state statute to tend to the three primary responsibilities of township government, which are to:

1. Maintain all roads and bridges within the township boundaries that are not otherwise under jurisdiction of others such as state, federal, or county.
2. Administer a General Assistance program for those township residents in need. These services may include emergency relief, food and or shelter, until the resident is able to support themselves.
3. Provide an assessment of all real property within the township.

Many township officials are often already dedicated, loyal citizens of the community long before being elected to serve their respected township. In general, township boards are composed of honest caring individuals, with positive intentions to follow the law at all times.

They agree to accept responsibility, and share a common goal to preserve the integrity of the residents and improve the quality of life in their communities.

Townships generally conduct monthly board meetings, held at a site that is accessible to the public at an announced, posted and predetermined date and time. The supervisor must post an agenda of the meeting 48 hours in advance of the meeting. In addition to these scheduled meetings, townships across our state and country are mandated to hold an Annual Town

Meeting, which is held on the second Tuesday of April each year, with the lone exception to the date being, the chance that the date might conflict with Easter Passover. The Annual Town meeting offers the registered voters of the township a forum for feedback on township matters.

It was through additional research continuing my interview with Mr. Weeks that I learned of how these officials carry out their respected duties and obligations, but also how they function as a unit.

We shall begin with the four township trustees. They all vote on all township matters, as well as set policies and procedures for the supervisor to follow. A trustee upon election or appointment becomes somewhat of a “Guardian of the Township”. Every four years and at least 180 days before the general election. Trustees are responsible to set compensation amounts of the township officials, who will be starting a new term of office. Trustees audit all incoming bills and invoices and if all are in order, authorize the supervisor to proceed with payment.

The Township Clerk is the keeper of all records of township affairs. The Clerk shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings and the proceedings that occur and give notice of all meetings through posting and or publication. They are the sole person of authority at the Annual Town meeting of the township and is a non-voting member of the Board, with the exception being to break a possible tie in the appointment of an official to fill a board vacancy.

The Township Assessor or Multi-Township Assessor must appraise all real property within the township and place a value on it, according to values set by the Illinois Department of Revenue. It is from the taxes levied from these property values, as appraised by the assessor, that townships receive their revenue to operate. That is quite a duty and a big mouthful in description!!! Assessors are the only elected township officials that must meet educational qualifications before running for office and maintain certain requirements through continued education. Although the Assessor is not a member of the township board, he or she is usually accessible to the property owners within the township, to answer questions on their tax bill as well as offer guidance if an appeal process is warranted.

The Township Highway Commissioner is responsible for construction and maintenance of all roads and bridges within township jurisdiction. The Highway Commissioner is often the most noticed official of a township. They can be visibly seen installing signs, surfacing roads, plowing snow, and in general, ensuring the safety of those who travel on township roads.

Although the Highway Commissioner does not have voting privileges, their opinions, advice and knowledge

are all instrumental in value to the Board in many decisions. The Highway Commissioner submits an annual budget and appropriation ordinance along with establishing a fair levy to the township board.

The Township Supervisor, when elected, assumes numerous key leadership roles, namely the chairman of the board of trustees, the chief executive officer, and the administrator of the sole jurisdiction of the township’s general assistance program. Additionally, the Supervisor must manage all financial affairs of the township as the treasurer of all funds, while being bonded to the amount of money that shall pass through their hands. To excel in the role of Supervisor, one must have strong leadership skills, be a good listener, and consistently show respect and understanding towards their fellow officials and their authority.

When asked for a view of years to come, Mr. Weeks stressed that townships shall need to continue with their approach to “stick to the basics” in making quality choices while spending their taxpayer’s funds. The two of us agreed that there has never been a greater time than the present for all citizens to improve on values, patriotism, faith and genuine respect towards others in the daily grind. As our visit progressed, it was easy to recognize the passion embodied in these officials, as they adjust from past failures, adapt to change in times, and work effectively and efficiently as a unit. Looking ahead, it seems realistic that township officials must realize the benefits of increasing participation in various intergovernmental agreements as well as attending more meetings and seminars provided by county and state associations, as the resources available through this networking is indeed invaluable. Future officials must continue to strengthen their commitment to educate, and persistently encourage today’s youth to show interest in township government, as the future is in their hands.

In conclusion, thank you for this opportunity and for your sincere consideration. May we all stay humble and kind.

**Alexis Vogel**  
**Freeburg Township/St. Clair County**  
**Troy Kost Scholarship**

Alexis Vogel of Freeburg interviewed Freeburg Township (St. Clair Co.) Supervisor Charles H. Hill. Alexis graduated from Freeburg Community High School (FCHS). She is attending Millikin University in Decatur, majoring in Mathematics Secondary Education.

Alexis was heavily involved at FCHS. She ran Cross Country and served as team captain during her senior year. Alexis also played soccer for FCHS. She was a drum major for the Marching and Pep Band. Alexis was a student member of Family, Career, and Commu-



**ALEXIS VOGEL** (left) was presented the Troy Kost Scholarship Award by Wood River Township (Madison Co.) Clerk and TOI Director Sherry Tite and Freeburg Township (St. Clair Co.) Supervisor Charles H. Hill.

nity Leaders of America, focusing on volunteering and fundraising. Alexis was also a member of Math Club, National Honor Society, Saturday Scholars, and Prom Committee. She is heavily involved in the St. Paul's UCC youth group in Freeburg and takes part in their yearly mission trips. Alexis also works as a hostess at Papa Vito's in Belleville.

Her essay:

**T**OWNSHIP GOVERNMENT has been a part of North America since 1636—with the first township established by immigrants in Rhode Island. That makes township government one of the oldest existing forms of government on the continent. However, not many people know about townships. I know countless high school students that did not know we had a township hall, and many of them confuse its functions with that of the county/state. That is why I believe it is crucial to discuss the idea of township government.

Each township has many positions. Illinois townships have five different roles that one can hold: supervisor, clerk, trustee, highway commissioner, and assessor, some have a tax collector as well. I interviewed Freeburg Township Supervisor Charlie Hill. As a supervisor, he is the chief executive officer (CEO) of the township and chairs the board of trustees.

Supervisors also administer general assistance programs. Additionally, he is the treasurer of all the town funds—so he signs all the checks for the road district and the town. Charlie also has the power to hire general assistance employees, appoint an attorney (with the consent of the board), and has many financial duties such as preparing annual financial statements.

Many townships also include around four trustees on their board. These trustees oversee operations of the township and monitor/approve bills. Additionally,

they perform audits while also making contracts for particular services. Along with the supervisor, they have voting rights—when it comes to establishing township policies outside the jurisdiction of the township's road commissioner and assessor. Some of their other pertinent duties are adopting rules to govern township meetings, approving budgets, and employing township employees.

Furthermore, each Illinois township has a clerk. Township clerks are ex-officio clerks for the highway commissioner. They are in charge of keeping all town records—except for active general assistance case records—and posting legal announcements of the township.

Last but certainly not least is the highway commissioner. Not many people realize this, but townships are responsible for maintaining all roads and bridges within their road district. Although the road district is a separate body from the township, the highway commissioner is still a township official. These commissioners have sole jurisdiction over the roads and bridges within their given road district and are responsible for their construction and maintenance. My interviewee stated that our highway commissioner helps maintain over 25 miles of roads with the Freeburg township. That can be a lot.

During the winter months, when these roads get icy, the township will clear the well-traveled roads to ensure the safety of their people. Without them, we would struggle to get anywhere in the winter.

Earlier, I mentioned that supervisors were in charge of general assistance services. Not only can the township provide with general assistance in the form of welfare, but they can provide these groups with many outlets. Throughout the year, our township will hold many courses: safe sitter classes, rules of the road and AARP tax preparation classes for the elderly, hunter safety courses, etc. Not only does the township organize such events, but they also open the township hall for anyone living in the township to use. That has come in handy for my family many times as my mom would hold Mary Kay events at the hall to help her build her business within the community.

Now, several people may wonder why we have township government when larger forms of government are available. Freeburg's Supervisor, Charlie Hill, thoroughly expressed its importance to me. He explained that 3% of our taxes go to the township. So, closing down the township would cost over 3% to replace—resulting in higher taxes. Not only this, but the township government is more efficient and better positioned to provide quality services to its citizens. That is exactly what Charlie Hill stated in our interview: their main goal is to serve the people the best

they can at a minimum cost. Plus, having a smaller government allows elected officials to have a more direct role in administering finances and services and gives the citizens a better sense of influence on how their lives are administered. The local township members personally care about the well-being of the people and their town because they live there and interact with these people every day.

In the future, I hope that townships will become more familiar to the people of Illinois—and other parts of the world. Many people within the town do not realize how fundamental those townships are. Without them, we would not function as well as a community. Throughout my interview with Charlie Hill, I found that the elected officials in Freeburg are there to better the community. Every year, they put all their effort into providing the area with the best quality services without raising taxes. Charlie stated that our road commissioner is “just trying to keep people happy and keep costs down.” Along with the township being composed of people I interact with daily, I feel safe leaving our ways of life in their hands.

**Ellis “Zane” Coulter**  
**Cunningham Township/Champaign County**  
**Carolyn Langan Scholarship**



**ELLIS “ZANE” COULTER** (middle) received the Carolyn Langan Scholarship Award, and was presented the award by Champaign Township (Champaign Co.) Trustee Erwin Hoffman (left) and Murdock, Newman, Bowdre, Sargent (Douglas Co.) Multi-Township Assessor and TOI Director Neal Wood (right).

Ellis “Zane” Coulter of Urbana interviewed Champaign Township (Champaign Co.) Trustee Erwin Hoffman. Zane graduated from Judah Christian School (JCS). He will attend Parkland Community College in Champaign, majoring in Kinesiology.

Zane was an accomplished student at JCS. He served as Student Council President, which involved many student enrichment activities. Zane was a

National Honors Society Member and an honors student. He was an active member of the school Choir, and was a cast member in six school theater productions. His thespian activities extended to also being a cast member in six Champaign Park District Youth Theatre productions. Zane also played Drums in the JCS Pep Band for three years, and four years in the JCS Concert Band. He was a strong volunteer in the community, coaching gymnastics for the local Special Olympics Team, and volunteering at Rising Hop Church as an auditory and visual tech. Zane is a Parkland ICTM Math Contest Winner. He also has received the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze Good Citizenship Medal, and a Champaign Rotary Award Nominee in the Activities Category.

His essay:

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**I** LIVE WITHIN THE CITY of Urbana, Illinois, and I assumed that all of the work done on the streets, sidewalks, bridges, and other maintenance was done by the city. Research for this scholarship has led me to learn more about the different responsibilities between the City of Urbana and Cunningham township. I learned from Dr. Erwin J. Hoffman, a trustee of the Champaign township, said that the township often have roads plowed and salted during the winter months, before the city would be able to plow side streets and non-main roads. During the recent winter storms the importance of these different roles between the city and the township has become increasingly obvious.

Townships in Illinois serve three main purposes:

1. Provide general assistance of those in need that reside in their township.
2. Determine equitable assessment of businesses and homes for taxes.
3. Ensure the safety of township bridges, roadways, and infrastructure.

Townships can provide general assistance to those in need. For example, the Champaign township is willing to provide up to \$322 a month to eligible applicants to assist with paying for essential needs. The general assistance throughout the townships is to be used as a last resort, by individuals. This fund can be used only after alternate routes provided by the city or county have been attempted. Champaign township will help pay hospitals, landlords, power companies, and other essential services to assist in prevention of evictions and provide assistance during medical emergencies. To be deemed eligible for general assistance you must have an interview with the township Supervisor to verify eligibility.

Townships are also responsible for the determina-

tion of equitable assessments of properties in regards to tax purposes. At first glance that sentence seems quite complicated. However it is fairly simple, this portion focuses on the assessor's duties.

The assessor is responsible for updating and editing the values of the properties within the township. The assessor makes sure that the property tax burden is distributed fairly throughout their township and that the statutory percentage of market value is maintained. Assessors must make sure to stay up-to-date on local real estate policies, prices, and regulations. They must be able to defend assessment appeals.

Our motorways are also partially maintained by townships. Townships have a certain number of miles of road that they are responsible for maintaining. Champaign Township is responsible for the maintenance and construction of 40 miles of roadways. These roads and bridges are all within the limits of the township and therefore, within their communities. Since these are the roads that their friends, family, and they themselves drive on. They have a sense of personal motivation to ensure the safety of the roads. During this past winter we have had many snow storms. These snowstorms have shown me the importance of the townships being able to plow the smaller roads that the city government would be unable to reach in a timely manner.

While researching about townships, I repeatedly read that townships are commonly called the grass roots government since they are so specific and localized. When I looked into the history of townships I found that they originated from the congressional surveying of new territories using the Public Land Survey System. The townships we see today were born from the Land Act of 1796, but we waited until 1850 to create the first township. In 1818 Illinois and its townships were admitted into the union. (Trustees' Operations Manual, Revised 2021 p.4-5) The addition of townships to the union's government enabled it to have eyes and ears everywhere. This allowed the government to be able to much more efficiently understand the feelings of the population and made things like voting infinitely easier.

According to the US Census Bureau, Illinois has 1,426 townships (Trustees' Operations Manual, Revised 2021 p.5). Townships help to establish a bridge between the community and larger bodies of government. Townships generally feel less intimidating to interact with than larger bodies of government. Townships help people find cost friendly and efficient ways to remedy problems as well as having the possibilities of offering programs like general assistance.

The future of our townships will be bright as long as we can prevent them from being enveloped by city

or county governments. Many people argue that townships drain money and should instead be consumed by the county governments. On paper the way the money appears may make it seem similar, but the expenses of labor and other costs are less. You cannot condense all of those lives and futures down into a list of deposits, withdrawals, and a balance. Doing away with the township will put many lives of hard working people in danger of losing their livelihoods. Their lives are so much more important than saving a few possible dollars.

At my school we have a service that the student council offers for the students, which I run. This service allows them to order Chick-fil-A on the Wednesdays of most every school week. Every month I process over a \$1,000 worth of orders and spend at least six hours of my own time doing so. From these orders the student council makes roughly \$30 each month. It clearly isn't an extraordinarily profitable service but that is due to intentional design. We could raise the prices and gain a huge profit margin but our goal in this was to offer the students a service, not to make money. The reason that we keep the prices as low as possible for that is the same reason we need townships. We could make more money by charging more and the government might save more money by consolidating, but the government's purpose isn't to make money. Our government is designed to govern. Townships allow the government to govern fairly and give everyone a chance to live the American Dream. The townships of the future need to make sure they are malleable without being brittle. We need to be able to change and adapt when it is for the better without breaking or compromising our ideals in the process. We also need to be able to cooperate with other townships to more efficiently achieve goals, provide services, and find new solutions to old problems.

Applying for this scholarship, and the research for this essay, has led me to think about localized politics in an all new way and has encouraged me to look into working with a local form of government in my future. You have shown me the value of townships in our communities as well as why they are necessary. I am extraordinarily thankful to the TOI Scholarship Committee for this opportunity to be enabled to fulfill my goals and dreams. Thank You.

**Graham Stocksdale**  
**Elgin Township/Kane County**  
***Delbert Miller Scholarship***

Graham Stocksdale of Elgin interviewed Hanover Township (Cook Co.) Trustee Craig Essick. Graham graduated from South Elgin High School and will attend the University of Illinois in Urbana, majoring in Aerospace Engineering.



**GRAHAM STOCKSDALE** was presented the Delbert Miller Scholarship Award by Blackberry Township (Kane Co.) Clerk and TOI Clerks Division President and TOI Director Lisa Hodge.

Graham is a dedicated member of his community. He has participated in the Boy Scouts of America since the age of 7, and is working on finishing his Eagle Rank. He completed a major service project in the City of Elgin by planting a grove of 50 native trees, promoting their street tree program, fundraising, and organizing a team of 50 volunteers. Graham served as Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Patrol Leader. He is also heavily involved with the Elgin First Congregation United Church of Christ Youth Group. There, he lead weekly services, organized groups and outings, volunteered, and annual week-long mission trips. Graham was a member of the National Honor Society. He also worked part time at McDonald's.

His essay:

**T**HE WORK OF ILLINOIS TOWNSHIPS has touched me in various ways throughout my life, but I never understood the depth of that impact until I interviewed Hanover Township (Cook Co.) Trustee Craig Essick. Although I live in Elgin Township, my house borders Hanover Township and that is where I have most directly experienced the work of townships.

I understand that townships are charged with three basic functions: assessment of property; maintenance of roads; and general assistance to the community. The third function often encompasses a wide assortment of programs. This is particularly true in Hanover Township with a large population with a diverse range of needs. As Trustee Essick said, "the township fills in many services that either the city or county is just not able to provide."

"We give back to the community in many ways," said Essick. "But we also are responsible for a great deal of oversight and guidance to make sure that the

citizen's tax dollars are spent wisely."

After my interview, I started to think about the times I've been impacted by the Township. One of the earliest times was when I was 8 years old and entered the scouting program.

My pack met at the Izaak Walton property that would soon be transferred to the Hanover Township. I appreciated the great job the township did in renovating the property but didn't know much about them. Later as a Boy Scout, I engaged with the Township's Outdoor Education program there. They provided a much-needed program for youth in the community. I now understand that this is one of several programs they do to help at risk youth in our community.

My mother has multiple sclerosis and has some physical disabilities. At one time, her disabilities were worsened by a broken leg. My dad was able to borrow a wheelchair, crutches and a bath chair from the Lending Closet at Hanover Township Senior Center. As a Cub Scout, I also remember our pack visiting the Senior Center where we played board games with seniors and talked to them. I now know that the programs at the Senior Center provide a wide range of vital help to the older population such as nutrition, healthcare, and enrichment programs.

My older brother is autistic and has learning disabilities. I now have learned that through the Township, he would be able to use Dial-A-Bus and get transportation if stranded. He can also use a program called TIDE "Ticket to Ride" Taxi Voucher Program that might provide him with reduced cost transportation to and from a work program. This is just some of many services that the Township provides for those with disabilities or other needs. Staff also help to connect low income individuals with employment, reduced cost energy programs, food pantries and other human services.

I am glad for the many ways Illinois Township government have touched my own life. And I am even more grateful now that I've learned the truly impactful ways that they have touched my community. Townships do assess properties, repair roads, and improve the community with programs. However, in many cases their work may be truly life-changing moving an individual away from addiction, homelessness, depression or a health crises.

And, thankfully, these are all important roles that townships play now and far in the future.

**Emma McCammon**  
**Aroma Township/Kankakee County**  
**George H. Miller Scholarship**

Emma McCammon of Kankakee interviewed Bourbonnais Township (Kankakee County) Assessor





**EMMA MCCAMMON** was presented the George H. Miller Scholarship by Reed Township (Will Co.) Supervisor, TSI President, and TOI Director Sherrill Knorr.

Douglas Anderson. Emma graduated from Bishop McNamara Catholic School (BMCS) and she will attend Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, majoring in Sonography.

Emma was an active student at BMCS. She played volleyball for the school as well as competitive club volleyball. Emma volunteered often while in school, working for a local church and at a local nursing home. During her senior year, Emma served as House Captain at BMCS. She was able to help influence her fellow students to become more involved in the school spirit. Emma was also involved in the Big Brothers & Sisters program.

Her essay:

**T**HE ROLE OF THE TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT in today's society may not seem that necessary to many people, but it has such a stronger impact than some people realize. Local township governments are quite beneficial to citizens because townships are connected to the people: they hear the people's ideas and they listen to the people, unlike bigger governments who might not be interested when a few citizens voice their opinions.

Bourbonnais Township Assessor, Douglas Anderson, helped me realize the importance of township governments. Mr. Anderson provides property assessments for 14,873 parcels in Bourbonnais Township, and he shared a lot of interesting information regarding township governments. First of all, this type of government is the oldest in the United States. Townships are considered grassroots governments which use the people in a given community as the basis for a political or economic movement. Collective action from a local township can even effect change at the local, regional, and national level.

Townships are the perfect places for people's voices and opinions to be heard in smaller or rural communities because they are sometimes the nearest government to the people. These smaller, but extremely important parts of the government are how necessary changes can be made to affect local areas.

Townships provide residents with a level of service and understanding as well as support that they just cannot get at any other level in the government. Townships diligently budget, plan, and monitor to make the most of a small budget. Even though the township budget is smaller, the people are still provided with some of the best services. The three main roles of the township government are maintaining roads and bridges; providing general assistance to the less advantaged residents; and providing property assessments.

Maintaining roads and bridges is essential. Township governments maintain thousands of miles of road in Illinois. This makes up nearly half of the total road miles in Illinois and nearly half of all bridges in the state. In addition, many townships have services like their own fire departments that are farther from larger towns but closer to where the rural population is.

Sometimes families find themselves in great need due to unemployment, illness, or the inability to earn money any longer. The general assistance department gives temporary financial assistance to qualifying residents and families. Townships offer general assistance, emergency assistance, utility assistance, resume assistance, and food pantries. Applicants can apply at their local townships.

Townships are known for providing residents with great service. The township is especially important to the elderly community. Townships provide needed services such as free shuttles for seniors and services like tax exemptions and tax freezes.

The local townships are the only form of local government that is available to serve the needs of the people within its community.

Township officials regularly go above and beyond to make sure they give the residents of their area quality service. People have elected the township officials and can count on them to provide the services that are needed. Townships will continue to play an important role in public service delivery in Illinois.

**Maria Bender**  
**Derinda Township/JoDaviess County**  
**Robert "Bob" Turner Scholarship**

Maria Bender of Elizabeth interviewed Derinda Township (JoDaviess Co.) Highway Commissioner Kimball Willis. Maria graduated from Stockton High School (SHS) and will attend Highland Community



**MARIA BENDER** was presented the Robert “Bob” Turner Scholarship Award by Huntsville Township (Schuyler Co.) Highway Commissioner and TOI President Danny Hanning, and Whiteside Township (Union Co.) Highway Commissioner, THCOI President, and TOI Director Arnold Vegter (not pictured).

College in Freeport, Majoring in Post Secondary Education.

Maria was involved in a variety activities at SHS. She played the trumpet in the school band since fifth grade, and was lead trumpet during her senior year. She sang in choir since sixth grade, and competed at a state competition. Maria was in three school theater productions, and in her senior year starred as Ariel in *Footloose!* She played all four years in Academic Bowl. Maria ran track her Sophomore and Junior years before moving onto Cross Country her Senior year. She was a member of the National Honor Society during her Junior and Senior years. Maria was also a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and served as President her senior year. She was on the Student Council all four years. Volunteering is very important to Maria, and she was part of Servant Leadership and served as Regional Project Manager. Her group ran many events, some being the Paul Heller Benefit, Mental Health Awareness Week, Hearts and Hands for Hunger, and many more. Maria was awarded the Freshman Cup and the Citizenship award. During her sophomore year, she was a VFW Essay Winner. Maria is also an Illinois State Scholar.

Her essay:

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**I**N THE DEAD OF WINTER in 2014, my family experienced a house fire. In the blizzard conditions, our mile-long lane was drifted shut. Fortunately, our local township Highway Commissioner, certified EMT, and neighbor, Kimball Willis, was there to plow the way for the firetrucks to get through. Without his help, our house would have most likely burned to the ground by the time that the firemen could reach it.

Living on a farm in rural JoDaviess county, this was my first exposure to the role of the Township. Since then, especially when I started driving myself on the backroads to school, I have learned about road maintenance, fence/property disputes, and the general service for the community that is embedded within the role of township Highway Commissioner.

Today, the Township does more than plow the roads. They help settle property disputes, allow people to get from one place to another more safely, and may even provide food and emergency relief for community members. They are an elected servant of the community, our friends and neighbors, and that essential bridge between citizens and higher government. Their role is vital now and will become even more vital in the future as the inaccessibility of our government increases.

Mr. Willis takes pride in his role as Highway Commissioner. His priority is to serve his community, his friends, and his neighbors; to make a positive impact and keep them as safe as possible within his power. He explains, (as a government official), “I have a closer interaction with regular people but also get to interact with higher elected officials. It puts me in a place where I feel like I can really make a positive impact.” Unlike larger townships, there are more components in his title as Highway Commissioner; he does the great majority of the road upkeep and all of the paperwork, along with maintaining his small farm and further serving others as an EMT. Within his role as an elected official and the various differing facets of his occupation, there are obviously stresses, including working with limited resources/funding and simultaneously doing the best to keep everyone happy in order to keep his position. The task is ruled by the weather, taxes that serve as government funds, and keeping the people content and safe.

As recent years have shown, the future is uncertain. The government plays a huge part in the function of society in the United States, so having a communication link is important to attending to the needs, fears, and goals of civilians like me. Along with providing service and safety to the people of the community, maintaining that bridge of communication between the higher officials of the government and the people will become more and more crucial as the population grows and accessibility to the government increasingly becomes out of reach. For the future, I believe it is important now to educate society on how their tax dollars benefit the finer workings of the government and come back around to serve themselves. The township Highway Commissioner is our friendly neighborhood government official; they serve us the best they can with the resources they have. Those resources come from the government, and the government

acquires those funds from taxes. Even the President of the Township Officials of Illinois, Mr. Danny Hanning, states, "The single most important issue we must focus on today is educating the public and our state officials on what we do. We must show them that, in most cases, no one could do what we do for less money. The further government gets away from the people, the less responsive it becomes." Education of the role of Township is key to preserving our communication, rights, and benefits of government as a whole.

Townships of Illinois have three basic functions: the "general assistance for the indigent, the assessment of real property for the basis of local taxation, and maintenance of all roads and bridges," according to the website for the Township Officials in Illinois. These functions are not only essential to daily life of U.S. citizens, but they also are essential to maintaining the bridge of communication our local Township officials provide for us now and in the future.



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# The Scoop on Supervisors

By Sherrill Knorr

President, Township Supervisors of Illinois



**W**ELCOME TO THE WARM DAYS of summer! The Supervisor's Division completed the first two of our Zone meetings and Educational Sessions recently. Our topic is Budgets and Levy with Sheryl Cherney as our instructor. She has done a wonderful job and has been very informative. There is still time to register for the last two educational sessions. These are:

- July 15 Doubletree, Bloomington
- August 12 Stoney Creek, East Peoria

You can obtain a registration from the TOI website under the Supervisor's tab or from the *Perspective* magazine.

The Supervisor's Division is looking for directors in each of our four zones. If any supervisor is interested

in being on the TSI board please contact Chuck Layer, First VP and Nominating Chair. His contact information is located on the TSI section of the TOI website. Check out the TSI By-Laws, also on the division tab to see what would be expected of you as a board member.

Don't forget to sign-up for the TOI conference November 13-15 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. We are offering a GATI Session the Saturday before on November 12, 2022. This is an afternoon session to allow for time to travel.

Education is one of the most important tools you can have to make your job as an elected official a more positive experience!

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# TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS OF ILLINOIS

DIVISION OF THE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS

## 2022 ZONE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Supervisors & Interested Township Officials

\_\_\_\_\_ July 15 - Double Tree Hotel, 19 Brickyard Dr., Bloomington

\_\_\_\_\_ August 12 - Stoney Creek Hotel, 101 Mariners Way, East Peoria

### Program Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Registration and Coffee
9:00 a.m.	Welcome, Introduction, TOI & TOIRMA Update
9:30 a.m.	Levy
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Budget
11:45 a.m.	Ask a Supervisor
Noon	Lunch



**FEE: Advance Registration \$40.00**

**\$50.00 Registration at door**

*Printed materials guaranteed to registered participants only.*

### Advance Registration Form

Must be received two weeks before event

Name /Township Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Township/County \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to Township Supervisors of Illinois*

Mail form and fee to:

Sue Brokaw

Dorr Township

1039 Lake Ave., Woodstock, IL 60098

# Highway Commissioner's Beat



By Arnold Vegter

President, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois  
Union Grove Township (Whiteside Co.) Highway Commissioner

**B**Y THE TIME YOU READ THIS ARTICLE the primary elections will be over and the candidates that will be on the November ballot will be determined.

Between now and the November general election, it is time for you, as Highway Commissioners, to get to know the candidates running for Governor, Senator, and Representative, and be able to make an informed decision on who to vote for.

Why is this important?

As legislative committee chair for the TOI legislative committee, I am here to let you know that with the Township form of Government under attack. This is a very important choice now more than ever. A lot of our politicians do not understand what Township

Government is or what we do; they think by getting rid of the Township form of Government people's property taxes will be reduced.

Township Officials are the government closest to the people. So now is a great time to get to know the candidates. If they do not understand what we do, inform them and educate them on what we do. Let them ask you questions so that they know and understand what the Township form of Government does, and how close we are to the local people. How easy it is for us to work with the public to get things done.

Rest assured that no matter who gets elected to serve us in Springfield, TOI will keep a close eye on what is going on and let you know if any action is needed from you. Please become an informed voter!

## Mark Your Calendars!

38<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Seminar for  
Highway & Road District Commissioners  
August 1-3, 2022 Peoria, IL



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**Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois**  
**Summer Seminar 2022**

Peoria Civic Center/Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette

Peoria, IL

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

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Township \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

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**Remit Registration Form To: Alice Reed, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois, P.O. Box 291, Blue Mound, IL 62513 Any questions - Alice Reed (217) 972-3039**

# Clerk's Corner



By Lisa Hodge

President, TOI Clerks Division

## We preserve the history of our Township as it happens

### TOI Conference November 13-15, 2022

With summer upon us, and with all the fun activities that our counties and State has to offer, it's difficult to think about November. However, the Clerk's Board of Directors are doing just that! We think about, and plan for, the fall conference all year long, because we believe in the value of attending the annual conference. This year is the first time in two years that we can meet in person!

The Clerk's Board would like to thank everyone that attended the Education Events held throughout the State, and those Clerks that came to the "Breakout" sessions. We heard from you and are so pleased that you appreciated those sessions! Please plan to attend the fall Conference as we are once again able to meet you in person and answer your questions, whenever we can!

As noted in the June 2022 *Perspective*, the format is a little different than in past years. It has a fresh and new look! What hasn't changed is our commitment to providing our members with quality education sessions. The Clerks Division is presenting two sessions: one session is on Records Retention, presented by Mr. Bob Boots from the State Archives. The other session is a skit called: "A Year in the Life of a Clerk" presented by the Clerks Board.

We network in the Vendor exhibit hall, during coffee breaks, at breakfast, between sessions, during lunch, after sessions, before dinner, during dinner, and pretty much, all conference long! It's really enjoyable to hear the sage advice from our veteran Clerks and to help answer questions from the newly elected Clerks. I submit to you the toxic phrase: "We've always done it this way!" Hopefully, you will take some educations

sessions at the conference, not just for or about your Clerk duties, but other sessions to help you better understand the unique form of Township Government.

### Clerks' "Toolbox"

I consider the Clerk's Handbook the most important resource that a Clerk can have. The Division updated and reprinted the Handbook in May 2021. We also offer just a thumb drive too. Order forms can be found in every edition of the *Perspective* and on the Clerk's Division tab of the TOI website. The Clerk's Division website has a lot of information that we try to keep up to date.

### William Z. Ahrends Award

The Clerk's Division presents the William Z. Ahrends Award at the November Conference, to one Clerk that has attained and personified a high level of professionalism as the Township Clerk. Another elected Township Official should nominate a Clerk that they believe qualifies. Nomination forms can be found on the Clerk's Division tab of the TOI website. The deadline to submit a nomination is September 23, 2022. Mail the nomination form to:

The Honorable Suzanne Fisher  
P.O. Box 695  
Oquawka, IL 61469  
Or email to: [sfisherw@hotmail.com](mailto:sfisherw@hotmail.com)

If you have a question/suggestion, please send it along to me. Email me at [clerk@blackberrytwp.com](mailto:clerk@blackberrytwp.com), write me at 43W390 Main Street Road, Elburn, IL 60119, or call 630-365-9109, ext. 5.



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Deanna Wilkins  
James Weisiger  
(Past President)

*Officers full address and phone numbers are on the TOI website, Assessors Division*

**ILLINOIS ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION**

**2022 - 2023 Biennial Dues**

Dear Fellow Assessing Official,

The IAA would like to remind all our Assessing Officials that the education guidelines for Department of Revenue certification Have Changed please review the TOI website for further information.

The 2022 – 2023 Biennial Dues of \$50.00 is now due for Elected or Appointed Assessors. Dues for Deputy, Contract or Associates is \$20.

We continually provide funding for new course development and scholarship funding. Be sure to visit the TOI website for the Assessors Division. This site is full of information for you to access and includes articles from the TOI Perspective magazine, as well as information related to Township Government and the Assessment field. Tracking legislation and our continued presence at the TOI Fall Conference are just a few of our dedicated priorities. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

We are only as strong as our membership. To keep our membership current, please notify me if you are no longer in the assessing field.

Sincerely,

Christopher Kain  
I.A.A. Treasurer  
(630)-530-8161  
chriskain@addisontownship.com

**Send the completed form below to:**

I.A.A.  
Attention: Chris Kain  
401 N. Addison Rd.  
Addison, IL 60101

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Illinois Assessors Association or I.A.A.

**2022—2023 IAA DUES REMITTANCE FORM**

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County

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone (s)

Email

# Ready For the Defense



By Steve Judge

Judge Law, LLC

## Section 4-102 of the Tort Immunity Act Provided Absolute Immunity For Emergency Dispatch

**T**HIS MONTH'S COLUMN discusses the recent Illinois Supreme Court Decision of *Larry E. Schultz, Special Administrator of the Estate of Laurene T. Schultz v. St. Clair County*, 2022 IL 126856, affirming the dismissal of Plaintiff's complaint against emergency dispatchers, which Plaintiff alleged failed to dispatch police when Plaintiff could not provide an exact address for the location of his wife, believed to be under the influence of alcohol.

### PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT ALLEGED WILLFUL AND WANTON MISCONDUCT BY THE COUNTY

Plaintiff filed a complaint against St. Clair County, St. Clair County CENCOM 911 and the Emergency Telephone System Board of St. Clair County. The complaint alleged that the County dispatch employee acted "in reckless disregard and indifference for the safety of the decedent" as follows:

- (1) dispatched Mascoutah police to Handi-Mart, rather than All-Mart, after taking a 911 call from the Plaintiff, who reported that the decedent was under the influence of alcohol, had temporarily parked her vehicle at All-Mart, and requested police assistance to prevent her from driving away in her car;
- (2) refused to dispatch the police to Sax's Speedi Check in Mascoutah after a second 911 call from the plaintiff, requesting police assistance to prevent the decedent from driving her vehicle, which was then parked at Sax's; and
- (3) failed and refused to contact Mascoutah police after two calls from the plaintiff pleading that police be sent to intercept the decedent. *Schultz v. St. Clair Cnty.*, 175 N.E.3d 670 (Ill. App. 2020).

According to Plaintiff, the County dispatcher acted in reckless disregard for the safety of decedent and the general public for failure to provide timely notice to the Mascoutah police to intercept the decedent in her intoxicated condition. *Id.*

Defendants filed a motion to dismiss Plaintiff's complaint, arguing that the County, including CENCOM and ETSB employees, was immune from liability

pursuant to Section 4-102 of the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act. *Id.* The circuit court granted the motion to dismiss.

### Tort Immunity Act Versus Emergency Telephone System Act

Section 4-102 of the Tort Immunity Act provides in pertinent part:

"Neither a local public entity nor a public employee is liable for failure to establish a police department or otherwise provide police protection service or, if police protection service is provided, for failure to provide adequate police protection or service, failure to prevent the commission of crimes, failure to detect or solve crimes, and failure to identify or apprehend criminals." 745 ILCS 10/4-102 (West 2016).

Plaintiff alleged that he called 911 on two separate occasions requesting police assistance for his wife, who was driving under the influence. *Schultz*, 175 N.E.3d 670 (Ill. App. 2020). In *DeSmet ex rel. v. County of Rock Island*, the Illinois Supreme Court found that Section 4-102 applied when police failed to respond to a request for police services. *DeSmet ex rel. v. County of Rock Island*, 302 Ill.Dec. 466 (Ill. 2006). The *DeSmet* court clearly defined Section 4-102 as all-encompassing of situations where either no police protection or inadequate police protection is provided to the general public. *Id.* Section 4-102 does not provide any exception for willful and wanton misconduct.

While the *DeSmet* ruling appeared on point with the allegations in *Schultz*, Plaintiff in *Schultz* argued that Section 15.1 of the Emergency Telephone System Act (50 ILCS 750/15.1 (West 2016)) applied rather than Section 4-102 of the Tort Immunity Act. Unlike Section 4-102 of the Tort Immunity Act which provides "blanket immunity", Section 15.1 of the Emergency Telephone provides an exception if the "act or omission constitutes gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct." 50 ILCS 750/15.1(a) (West 2016). If the Emergency Telephone System Act applied, it would create a potential question of fact as to whether

Defendants were grossly negligent, reckless, or acted with intentional misconduct and may not be properly dismissed under the 2-619(a)(9) standard.

“The purpose of a section 2-619 motion is to dispose of issues of law and easily proved issues of fact early in the litigation. When ruling on a section 2-619 motion, the court must construe the pleadings and supporting documents in the light most favorable to the non-moving party. The reviewing court must consider whether the existence of a genuine issue of material fact should have precluded the dismissal or, absent an issue of material fact, whether a dismissal was proper as a matter of law.” *Schultz v. St. Clair Cnty.*, 175 N.E.3d 670 (Ill. App. 2020) (citing *CNA International, Inc.*, 2012 IL App (1st) 112174, ¶ 31, 367 Ill.Dec. 116, 981 N.E.2d 441 (quoting *Zerjal v. Daech & Bauer Construction, Inc.*, 405 Ill. App. 3d 907, 910-11, 345 Ill.Dec. 887, 939 N.E.2d 1067 (2010)).

The Appellate Court found that the Emergency Telephone System Act focuses on the technical aspects of a public entity maintaining emergency services through 911 dispatch:

“In no event shall a \*\*\* public safety answering point, emergency telephone system board, or unit of local government assuming the duties of an emergency telephone system board, \*\*\* or its officers, employees, assigns, or agents be liable for any civil damages \*\*\* that directly or indirectly results from, or is caused by, any act or omission in the development, design, installation, operation, maintenance, performance, or provision of 911 service required by this Act, unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct.” 50 ILCS 750/15.1(a) (West 2016).

The Appellate Court held that even if the Emergency Telephone System Act applied beyond infrastructure and technical aspects to a scenario where a dispatcher failed to dispatch police services in response to an emergency call, it still would not supersede the immunities provided under the Tort Immunity Act. *Schultz v. St. Clair Cnty.*, 2020 IL App (5th) 190256, 175 N.E.3d 670 (Ill. App. 2020).

### Illinois Supreme Court Looks to Proximate Cause to Affirm Dismissal of Plaintiff’s Complaint

The Illinois Supreme Court disagreed with the Appellate Court’s interpretation that the Emergency Telephone System Act only applied to technical aspects of the emergency systems and felt that the Appellate Court’s reliance on *Desmet* was misplaced. The Illinois Supreme Court affirmed the Appellate Court’s judgment based upon the trial court’s dismissal with prejudice due to the lack of proximate cause. *Larry E. Schultz, Special Administrator of the Estate of Laurene T. Schultz v. St. Clair County*, 2022 IL 126856. Proximate cause is typically a question of fact for a jury, but it may be determined as a matter of law if the facts are clear that recovery by Plaintiff would never be possible. *Id.*

“Proximate cause encompasses two distinct requirements: cause in fact and legal cause. A defendant’s conduct is a ‘cause in fact’ of the plaintiff’s injury only if that conduct is a material element and a substantial factor in bringing about the injury.” *Id.* The conduct is a material element and substantial factor in bringing about the injury if, absent the defendant’s conduct, the injury would not have occurred. If actual cause is established, then the question is whether defendant should be held legally responsible for it.” *Abrams v. City of Chicago*, 211 Ill. 2d 251, 257-58 (2004).

In this case, Plaintiff could not establish that the injury would have occurred without Defendants’ refusal to dispatch emergency services. Decedent was under the influence of alcohol, in violation of the Illinois Vehicle Code. The sole proximate cause of the injury was the decedent’s decision to operate a vehicle while intoxicated. Therefore, dismissal of Plaintiff’s complaint by the trial court was proper and the Illinois Supreme Court did not need to consider other basis for dismissal. The judgment was affirmed.

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# Illinois Township Association of General Assistance Caseworkers



By Mary Jo Imperato

President, ITAGAC

UNEMPLOYMENT, according to the Illinois Bureau of Statistics, reported in June 2022 in the United States was 3.6% and in Illinois 4.6%. Although unemployment has significantly reduced, inflation has dramatically increased. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported the annual rate of inflation rose to 8.6% in May of 2022, the highest since December of 1981. Energy prices rose 34.6% the largest increase on record, electricity rose 12%, natural gas 30.2% and food costs surged 10.1%. As General Assistance Caseworkers, what can we do to assist? By making adjustments to your food pantry guidelines, increasing visits and convenience by increasing hours of operation can help families manage and avoid food insecurity due to rising inflation costs. Offer Emergency Assistance if it is not already offered, shorten application periods to 12 months and if possible, increase benefit amounts. These adjustments may help your residents in crisis sustain themselves during these difficult times.

As 2022 begins winding down the next Educational Workshop is scheduled for August 25th from 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. via Zoom. Tentatively scheduled is Kristy Bassett, LCSW, Community Engagement and Partnership Coordinator for the Suicide Prevention Program at Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital. Kristy teaches us identifying behaviors that may indicate thoughts of suicide, as well as techniques for prevention.

The General Assistance Caseworkers opened nominations for three 2022 Award categories to be announced at the TOI Conference in November 2022. Does one of your caseworkers go above and beyond serving residents. Has your township started a new program that other Townships may want to duplicate? Or has your Township excelled in services provided in 2022? If so, please send in your nomination for Caseworker of the Year 2022, Best Township Innovative Program for 2022 and why your township should be awarded Township of the Year 2022. Please find information on the General Assistance Caseworkers page of the TOI website at [www.TOI.org](http://www.TOI.org).

The Association is accepting new memberships. Please consider joining the General Assistance Caseworkers Association for an annual fee of \$25.00. These fees cover the cost of educational workshops, quality trainings and resources and supports the annual Township of Illinois Association conference.

Thank you for all you do to assist residents in need. Please stay healthy and safe.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Imperato

President

Illinois Township Association of General Assistance Caseworkers

To become a member please mail payment to:

Illinois Township Association of General Assistance Caseworkers, c/o Kindra Cunningham, 143 Arnold Road, East Peoria, Illinois 61611.

Yes, we want to be a member. My \$25 check is enclosed.

No, I do not want to join, but please keep me on your mailing list.

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By Tina Houdek

President, AITCOY

## A Message from the President

**A**ITCOY IS EXCITED that this year's Annual Education Conference is in person again after a couple years of it being virtual. We are continuing to offer our awards for outstanding leadership in various categories. These categories include Youth Leadership Award, Volunteer Award, Staff Award, Youth Organization Award, Township Friend of Youth Award and Director of the Year Award. These awards will be presented again in person this November at the conference during the Awards Breakfast scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2022. This is a ticketed event. Tickets can be purchased when you register to attend the TOI Annual Educational Conference.

As a reminder, if you would like to nominate someone, you will need to be a paying member of AITCOY. Please see the following page for further details and the nomination form. The deadline for submitting nominations is September 16, 2022 by 5 p.m. Nomination forms can also be found on our website at [www.aitcoy.org](http://www.aitcoy.org).

We are currently working on the final details for AITCOY's workshop offering at this year's Annual Education Conference so please be on the lookout for the information. We will include all the details in our September issue of *Perspective*. We are looking forward to seeing you there in person!!

The next AITCOY workshop is scheduled for August 25, 2022. We are still in the process of finalizing all the details and making a decision of possibly presenting in a hybrid model. More information regarding this will be posted on our website soon. Please visit [www.aitcoy.org/workshop](http://www.aitcoy.org/workshop) for continued updates.

Also, as a reminder, the deadline for the 2022 Sandra Koscielniak Graduate Scholarship Application is September 16, 2022. This is a \$1000.00 scholarship for those who are in a graduate program with a focus on serving youth postgraduate. Programs to be considered include Master of Social Work (MSW), Master of Science or Arts in Psychology, Counseling, Family Therapy, Recreation, or Prevention with a focus on youth (MS/MA). For further information and applica-

tion forms, please visit our website.

Wishing you a healthy and safe summer!  
Tina Houdek

### Did You Know?

Did you know that June is summer safety month, and this means that it's time to get ready to be outside, because the relaxing days of summer are here! Summer often implies warmth, fun, and sunshine, but it can also bring safety hazards.

The National Safety Council (NSC) established June as National Safety Month in the United States in 1996. Summer Safety month was established to increase public awareness of the leading safety and health risks that are increased in the summer months to decrease the number of injuries and deaths at homes and workplaces.

Anyone can be at risk for a heat-related illness. Follow these summer safety tips ([chcw.org](http://chcw.org)):

Moderate your exposure to heat. Re-apply sunscreen and cover up. You will want to take extra steps to avoid being outside for long periods in the sun and heat, especially during the peak hours of strongest ultraviolet (UV) rays, during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The sun's ultraviolet (UV) light can harm the eyes. Wear sunglasses year-round whenever you are out in the sun. Sun damage to the eyes can occur any time of year. Choose sunglasses that block 99 to 100 percent of both UVA and UVB light.

Did someone say sports safety? Not only can injuries happen, but in heat exhaustion and dehydration can happen more often in the summer months. It helps to be conditioned to the activities in which we're preparing to engage. Warm up, stretch, gear up, go with a buddy, and remember to cool down and stretch afterwards.

Remember to always have adult supervision for children when enjoying time in the water. Whether they're in the pool or playing in the sand at the seashore, having someone who can help them, should an emergency arise, is crucial.





THE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS TOWNSHIP COMMITTEES ON YOUTH (AITCOY) SPONSORS SIX AWARDS EACH YEAR RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO YOUTH WITHIN THE PAST YEAR. APPLICANTS MUST BE A CURRENT AITCOY MEMBER.

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 VOLUNTEER AWARD:** A VOLUNTEER FROM EITHER A COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBER, OR OTHER VOLUNTEER OF AN AITCOY ORGANIZATION WHO HAS SHOWN OUTSTANDING DEDICATION IN HELPING YOUTH.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 STAFF AWARD:** A STAFF MEMBER OF AN AITCOY ORGANIZATION WHO HAS SHOWN OUTSTANDING DEDICATION TO HELPING YOUTH.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 YOUTH ORGANIZATION AWARD:** AN AITCOY ORGANIZATION THAT HAS MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE YOUTH OF ITS COMMUNITY.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 TOWNSHIP FRIEND OF YOUTH AWARD:** A TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIAL OF AN AITCOY ORGANIZATION WHO HAS SHOWN AN OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO YOUTH THROUGH HIS/HER SUPPORT.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD:** A HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE STUDENT UP TO AGE 21 WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED AND DEMONSTRATED EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP IN A TOWNSHIP YOUTH PROGRAM.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2022 DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD:** A DIRECTOR WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP, DEDICATION AND PROGRAM INNOVATION IN SERVING YOUTH AND FAMILIES.

**NOMINEE NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **NOMINATOR NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TOWNSHIP/AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP/AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

THE NOMINATION FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY **SEPTEMBER 16, 2022** TO:

**AITCOY AWARDS SCREENING COMMITTEE**  
 C/O Megan Traficano, Youth Services Director  
 Oak Park Township  
 105 S. Oak Park Avenue  
 Oak Park, IL 60302  
 Ph: 108-434-4285  
 Email: awards@aitcoy.org

PLAQUES WILL BE PRESENTED TO EACH AWARD RECIPIENT AT THE ANNUAL TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER 2022 - SPRINGFIELD, IL-Date TBA



By Becky Cordes

Director of Senior and Disability Services and  
Assistant Administrator, Township of Schaumburg

## ITASCSC — The ADA: How It Benefits Seniors



**T**HE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), celebrates its 32nd anniversary on July 26, 2022. Modeled after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA officially gives Civil Rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications.

The ADA protects individuals who have a “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.” Many seniors face challenges with mobility, vision, and hearing, or a diagnosis of chronic conditions such as diabetes or cancer that could all cause substantial limitations are protected by the ADA.

According to the ADA National Network, as local governments, townships are required to ensure places and activities owned or controlled by the township are accessible to all and that reasonable accommodations are provided when requested. Buildings constructed before the ADA was signed into law are not exempt from ADA standards. Having an ADA audit completed can provide townships with a blueprint for making

their physical facilities compliant with current ADA requirements.

Beyond the physical accessibility of a building, townships must provide reasonable accommodations when requested. Senior Services departments can help lead the way in their respective townships making sure reasonable accommodations are available when needed. These accommodations could include interpreter services or assisted listening devices for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing, assistance filling out forms, or providing documents in large print for those with a visual impairment. Additionally, many townships offer senior and disabled transportation programs, or other forms of transportation aid (taxi vouchers, etc). There are also numerous support groups offered throughout ITASCSC member townships, including low vision, deaf, Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s.

For ways your township can ensure its programs and services meet all ADA requirements, visit the website [ADA.gov](http://ADA.gov), or call the ADA National Network at 800-949-4232 (V/TTY). The ADA National Network is the “go to” resource for free information, guidance and training on the ADA and its implementation, tailored to meet the needs of business, government, and individuals at local, regional and national levels.

*ITASCSC can support you in developing or launching programs in your communities for all sizes. ITASCSC members represent a variety of townships in size and scope. Membership is \$75 per year and includes many benefits. If you would like more information about the ITASCSC (Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees), visit [www.itascsc.net](http://www.itascsc.net). As a member, you’ll gain access to members-only resources and the opportunity to work alongside a great network of professionals serving older adults. We’d love to have you join this dynamic and growing group!*





# ITASCSC

## Commitment to Senior Services Awards 2022 Nomination Form

The Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizens Services Committees (ITASCSC) is now accepting nominations for the “2022 Commitment to Senior Services” annual awards. These awards are presented in recognition of outstanding commitment to meeting the needs of older adults within the community. *Award recipients from 2021 are ineligible to receive the same award in 2022.* For a list of previous award winners, visit the ITASCSC website: [www.itascsc.net](http://www.itascsc.net).

*Only members of ITASCSC are able to submit nominations. If your Township isn't a member of ITASCSC yet, please visit our website at [www.itascsc.net](http://www.itascsc.net) for more information.*

How to submit a nomination:

- Check the appropriate award category
- Submit a nomination form and a written narrative for every nomination
- Multiple nominations are welcome
- **The deadline for nominations is October 1, 2022**

\_\_\_ Township of the Year

\_\_\_ Elected Official of the Year

\_\_\_ Innovative Senior Program of the Year

\_\_\_ Senior Director of the Year

\_\_\_ Volunteer of the Year (aged 55+)

\_\_\_ Senior Staff Member of the Year

<b>TOWNSHIP:</b>	
NAME OF NOMINEE:	
DATE OF BIRTH (IF VOLUNTEER):	
ADDRESS:	
CITY:	ZIP:
PHONE:	EMAIL:
<b>NOMINATED BY:</b>	
ADDRESS:	
CITY:	ZIP:
PHONE:	EMAIL:

Please **EMAIL** all nominations to:  
**Monika Jaroszewicz**  
 Maine Township  
 Park Ridge, IL 60068  
 Phone: 847-297-2510 x252  
 Email: [mjaroszewicz@mainetown.com](mailto:mjaroszewicz@mainetown.com)

**Awards will be presented in person during the TOI Breakfast Awards Program on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.**  
 The Awards program is part of the TOI Annual Educational Conference (which will be held in person this year, 11/13 – 11/15, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield).

# News From Around the State



We honored the late Ela Township Assessor John Barrington, with a park bench dedicated in his memory and in recognition of his many years of service to Ela Township. The dedication was held at Knox Park, in Lake Zurich, Illinois, on the afternoon of May 20th. Although it was an overcast day, it was nice to have John's family, friends, and co-workers gather to shine a light on what an exceptional individual John was and the impact that he had on each of us. With family being an important part of John's life, it is our hope that families utilize and enjoy this bench when visiting the park for years to come.



State Representative Susan Ness received a tour of the **ALGONQUIN TOWNSHIP** (McHenry Co.) Road District facility by Highway Commissioner Danijela Sandberg.

## Did you know...

### The Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program has a dedicated Public Sector Energy Advisor to meet your township needs!

An Energy Advisor is a skilled energy efficiency trained expert who meets with you to discuss various incentives unique to your township. Within the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program, we have a dedicated Public Sector Energy Advisory who can offer you technical resources and help secure cash incentives for your township.

To find out more about our Public Sector Energy Advisor and ways to receive cash incentives, scan this QR Code or email [AReiff@Ameren.com](mailto:AReiff@Ameren.com).

For more information, call **1.866.800.0747** or visit [AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Government](http://AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Government).



ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

SCAN HERE



# Cook County

News From



By Calvin Jordan

Rich Township Supervisor

## Rich Township Holds Appreciation Luncheon

**R**ICH TOWNSHIP HOSTED Cook County's largest appreciation luncheon for senior mothers on May 5. Hundreds of senior mothers to honored and celebrated for the upward mobility of southern Cook County. "These women opened doors that were normally shut in various towns in southern Cook County," a representative from Rich Township said.

Calvin Jordan—Rich Township Supervisor and Democratic Committeeman—was joined by Matteson Mayor Sheila Chalmers-Currin, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, State Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin, Senator Michael Hastings, Rich Township Board of Trustees, and South Suburban Mayors as they honored hundreds of "Senior Mothers" for their contributions and sacrifices in bringing forth diversity in Southern Cook County.

Rich Township Committeeman and Supervisor Calvin Jordan felt compelled to assemble these women who broke ground and lifted racial barriers in southern Cook County that have now blossomed into opportunities, housing, enhanced education, and business development for thousands of people of color.

"Southern Cook County is now considered the mecca for opportunities for people of color. But it was the women who are now over 70 years of age who sacrificed so much to foster a more diverse culture where people of color could feel more comfortable in raising their families," says Committeeman Jordan.

With the evolution of diversity came the election of women to powerful offices throughout the southland. In 2018, the residents of the Village of Matteson elected its first woman as Mayor of the nearly thirty thousand resident town.



**(LEFT TO RIGHT)** Rich Township Supervisor Calvin Jordan, State Senator Michael Hastings, Matteson Village Trustee Adam Shorter, Matteson Mayor Sheila Chalmers-Currin, Matteson Village Clerk Yumeka Brown, Olympia Fields Park Commissioner Lori Jordan, Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin, Red Star Restaurant Co-Owner Cliff Taylor, and Taylor Media CEO Michael Taylor



**RICH TOWNSHIP** Supervisor Calvin Jordan, Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin and Matteson Trustee Adam Shorter

“As elected women of color, we must always pay tribute to the women before us who paved our way. This luncheon would not have taken place 40 years ago. We have come so far. This is such an historic event.” says Illinois State Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin.

“I am so blessed to have benefited from the strong women who came before me. While in many cases they lacked the foundation to run for elected office, they remained strong and determined to continue their fight for equality. It was on their backs that I was elected as Mayor. I will always be humbled and grateful for their undying efforts and experiences. says Matteson Mayor Sheila Chalmers-Currin.

Matteson Village Clerk and current candidate for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Yumeka Brown adds, “As a younger elected official I am totally grateful, honored and blessed to be in the same room with these champions of racial diversity. I am proud to be counted among the hundreds of women here in attendance. I’m just as energized as ever to serve the people of Cook County.”

The afternoon was filled with food, fun, laughter, and reflection. The government of Rich Township honored countless women who have had much to do with the upward mobility of people of color throughout the southland. The popular Red Star restaurant of Matteson offered an array of dishes to the pleasure of hundreds of groundbreaking seniors in attendance.

Adam Shorter and Cliff Taylor are the owners of the Red Star Restaurant.



**NBC5 INTERVIEWS** Matteson Mayor Sheila Chalmers-Currin and State Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin

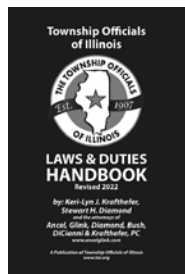
“We must now pave the same path for the next generation of young women as these pioneers have done for us. I truly believe that there are future female U.S. presidents somewhere in a grade school or high school class right now in Rich Township. I am a firm believer that what’s to come, will be even much better than what’s been,” says Rich Township Trustee Jackie Small.



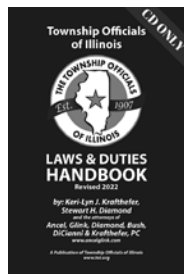
**REPRESENTATIVE** Debbie Meyers-Martin and a senior resident of Rich Township

# TOI Bookstore

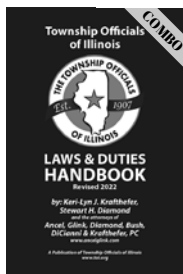
<https://my.toi.org/toi-store>



2022 Laws & Duties  
\$35



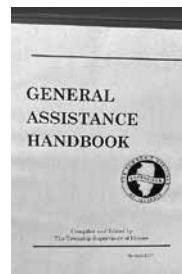
2022 Laws & Duties CD  
\$30



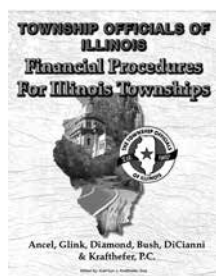
2022 Laws & Duties  
Combo  
\$30



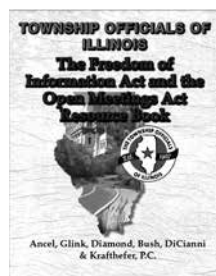
Emergency Assistance  
Handbook  
\$40



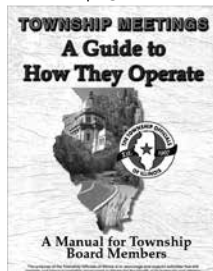
General Assistance  
Handbook  
\$150



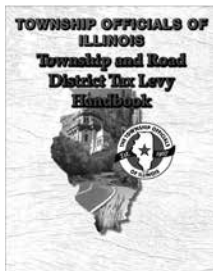
Financial  
Procedures for  
Illinois Townships  
\$15



FOIA & OMA  
Resource Book  
\$15



Township Meetings: A  
Guide to How They  
Operate  
\$15



Township and Road  
District Levy Handbook  
\$15



What's My Job?  
\$5

## Clerks Handbook

- Handbook & Thumb Drive - \$50
  - Thumb Drive only - \$25
- Mail form and check to:*  
Katy Dolan Baumer  
Hanover Township Clerk  
250 S. State Route 59  
Bartlett, IL 60103

Questions? Call Clerk Katy at (312) 215-5577 or e-mail her at [kdolanbaumer@hanover-township.org](mailto:kdolanbaumer@hanover-township.org)

Township: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk's  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*E-mail address is essential in order to receive timely updates and other information.*

**Like us on Facebook! Visit us at TOI.org.**

The TOI Bookstore is now exclusively online! Visit our website to find more details on these publications, prices, and discounts! Questions can be sent to the TOI office via phone (217) 744-2212 or via email [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org)

# Township and Road District Checklist

## 2022 Township Calendar

All dates re: Public Hearings for BUDGET and APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES are dates often used by many townships and road districts. Many townships and road districts adopt their budgets in February or March before their fiscal year begins. You do, however, have until the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year to hold your hearings and adopt the budget.

Checklist dates are now available on the Events Calendar at [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org).

07/30/22	<b>Budget Filing*</b>	35 ILCS 200/18-50	Last day to file certify budget and revenue sources with county clerk if budget is adopted at end of June. Must be filed with county clerk within 30 days of adoption. Therefore, filing deadline varies with the date of adoption. Clerk certifies the budget and supervisor certifies the revenue sources.
09/27/22	<b>Fiscal Responsibility Report Card*</b>	35 ILCS 200/30-30	Last day to file Fiscal Responsibility Report Card; shall submit within 180 days of the conclusion of the fiscal year. The Annual Financial Report meets this requirement. See reference above.
09/27/22	<b>Comptroller's Report*</b>	50 ILCS 310/3 50 ILCS 310/6	Last day to file Annual Financial Report with state comptroller's office and county clerk. Must be filed within 6 months from end of fiscal year. The report also serves as the Fiscal Responsibility Report Card.
09/30/22	<b>Annual Treasurer's Report Completed*</b>	30 ILCS 15/1	Last day for the supervisor to prepare combined Annual Treasurer's Report for township and road district. Report must be completed within 6 months from end of fiscal year, sworn to and filed with county clerk.
09/30/22	<b>Annual Treasurer's Report Published*</b>	30 ILCS 15/2 60 ILCS 1/70-30	Last day to publish Annual Treasurer's Report in an English language newspaper. Must be published within 6 months from end of fiscal year and filed with county clerk's office. Supervisor must provide each board member with copy of report as soon as possible after filing. <b>However, such publication requirement shall not apply to any county funds or county offices or funds or offices of other units of local government when an audit of such funds or offices has been made by a certified public accountant and a report of such audit has been filed with the appropriate county board or county clerk and a notice of the availability of the audit report has been published one time in an English language newspaper published in the town, district or municipality in which that public officer holds his or her office, or, if no newspaper is published in such town, district or municipality, then in a newspaper printed in the English language published in the county in which that public officer holds his or her office. The notice of availability shall include, at a minimum, the time period covered by the audit, the name of the firm conducting the audit, and the address and business hours of the location where the audit report may be publicly inspected.</b>

\* Assumes fiscal year begins April 1



09/30/22	<b>Audit</b>	50 ILCS 310/6 60 ILCS 1/80-20	Last day for townships to file CPA audit with state comptroller's office and county clerk. Townships receiving revenues of \$850,000 or more for a fiscal year, exclusive of road district funds, must have CPA audit within 6 months from end of fiscal year. Townships receiving revenues of less than \$850,000 for a fiscal year, exclusive of road district funds, may have a 3-member independent audit committee instead of CPA audit. Committee audit must be filed with county clerk within 6 months from end of fiscal year. <b>CPA audit required at end of supervisor's term or if vacancy occurs anytime in the position of supervisor.</b>
09/30/22	<b>Audit</b>	50 ILCS 310/6	Last day for road districts to file CPA audit with state comptroller's office and county clerk. Road districts receiving revenues of \$850,000 or more for a fiscal year must have a CPA audit within 6 months from end of fiscal year.
12/06/22	<b>Last Day to Determine Tax Levy for Truth in Taxation</b>	35 ILCS 200/18-60 35 ILCS 200/18-70	Last day for board of trustees to determine (estimate) property tax levy to comply with Truth in Taxation law. Highway commissioner determines levy for road district. Must determine levies at least 20 days before adoption. Basis for 5% computation and whether notices and hearings are necessary.
12/20/22	<b>Last Day for Truth in Taxation Notice</b>	35 ILCS 200/18-80	Last day notice of Truth in Taxation hearing can appear in newspaper. Notice must be in newspaper not more than 14 days or less than seven days prior to date of hearings.
12/27/22	<b>Last Day to Hold Truth in Taxation Hearing, Adopt &amp; File Tax Levies</b>	35 ILCS 200/18-90	Last day to hold Truth in Taxation hearing, adopt and file township and road district certificates of levy, tax levies and Certificate of Compliance for Truth in Taxation law with county clerk.

\* Assumes fiscal year begins April 1

# Check Your Inbox!

## Make Sure You Are Receiving TOI Emails

Now more than ever, it is critical for TOI member township officials to receive important emails and updates from the Association. If we don't have your email address on file or you aren't receiving our emails, you are missing important updates impacting your township/road district, as well as legislative alerts, and confirmations and guidance on attending TOI's online educational events.

To provide your email address, or ensure we have the correct email address, call 866-897-4688, email [pam@toi.org](mailto:pam@toi.org) or [kayla@toi.org](mailto:kayla@toi.org), or go to <https://www.toi.org/about-us/update-contact-information/>. We sometimes hear that emails sent from TOI end up in your junk email. Please be sure to check your junk email in case these important emails are going there. If they are, sometimes you can remedy the issue by "unjunking them" or marking the email as "safe" and then future emails will go to your inbox.

If you are still not receiving TOI's emails, please feel free to contact us.

# In Memoriam

**James Bloomberg**, 66, of Berwick died May 19. He was a former Highway Commissioner and Current Trustee of Berwick Township (Warren Co.).

**Mike Campbell**, 77, of Edwardsville died May 20. He was a former Supervisor of Edwardsville Township (Madison Co.).

**John Cline**, 73, of Dunlap died May 28. He was a former Trustee of Radnor Township (Peoria Co.).

**Della Cooper**, 88, of Clinton died June 9. She was a former Township Clerk of Clintonia Township (DeWitt Co.).

**Stephen Glasnovich**, 72, of Galesburg died June 4. He was a former Highway Commissioner of Henderson Township (Knox Co.).

**Georgia Kent**, 76, of Springfield died May 21. She was a former Tax

Collector of Chatham Township (Sangamon Co.).

**Carolyn Lund**, 89, of Taylor Ridge died June 2. She was a former Supervisor of Rock Island Township (Rock Island Co.).

**Michael McDowell**, 43, of Baylis died March 4. He was currently serving as Trustee of Buckhorn Township (Brown Co.).

**Brian Smith**, 59, of Kirkwood died February 24. He was former Highway Commissioner Rozetta Township (Henderson Co.).

**Carl Smith**, 91, of McLeansboro died May 27. He was a former Highway Commissioner of Twigg Township (Hamilton Co.).

**Ralph "Punkie" Staley, Jr.**, 73, of East Peoria died June 5. He was currently serving as Township Clerk of Fondulac Township (Tazewell Co.).

**Gordon Stuart**, 64, of Albany died February 27. He was a currently serving Trustee of Albany Township (Whitside Co.).

**Robert Trachsel**, 68, of Chenoa died June 4. He was a former Trustee of Yates Township (McLean Co.).

**Larry Wennlund**, 80, of New Lenox died May 15. He was a former Trustee and Township Clerk of New Lenox Township (Will Co.).

**Harold Wiggins**, 85, of Dixon died June 7. He was currently serving as Trustee of South Dixon Township (Lee Co.).

**Sean York**, 36, of Springerton died May 17. He was currently serving as Township Clerk of Beaver Creek Township (Hamilton Co.).



## Township

# CLASSIFIEDS

Visit <https://www.toi.org/Township-Perspective/Township-Classifieds/>

## FOR SALE.



2000 International Model 2554 Tandem, 208 Inch wheelbase DT 466E engine, automatic transmission. Good tires.

VIN# 1HTGCART5YH285329

Min. Bid \$25,000.

This truck is sold "As Is" with no warranty or guarantee of equipment.

All bids must be in by August 8th at 5 p.m. to:

West Township Road District

3347 East 300 Ave.

Mason, IL 62443

For more info contact:

Mel Stuemke – phone 618-201-1943

# REGISTER TODAY!

## Step Up to the Plate For



## Township Government

# 115TH Annual educational CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 13, 14, 15, 2022

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**CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL  
SPRINGFIELD, IL**

**WWW.TOI.ORG**



# HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT.

Keep signs clear of brush.

Keeping road signs free of overgrown limbs and weeds is a responsibility we all share. Highly visible, well-maintained stop signs ensure the safety of roadways for everyone. Keep your township safe by clearing the way for road signs.

[toirma.org](http://toirma.org)  



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WITH TOWNSHIPS**

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