



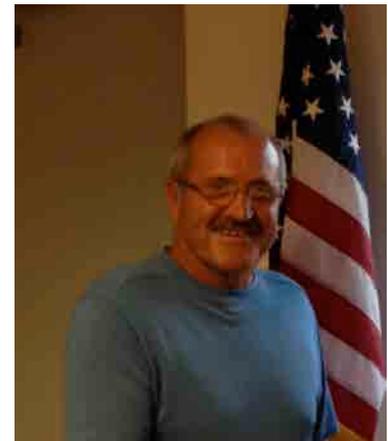
## FALL NEWSLETTER

### Mark Herlitz Appointed to Township Board

On September 4, the Washington Township Board voted to appoint Mark Herlitz as a Trustee to the Board. Mark is a lifelong resident of Washington Township and full-time farmer. When approached about filling the Trustee vacancy, Herlitz immediately replied “yes” and has already been appointed to monitor the Recycling Center located at the Washington Township Center.

Supervisor Stanula indicated that he was “excited” to get a member of the farming community on the Board because of the township’s strong ties to agriculture. Stanula said “Mark is the voice for the farming community who are greatly impacted by projects such as the proposed airport and Illiana Expressway”. Clerk Joe Burgess agreed saying “Mark brings a different perspective to the board, he knows about the farming community and cares about the entire township”.

The vacancy came about in August when Trustee Kevin Boicken resigned from the Washington Township Board after accepting a job transfer to Florida. The Board will miss Kevin and wish him well at his new position with Bakker Corporation. Fortunately, Kevin still has family ties to Beecher and we look forward to seeing him when he visits “home”. Upon Kevin’s resignation, the Board had 60 days to appoint a new Trustee of the same political party and Supervisor Stanula made the recommendation in September to appoint Herlitz as Trustee.



**Mark Herlitz**

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### From Supervisor Mike Stanula...

“The price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance” ....you may have seen this quote on the Beecher Veterans Monument located in old Downtown Beecher. This passage is contributed to President Thomas Jefferson, one of our Nation’s founding fathers. He is one of my favorite presidents and his observations of a young democracy, was as relevant then as it still is today. This phrase has many applications, not only to the men and women who serve in our military but also to the first responders who protect and aide our community in times of need. The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance, think of how this message pertains to you as part of our Township Community.

We all need to look out for each other, whether it is the elderly neighbor who needs their steps and sidewalk shoveled so they can safely go out and get their mail or walk their dog. Pulling over or stopping for first responders and stopped school buses so as to give safe passage. Showing patience while driving behind slow moving farm vehicles bringing their harvest to storage. Keeping an eye on your neighbor’s home and property and taking note of any unusual activity. There are numerous personal freedoms that we take for granted. Let’s continue to keep Vigilant the Freedom that our community has given us.

Because this is a great place to be.



### IL Ombudsmen Changes Office Hours

Mike Hansen, IL Ombudsmen for the Illiana Expressway Project, has notified the township that he will suspend his regular office hours at the Washington Township Center for the remainder of 2014. Hansen was holding regular hours at the Washington Township Center on the 4th Tuesday of every month to answer questions by area residents regarding the Illiana Expressway project. Mike decided to suspend further meetings until after upcoming votes regarding the project are held. These votes may determine if this project moves forward.

Mike has indicated that he will still be available to answer questions regarding the project until his office hours resume in January (pending the outcome of the voting). He can be contacted at 815-744-9500 or by email at: [mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com](mailto:mikehansen@mikehansenlaw.com).

### RECYCLING CENTER

The Washington Township recycling collection center is open 7 days a week! Bring your recyclables to the north side of the the Washington Township Center located at 30200 Town Center Road in Beecher.

**Please NO household trash, furniture, appliances, paint, construction materials, light bulbs, carpeting or used oil.**

#### WE RECYCLE:

- Paper, Cardboard, Plastic & GLASS
- Electronics Recycling
- Clothing, shoes
- Books



*Sorry NO BUSINESS electronics can be accepted.*

### Township Trustee Paul Goldrick Named 2014 Beecher Citizen Of The Year

On September 11, Washington Township Trustee Paul Goldrick was named as the 2014 Beecher Citizen of the Year. The award is given yearly to a citizen for their outstanding contributions to the community and Paul is very deserving.

Goldrick is a member of the Beecher School Board, Beecher Lions Club, Beecher Chamber of Commerce and puts in many many hours as the director of the Washington Township Food Pantry. Paul is also a volunteer at Alicia's House and faithful supporter of many events such as the Chamber's "Festival of Lights Parade" and "Breakfast with Santa". He was also very instrumental in the formation of Police and Kids Together (PAKT) program several years ago.



**Paul Goldrick**

The Washington Township Board would like to publicly say "Congratulations" to Paul for this honor and we are very happy for him and his family!

### Indiana Avenue Construction Update

Washington Township has learned that the Indiana Avenue bridge project should be completed and open to traffic by the second week of November. The bridge is complete and work is ongoing to replace the sections of road to the bridge.

The bridge located between Kedzie and Western Avenues was deemed unsafe and was totally replaced.



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## Washington Township Supports Rural Neighborhood Watch Program

On October 6, the Washington Township Board agreed to sponsor a "Neighborhood Watch" Program for the rural residents of the township.

Through informal meetings, township resident Diane Bultema created the program several months ago when a string of burglaries occurred on the east side of the township. At that time Diane started sending out emails to those residents that wanted to be informed about crime activity in the area. As necessary, Diane sends emails that include time, dates, location and other pertinent information about crime in the township. Working with the township, she also set up a meeting with the Will County Police to discuss what was being done and what residents can do to guard against crime. Lt. Contro from the Will County Police Department spoke at the meeting and still communicates with Diane.

The new program will remain email based but all emails will now come from a new township email called [CrimeWatch@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:CrimeWatch@washingtontownshipil.com). Diane will coordinate the program and Clerk Joe Burgess will assist as required. Anyone who wishes to receive the "crime watch" information should email Diane at the township's crime watch email address. All email addresses WILL be protected and only used to share crime watch activity. Additionally, information **about** the program will be posted on the township's website.

Any township resident may request to be added to the list but it's important to point out that the information will focus on the activity in the rural areas, which is policed by the Will County Police. The Beecher Police are the governing group for village residents and they publish their activity weekly in the Beecher Herald's "Beecher Police Blotter". They also provide information through "Nixle" - (you can read more about this valuable service on page 7 of this newsletter).

As Diane pointed out in her latest email; "The Will County Police want us to continue to be aware of whats around us and be ready to call in suspicious behavior. As the crops come out of the fields this fall it makes for easier get aways and for buildings/houses to be seen and accessed. Continue to lock out buildings, use motion detector lights, and block ATV's and other utility vehicles in or use locks on them. A little prevention can go a long way!"

The Township Board would like to thank Diane for volunteering to maintain this valuable service and the board believes if this program prevents one crime it is well worth the effort!

To join the "Crime Watch" program contact Diane at:  
[Crimewatch@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:Crimewatch@washingtontownshipil.com)

Please include your name and address along with your email address. Only residents of Washington Township will be allowed to join this program and all addresses will be verified.

**It is important to reiterate that the program is designed to share information. In ALL cases, residents should call 911 to report an emergency or report suspicious behavior.**



**CLERK’S CORNER**

The Washington Township Clerk’s office provides the following services to all Washington Township residents!

- Voter registration
- Early Voting services during elections
- RTA Reduced Fare Permits. If you are a Senior Citizen or a Person with a Disability you can apply for a free or reduced fare permit, which can be used on all RTA services.
- Free Notary Public Service
- Receive a FREE Senior ID Card
- Temporary or Permanent Parking Placards
- Public Information - township records are available on our website or through the use of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
- The Clerk’s office also maintains the township’s website and mails the biannual newsletter

**Disability Placards Available**

Did you know that if you become temporarily disabled due to surgery or another unforeseen condition, you are probably eligible to receive a “temporary” parking placard and we have them.

For more information please visit our website or call our office today.



**Medical Closet**

The medical closet is available to any resident who is in need of medical equipment on a short term basis. If you need a wheelchair, walker, cane, crutches, shower chairs or other medical items please call our office to make arrangements to check out equipment.

Visit us online at: [www.washingtontownshipil.com](http://www.washingtontownshipil.com)

**Your Township Officials:**

**Supervisor**

Mike Stanula

[supervisor@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:supervisor@washingtontownshipil.com)

**Clerk**

Joe Burgess

[clerk@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:clerk@washingtontownshipil.com)

**Assessor**

Carol Ann Blume

[assessor@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:assessor@washingtontownshipil.com)

**Highway Commissioner**

Jerry Meyer

[commissioner@](mailto:commissioner@washingtontownshipil.com)

[washingtontownshipil.com](http://washingtontownshipil.com)

**Trustees**

Ted Deery

Paul Goldrick

Mark Herlitz

Mike Mach

**Transportation Director**

Teresa Peterson

[transportation@](mailto:transportation@washingtontownshipil.com)

[washingtontownshipil.com](http://washingtontownshipil.com)

**General Assistance**

Brooke Dyke

[ga@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:ga@washingtontownshipil.com)

Newsletter Editor:

Clerk Joe Burgess

“Congrats Mike P”

**ROAD DISTRICT NEWS FROM HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER JERRY MEYER**

Here we are -- it is Fall. Where did the Summer go? The Road District had a lot of work to get done but the very wet weather was not kind to us. We did not accomplish all we had planned to do. However, with the help of Will and Peotone Townships, we tarred and chipped over 5 miles of road in our Township and fixed numerous bad spots in the roads. When we work with other Townships, we can get more done for the money by sharing equipment and resources. By not "contracting" out the work, we can save you (the taxpayer) money and in turn get more work done in the township.

With Winter upon us, I do have some bad news -- it will probably snow and get cold. This year's salt supply is very low and the price of salt has more than doubled. Last March, I placed an order with the State of Illinois for 600 tons of salt with the price to be determined. Last year the district paid \$59.00 per ton, this year the price of salt was quoted at \$135.79 per ton, a 160% increase. Our budget cannot handle that high of an increase so we will have to start mixing it with slag or some other grit to stretch our usage and hope for a milder winter. In calling around, all agencies have the same problem: not enough money to buy the same amount of salt they used last year. So please be careful when driving all roads this winter.

The next time you pick up your mail from your mailbox please check and see if it is strong enough to survive the winter. The Township is only responsible to replace your mailbox if the plow hits your box. Most of the time the snow coming off the plow hits the box and it causes the damage and the township is not responsible for that type of damage. So please check for a loose mailbox. It is easier to work on it now instead of in the dead of winter. Also, when removing snow from your driveway please do not put it on the roadway. First of all, it is illegal to do so and can result in a ticket from the Will County Police. Secondly, the snow you put on the road is your responsibility and if someone hits that snow they can come back to your insurance company for damages done to their vehicle. So please push all of the snow all the way across the road.

We will be mowing weeds fence line to fence line after the farmers get the crops out of the field. We cut the weeds to keep the snow from accumulating on the roads and to keep the brush from getting overgrown.

From Washington Township Highway Department, have a safe and healthy Winter. Drive like your life depends upon it, because it does.

Happy Holidays  
Jerry K. Meyer  
Road Commissioner



*After a road has been properly prepared, the tar and chip process can begin!*



About 5 years ago, the Beecher Police Department launched a Community Notification System called “Nixle” to improve communication with people who live, work or visit our area. Through Nixle, messages are delivered to residents by email and cell phone.

Recently, the system was used to inform residents about IL Rt 1 being closed to do power lines being down after a severe storm. Messages of these type help keep residents informed and safe! Washington Township recommends that ALL township residents sign up for this FREE and valuable service.

To sign up for the system go to the Village of Beecher’s website at: [www.villageofbeecher.org](http://www.villageofbeecher.org) and click on the “Nixle” link!



Our seniors have been very busy this year as Washington Township Senior Bus Trips included trips to a White Sox game, Balmoral Park, Freedom Hall Theatre and a tour of Kankakee County “Barn” Quilts.

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Brett Grandon, PT  
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## *Washington Township Senior News*

### 8th Annual Senior Holiday Dinner & Concert

On December 9 at 6:30 pm, Washington Township will be sponsoring a free holiday dinner and concert for our seniors at the Beecher Amvet Hall. If you only attend one senior event all year, this is the one to attend!

Keep the date open and call us if you need a ride as we will be happy to assist you.



**CALL 708-946-2026**

### **Winter Tips for Seniors**

A single fall can cause debilitating and costly injuries, but a few simple tips can help older adults stay safe and healthy through the winter months.

❖ **Tread carefully**

To help avoid falls, wear appropriate shoes outdoors and put safety salt, sand or kitty litter on sidewalks and driveways.

❖ **Avoid overwork**

Find someone to handle snow shoveling and other strenuous outdoor tasks.

❖ **Bundle up**

Cold temperatures are a serious threat to seniors. Wear layers!

❖ **Keep the heat on**

Inadequate indoor heat also can cause hypothermia. Keep home temperatures above 65 degrees and dress in layers to maintain body temperature.

❖ **Clear the air**

If you heat your home with a fireplace, gas furnace or gas-powered space heater, invest in carbon monoxide detectors, which can be purchased at a home improvement store for as little as \$30. Replace the batteries in smoke & carbon monoxide units now to ensure safe operating throughout the winter months.

### **Important dates for our Seniors:**

**November 12 - 6:30 PM**

Senior MOVIE Night - Come and watch "Jersey Boys". Refreshments will be served!

**December 9 - 6:30 pm**

Senior Holiday Dinner & Concert at the Beecher Amvet Hall. A free dinner followed by a holiday concert.

**January - 6:30 PM**

Senior MOVIE MATINEE - . Refreshments will be served!

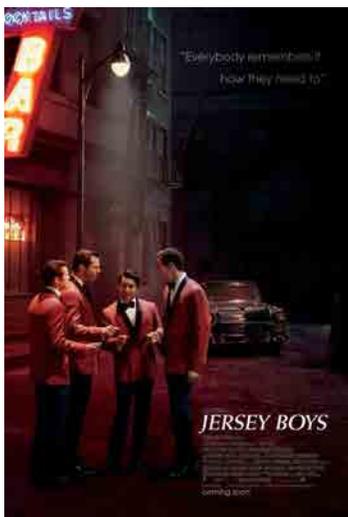
**March 2015 (date to be determined)**

Senior Breakfast - Free breakfast @ Cardinal Creek Golf Course and special presentations designed for our Seniors!

**March 2015 - 6:30 PM**

Senior MOVIE Night - Come and watch a recent hit movie on our big screen. Refreshments will be served!

Call 946-2026 for more information OR visit us online for our complete calendar of events!



**SENIOR MOVIE NIGHT**

**"Jersey Boy's"**

The Story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons.

**November 12, 2014 @ 6:30 PM**

Washington Township Center  
30200 Town Center Road  
Beecher

Coffee and Bakers Square pie will be served.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- \* Senior Movie Night - November 12 @ 6:30 pm - Washington Township Center
- \* Youth Commission Fall Fair at Beecher Junior High - November 15
- \* Chamber of Commerce Festival of Lights Parade - Saturday, December 6th
- \* Beecher Women’s Club Christmas House Walk - Sunday, December 7 from 1-6 PM  
Tickets will be available Dec 7 @ 1pm at First Community Bank and Trust
- \* Breakfast with Santa @ Cardinal Creek Golf Course - Sunday, December 7th beginning at 8AM  
(Please call 946-2800 for reservations)
- \* Washington Township Senior Holiday Dinner - December 9 @ 6:30 PM / Beecher Amvet Hall



UPCOMING TOWNSHIP 2014-15 BOARD MEETING DATES

The Washington Township Board meets on the FIRST Monday of every month (except on holidays) at the Washington Township Center located at 30200 Town Center Road. All meetings start at 7 pm and the public is urged to attend our meetings!

Public commentary is always welcome. Please call Supervisor Mike Stanula at 946-2026 if you need assistance.

- November 3, 2014
- December 1, 2014
- January 4, 2015
- February 2, 2015
- March 2, 2015
- March 30, 2015



Office Hours

The Washington Township Offices are open Monday thru Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. We can be reached at (708) 946-2026.

Please visit us on the web at [www.washingtontownshipil.com](http://www.washingtontownshipil.com)

Assessor’s Office Hours

Assessor Carol Ann Blume hours are by appointment only. Please call Carol at 708-231-1175 to schedule an appointment.

**Your Right To Know**

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) provides that all government bodies make public records readily available for inspection. You can access our agendas, minutes, recent budgets and many other items by visiting our website and clicking on the “Public Information” button on our homepage.

Don’t see what your looking for? Contact Clerk Joe Burgess at (708) 946-2026 Ext 1176

## Need A Ride? Call about our Dial-A-Ride Program

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