

# Cuba Township

28000 W. Cuba Road  
Barrington, IL 60010

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 12  
Barrington, IL

ERCWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Cuba Township email: [cubatownship@comcast.net](mailto:cubatownship@comcast.net)  
Office phone: 847-381-1924  
Office fax: 847-381-1322  
Assessor phone: 847-381-1120  
Assessor fax: 847-381-0837  
Road District phone: 847-381-7793  
Road District fax: 847-382-1210

Don't miss the  
**FALL FESTIVAL!**

[WWW.CUBATOWNSHIP.COM](http://WWW.CUBATOWNSHIP.COM)

## Officials

**David F. Nelson, Supervisor**

**Priscilla H. Rose, Clerk**

**Rebecca M. Tonigan, Assessor**

**Randall J. Marks, Hwy. Commissioner**

**Douglas B. Alexander, Trustee**

**John J. Mumaw, Trustee**

**Jeffrey A. Raider, Trustee**

**Jill Talbot, Trustee**

Please join us . . .  
Cuba Township's 15th annual

# Fall Festival

Saturday, October 17, 2015, 1 - 4 pm  
28160 W. Cuba Road, Barrington

Live music, food, beverages and games- FUN FOR ALL!

Your donations to the Cuba Township Food Pantry can be accepted that day and are appreciated!

No reservations required. Please call the Township office for more information- 847-381-1924

CUBA  
TOWNSHIP

Township board  
meetings are held  
the second Thursday  
of each month at  
6:00 pm at the  
Township office,  
28000 W. Cuba  
Road, Barrington.  
All meetings are  
open to the public

Office hours:  
Monday-Friday  
9 am-4 pm



Printed on Recycled Stock

# Cuba News

Fall 2015

Supervisor, **DAVID F. NELSON**

## WHAT IS CUBA TOWNSHIP?

Townships are the oldest form of local government in the country. Brought by settlers from New England, townships were established in Illinois in 1850 to accommodate the needs of their local communities before municipalities were formed and a trip to the county seat meant spending the entire day on horseback. Cuba Township was established in 1850 at 28160 W. Cuba Road, Barrington-property owned by the Township and known as *The Grove*. This white farmhouse is now the home of the Cuba Township Road District and the site of the annual Fall Festival.

Cuba Township is 24 square miles. The boundaries are Lake Cook Road on the south, Ridge Road on the west side, roughly Roberts Road on the north and roughly Whitney Drive on the east.

Illinois townships are mandated to provide 3 services- property assessment, assistance to the needy and road maintenance.

The Township Assessor, Rebecca Tonigan provides the staff and direction to assess all township property. The property assessment is the basis from which all local taxing bodies receive funds from their yearly levies.

The office of the Supervisor, David Nelson, is responsible for the administration of the General Assistance program. This state mandated program provides limited financial assistance for qualifying township residents in need. Additionally, the Supervisor and staff run the Township's food pantry and act as a referral to direct residents in need to additional resources for assistance. The Supervisor's office also provides other services such as passport processing, notary public services and senior RTA passes.

The Township Highway Commissioner, Randy Marks, is responsible for the maintenance of all roads and bridges in the township. The Cuba Township Road District is a separate entity and taxing body from Cuba Township, although both work cooperatively. Work performed by the Road District includes, but is not limited to, road paving and snow plowing. The Road District has Intergovernmental Agreements with the various local villages. This cooperative situation eliminates duplication of services, creating more efficiency and thus reducing the cost to the taxpayers. Please go to [www.cubaroads.com](http://www.cubaroads.com) for more information on the Road District.

The Township Clerk, Priscilla Rose is the keeper of all township records and legal documents of the township. This includes taking minutes of the township monthly board meetings. The clerk is also the local election authority and provides voter registration.

Township trustees Doug Alexander, Jack Mumaw, Jeff Raider and Jill Talbot have the fiduciary responsibility of examining and auditing all bills presented to the Township and Road District for payment. Further responsibilities of the trustees are in the areas of budgeting and levy preparation.

Although there are now many municipalities in our area, a large portion of Cuba Township remains unincorporated and falls under Township and County rule. The Township provides many services to the unincorporated areas of the Township. These services are not duplicated anywhere else in the community. More information about Cuba Township can be viewed at [www.cubatownship.com](http://www.cubatownship.com).

Your Township officials are available to address your questions, concerns, and comments and invite you to our monthly Township board meetings on the second Thursday of each month.

## CUBA TOWNSHIP

### CONTACT INFORMATION

28000 W. Cuba Road  
Barrington, IL 60010

Supervisor's office (847) 381-1924  
(847) 381-1322 fax  
[info@cubatwpil.gov](mailto:info@cubatwpil.gov)  
[www.cubatownship.com](http://www.cubatownship.com)

Assessor's office (847) 381-1120  
(847) 381-0837 fax

Road District office  
(847) 381-7793  
[www.cubaroads.com](http://www.cubaroads.com)

Cuba Township board meetings are the second Thursday  
of each month at 6 pm.  
All meetings are open to the public



CUBA TOWNSHIP SERVICES

**Handicapped parking placard applications** are available at the Township office. Once approved by a physician, the Township can provide a temporary parking placard for up to 90 days. If a permanent card is required, obtain a temporary from the Township, then mail the application to the Secretary of State’s office for a permanent card. Please go to [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/vsd62.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/vsd62.pdf) to obtain an application.

**R.T.A. applications** for reduced fare passes for senior citizens aged 65 years and older and the disabled are available at the Township office. Proof of age is required- a driver’s license or state identification card is acceptable. The pass is good for reduced fare on fixed bus and rail services provided by the CTA, Pace and Metra. The Township will take the required picture and complete the application. It will be received in approximately 4 to 6 weeks. The photo is no charge for Township residents- \$5 for non-township residents. Seniors that qualify for the Circuit Breaker program are eligible for free rides on the RTA and should contact the Illinois Department of Aging at 800-624-2459 or go online at [www.cbrx.il.gov](http://www.cbrx.il.gov) to apply.

**PACE/Dial a Ride** program is subsidized by the Township for seniors and the disabled. The service offers local curb-to-curb service for \$1 each way. For enrollment, reservations and information please call 800-273-5939. Reservations can be made 24 hours in advance and 7 days in advance for medical appointments.

**Half fare taxi program** is available for Township residents who are 65 years of age or older. The Township will subsidize half of your taxi fare up to \$7.00. Please stop in the office to sign up for this program. Proof of age and residency is required.

**Passport processing services** are offered at the Township office by *appointment only*, Monday through Friday, 10am to 3pm. Identification (usually a driver’s license) and proof of citizenship (birth certificate or naturalization papers) are required. Please call the Township office at 847-381-1924 to make an *appointment*. More details on requirements, fees and documentation are available at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

**Voter registration** is available at the Township office for any Illinois resident. To register, a person must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age by the date of the next election, and a resident of the address at which they are registering at least 30 days prior to the election. Two forms of identification are required- one must show your name and current address and one form of identification may be a piece of mail for a contractual service addressed to you at your residence. The Township office is open for voter registration Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4 pm.

**Notary public services** are offered at no charge.

**Orthopedic items**, such as walkers, canes and wheelchairs, are available to Township residents. Items are lent at no charge. Please contact the Township office at (847) 381-1924 to determine availability or to donate items.

**The Cuba Township food pantry** is available to any Township resident indicating a need. Please call the office for more information and to schedule an intake interview. Donations of non-perishable , non-expired items are always welcome.

**The General Assistance and Emergency Assistance** programs offer limited financial assistance to Township residents. Income guidelines determine eligibility. Additionally, limited financial assistance is available through the Salvation Army and the Cuba Cares fund. Please contact the Township office for more information.

**LIHEAP (low income home energy assistance program) and SHARING** applications are available at the Township office. These programs offer limited financial assistance, based on income, for heating and electric bills. Funding for these programs begins September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year for seniors, the disabled and families with young children and continues through the heating season. November 1<sup>st</sup> is the first application date for all other qualifying households. Please contact the Township office for more information.

**Township vehicle stickers** are available at no charge for residents living in *unincorporated* areas of the Township. There is no charge for the stickers and they are not required- they are offered as a courtesy.

**A drop-off box for used eyeglasses** is in the Township office. Eyeglasses are collected by the Lions club and given to health care professionals for distribution to the needy.

**Warning sirens** are located throughout the Township to warn residents of dangerous weather. The sirens are owned and maintained by the Township with cooperation from the local fire department. The sirens are designed to be heard *outside* to warn residents to seek shelter.

**Mosquito abatement services** are provided for the Township through a contract with Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc. Larviciding is done throughout the Township to prevent the hatching of mosquito eggs. Emergency spraying is performed if the West NileVirus is detected in the Township. Please call Clarke’s hotline at 800-942-2555 for more information.

**The Cuba Cares fund** is a 501 © (3) charitable fund. Monies donated to this fund are used to help residents in need who do not qualify for other assistance to assist in maintaining self-sufficiency. After determination of need, disbursements are made to a vendor.. Funds are available to any Township individual or family only every 12 months. All monies donated are tax deductible. To make a donation or inquire about assistance, please contact the Township office at (847) 381-1924. All information regarding disbursements or inquiries is confidential.

**The Community Room** is available to any Township resident for small group meetings of a not-for- profit nature. Please contact the Township office for specific details on use and for availability. Cuba Township reserves primary user rights of the room.

**Retired flags** can be dropped off at the Township office. The local VFW post and American Legion will collect the flags and dispose of them at periodic sanctioned ceremonies.

**White Memorial Cemetery** is owned and maintained by Cuba Township. While many of Barrington’s earliest settlers are buried there, it is an active cemetery with ongoing burials. The cemetery is open during daylight hours, with behavior appropriate and befitting a cemetery expected. Trespassers after dark may be prosecuted. For more information on the cemetery, please call the Township office at (847) 381-1924 or visit the Barrington Area Library’s link [http://www.barringtonarealibrary.org/cemeteries/282-barrington\\_area\\_cemeteries](http://www.barringtonarealibrary.org/cemeteries/282-barrington_area_cemeteries). There are currently no gravesite available for sale.

**Mulch and firewood** is available seasonally through the Cuba Township Road District. Please go to [www.cubaroads.com](http://www.cubaroads.com) for information on Road District services or call 847- 381-7793.

Please click on “assessor “on the Township’s home page [www.cubatownship.com](http://www.cubatownship.com) for services provided by the **Cuba Township Assessor** or contact the Assessor’s office directly at 847-381-1120.

Cuba Heritage

By Barbara Benson

THE WHITE SCHOOL OF CUBA TOWNSHIP

In the summer of 1889, Emaline Hawley Brown was writing one of her regular letters from the Octagon House in Barrington to her daughter Laura Nightingale in Fairmont, Minnesota. Emaline was describing her other daughter Hattie’s efforts to find a job as a schoolteacher. Part of the letter read: “They have been after George Barnett to teach in the White Schoolhouse, the school has got to be such a terror that a lady teacher cannot manage them, the last three teachers have had a hard time with the school”. For many years, the school was to carry the reputation of being a rough place to learn, and in those days the pioneer children often went to school as little as necessary, because they were needed to work on the farm.

The original White School was a log building on land donated by Thomas White, and located at the western end of White Cemetery. The year was 1844, the township had not yet been named, and the railroad to a place named Barrington was still ten years away. The structure was used as both a school and a church for Methodist Episcopal Services. The first teacher was a Mr. Edward Wheedon, and the pastor was the Reverend Nathan Jewitt.

In 1853, a balloon frame schoolhouse was built on the south side of Cuba Road. Its construction followed precise measurements and use of materials prescribed for country schools. (A full description from historical resources was included in the Fall 2005 edition of Cuba News).

For over 100 years, children from all over our area trekked to the white painted school with its belfry. But after WW11 time ran out for the one-room schoolhouses, and on August 27, 1947, by then designated District 90, the White School petitioned to join the newly consolidated District 89, and the students all transferred to the new North Barrington School.

The building was sold, and had several owners, until in the late 1960s it was purchased by Don and Elizabeth Moelling. They wanted to keep the character of the school house and set about a careful restoration. They kept the boys’ and girls’ cloakrooms on either of the front entrance, one as a powder room and the other as a small den. These had not been washrooms, the school had outhouses. The original tin ceiling was preserved, and identical windows replaced the school house windows. The wood floor was restored. The only major change was the addition of a stone fireplace wall. Necessary living spaces were added at the side and the back in order to preserve the school house integrity. It was unusual at that time to undertake such an authentic restoration.

IN THE NEXT EDITION: CARING OWNERS AND A JOYFUL REUNION

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH HEATING BILLS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

Cuba Township is pleased to administer two programs for low-income households to assist with the expense of heating bills.

LIHEAP (low income home energy assistance program) is funded locally and with federal grants to provide financial assistance to qualifying families and individuals. If approved, the grant will be applied directly to your NICOR and ComEd account.

SHARING is offered through the Salvation Army and operates in a similar manner to LIHEAP. Each program maintains different qualifying income levels.

Applications for both programs will begin September 1st for seniors and the disabled. Families with children under the age of 5 can apply beginning October 1st. And November 1st is the first application date for all other qualifying households. Please call the Township office at (847) 381-1924 to determine your eligibility or to make an appointment to complete an application for either program.





# COAL TAR SEALANTS

**Cuba Township supports the ban of coal tar sealants and encourages you to review this information provided by the Barrington Area Council of Governments**

## What Is Coal Tar?

Coal tar is a residue left over from the distillation of coal in the steel making process. It contains high amounts of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) which are toxic and known carcinogens to humans, animals and aquatic life.

Coal tar is often a component of certain types of driveway sealants used to protect asphalt pavement such as residential driveways, parking lots and school playgrounds.

## Why the Concern about Coal Tar?

Coal tar sealants on paved surfaces deteriorate in sunlight and with traffic - vehicle, pets and people. The sealcoat flakes are washed away by rain into bodies of water, or onto lawns, or carried away by winds into homes and onto lawns. They can also be tracked into homes by families and pets.

Research conducted by the City of Austin, the State of Minnesota, and the U.S. Geological Survey found that PAH levels were significantly higher in water runoff from coal tar sealed driveways, and that homes by coal tar sealed driveways contained significantly greater amounts of coal tar dust.

Studies show that PAHs are harmful to fish and, with prolonged exposure, pose a risk of cancer in humans, especially children.

## What Are My Options?

Use asphalt-based sealants. They have significantly lower PAH levels. Asphalt based sealants are sold in most home improvement stores. If you use a driveway sealer service, be sure to ask what they are using, and specify using an asphalt-emulsion sealant. If the Chemical Abstract Service number for coal tar (65996-93-2) is on the contents list for a driveway sealant, do not use it; it has coal tar.

Residents may also choose to leave their driveways unsealed.

To learn more, check out the BACOG website at: [www.BACOG.org/](http://www.BACOG.org/)

# Highway Commissioner, *RANDALL J. MARKS*

Cuba Township Road District paving and drainage projects are still in full swing. The summer season has found our staff upgrading and improving our road system; identifying and correcting drainage issues; as well as patching and paving roads throughout the district. Our staff has just completed its largest paving project in Cuba Township Road District history – the full replacement of a large portion of Timberlake Road – along with other projects.

As the seasons change, so do our staff's duties. Soon drainage, foliage, and paving activities will end as we begin preparations for winter plowing and salting. Please note that the Firewood Program will resume in late October. Your registration in the Cuba Township Road District office must precede firewood pickup. Firewood pick-up dates will be posted on our website at <http://cubaroads.com>

Due to new state regulations, Cuba Township Road District will **NO LONGER** recycle electronics, paint or chemicals until further notice! Please contact **Solid Waste Agency Of Lake County (S.W.A.L.C.O.)** at **847.336.9340 OR 847.377.4950 or [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org)**

The Cuba Township Road District staff takes great pride in delivering services such as drainage repairs, tree removal and trimming, road paving and restoration. Our staff shares the common goal of providing efficient and cost-effective service to Cuba Township residents. As always, we welcome your comments and questions!

# Assessor, *REBECCA M. TONIGAN, C.I.A.O.*

The fall is always an extremely busy time at the assessor's office. This year even more so, as we are in the midst of the county wide quadrennial reassessment. As explained in the 2015 spring newsletter, all properties in Lake County are revalued every four years. The 2015 assessment notices for Cuba Township went out in August. For those who have filed an appeal, I would urge you to stop by the office with your evidence. We will be more than happy to review all of the data in an effort to come to a fair resolution. While the deadline may have passed this year to file an appeal, our office can still correct any factual errors or missed exemptions. Remember, we are your local resource and most importantly, we are here to help you. Now on to the big White Elephant in the room..."**Why are my property taxes continuing to rise?"** That seems to be our biggest concern. The answer is quite simple. In Real Estate, it's often stated, that the three most important factors impacting sales are, location, location, and location. The same can be applied to property taxes...the three most important factors impacting Real Estate property taxes are, **spending, spending, and spending!!**. Generally taxes do not go up because of increasing assessments and they will not go down with declining assessments. On an individual basis however, tax relief can be gained. That tax relief is simply redistributed. The amount of spending, the driver of the property taxes, remains. **The property assessment is simply a vehicle to distribute the tax burden.** At Cuba Township, we do everything in our power to insure assessments are fair and equitable for all residents.

Everyone wants the assessed value of their property to be fair and accurate, but the number that should concern us is not the assessment, but the amount of money our school districts and other local taxing bodies want to spend. **If spending did not increase every year, our taxes would not either.** Most of us are angry with the amount of taxes. Remember it is not the property taxes you appeal, only the property assessment. What if the assessment is fair? What do we do then? If we do not rein in and control spending, then the property assessment becomes a moot point. To further emphasize the spending issue, we have reviewed the growth of the tax rate in Cuba Township since 2008. The average tax rate in Cuba Township in 2008 was 5.3%. In 2014 the average tax rate was 7.9%. That represents an increase of 33%. Case in point, new construction purchased 11/2007 for \$675,000 with 2008 taxes \$14,070.12. By 2014 the assessed value, equivalent market value, was \$505,187, a drop in value of 25%. **The assessment had been lowered 25% from the 2007 sale price and yet the 2014 taxes were \$17,542.37, a tax increase of 20%.** This period, 2008-2012, saw a historical decline in property values. The question we should ask is, "did local school district and taxing bodies decrease spending, or was the tax rate raised to meet their increased demands?"

We understand that our local services are not free; we pay for them with our property taxes. Balancing the demand for services with the costs of providing them is an enormous, never ending challenge. We are here to help all Cuba Township residents. We take great pride in our responsibility to serve the community, and the relationships we have forged throughout the years. If you have any questions or feel we can be of any service, please contact us.

# PRIVATE WELL WATER QUALITY TESTING EVENT

Most Barrington area residents drink groundwater that is drawn from the shallow aquifer system. For **private** wells that serve just one or two households, there is no regulation that requires outside entities to test your well water. That means you are responsible for making sure your home's water is safe to drink. BACOG partners with the Lake County Health Department laboratories to make private well water testing fast, easy and inexpensive for residents.

**Test Kit Pick-Up at Cuba Township, 28000 W. Cuba Road, Barrington- October 5<sup>th</sup> through October 8th, 9am to 4 pm**  
\$12 per kit, reduced fee. **Only cash or checks are accepted.** Please have exact change or make checks payable to "Lake County Health Department".

**Test Kit Drop-Off with BACOG**  
**One Day Only: OCTOBER 13<sup>th</sup>, at The Garlands**  
October 13<sup>th</sup>, between 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm  
The Garlands of Barrington  
1000 Garlands Lane, Barrington

**Presentation: October 13<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm (Topic To Be Determined)**  
Drop off your sample at 6:00 pm on October 13<sup>th</sup> at The Garlands of Barrington, 1000 Garlands Lane, and stay for a BACOG-hosted presentation by a water expert.

For a list of the BACOG member government locations selling test kits, and additional information about Level II and Level III testing, visit [www.bacog.org](http://www.bacog.org) or call (847) 381-7871.

