



27 Riverside Road
Riverside, IL 60546

Township Office

Phone: (708) 442-4400

Fax: (708) 447-0302

Website:

www.riversidetownship.org

E-mail:

supervisor@riversidetownship.org

clerk@riversidetownship.org

Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Fri: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Assessor's Office

Phone: (708) 447-7700

Fax: (708) 447-6442

E-mail:

assessor@riversidetownship.org

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Community Resource Center

Phone: (708) 853-9578

E-mail: crc@riversidetownship.org

Office Hours:

Mon: 9 am - Noon | 4 pm - 6 pm

Weds: 9 am - Noon | 4 pm - 8 pm

Thurs: 9 am - Noon | 4 pm - 8 pm

Supervisor

Vera A. Wilt

Clerk

Jay Reyes

Assessor

Frances Sitkiewicz

Trustees

Mary Rob Clarke

Timothy Heilenbach

John P. Carroll, Jr.

Matthew J. Decosola

Riverside Township

FALL 2023

Swinging Bridge Restoration Complete

Riverside Township is pleased to announce that, after multiple delays, the much needed restoration work on the H. Wallace Caldwell Memorial Bridge was finally completed earlier this spring.

More affectionately known as the Swinging Bridge, the local landmark's appearance had gradually fallen into disrepair over the years. Riddled with surface rust and peeling paint, the pedestrian suspension bridge was first erected in 1940, but had its last major overhaul in 2002.

Restoration work began at the end of March this year to remove all remaining lead paint and rust from the structure, so that the entire bridge could be recoated in a brand new layer of paint that will hopefully last for many decades to come. Originally expected to take at least 2 months due to weather conditions, the project was completed ahead of schedule in half the time and the bridge was officially reopened & rededicated by Township officials on April 22nd.



Riverside Township is delighted with how well the facelift of the Swinging Bridge turned out and are proud to have finally been able to complete this long overdue project to have the Swinging Bridge restored to a pristine appearance.

Food Pantry Donations Needed



The Riverside Township Food Pantry is always in need of donations of non-perishable, non-expired food items from generous members of the community. As more individuals and families have come to rely on the Food Pantry in the past few years, the increase in demand has put a constant strain on the Pantry's ability to provide food items to those in need. Over 80 families within the Township are served monthly by the Food

Pantry, and during the summer months, the Pantry also offers vouchers for enrolled participants to redeem at the Riverside Farmers' Market for fresh food items. Now, with the holiday season fast approaching, it is more important than ever to donate.

Please help out by dropping off non-perishable items in one of the designated Food Pantry drop boxes in the Town Hall during regular business hours. The Food Pantry will accept monetary donations as well; please make checks payable to the "Riverside Township Food Pantry". Every little bit helps to support the continuation of this vital service.

Important Property Tax Info

The Riverside Township Assessor has been busy preparing for the final round of 2023 assessed valuation appeals with the Cook County Board of Review. By the time this newsletter reaches the mailboxes of residents, the Board of Review should be accepting appeals from Riverside Township. At this point in time, it appears that the Assessor's Office will be assisting taxpayers with filing appeals for the 2023 property tax year while residents are also being delivered the 2022 second installment bills around the same time.

The Township Assessor is ready to assist taxpayers with filing their 2023 assessed valuation appeals to the Cook County Board of Review. To kick off the appeal session, the Township Assessor will be **hosting an outreach with George Cardenas**, a Board of Review Commissioner, on **Wednesday, September 13th**. The presentation will begin at **6:00 pm in the 2nd floor Auditorium of the Riverside Town Hall**. Analysts from the Board of Review, along with Township staff, will be available to answer any questions and assist taxpayers with their appeals.

The 2022 second installment property tax bill is delayed. Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas estimates that the 2022 second installment bill will be available online around mid-October, and mailed out to taxpayers by the end of October, with a **due date of December 1, 2023**. The 2023 first installment will be due by March 1, 2024. It's important for taxpayers to review their second installment bills and make sure that all exemptions have been applied. If qualifying exemptions are missing, please contact the Township Assessor immediately for assistance with processing a Certificate of Error.



The Riverside Township Assessor's Office provides the service of assisting Township taxpayers with appeals, filing exemptions, and fielding property tax inquiries, among other services, all for **FREE**. Taxpayers do not need to pay for these services provided by private firms for costly fees. Keep an eye out for email communications from the Township Assessor with more information on the appeal process. Residents should make sure that they are added to the Assessor's email and call list for future updates; please call the Township Assessor at **(708) 447-7700** to be added to their contact list, or send an email to: assessor@riversidetownship.org. The Township Assessor's Office is open **Monday - Friday, from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm**, and it is best to call ahead and make an appointment.



Scan the QR code with your phone to view the Community Resource Guide.

Community Resource Center

The Riverside Township Community Resource Center can help residents, who are in need of information and assistance, access numerous services and support systems within the Township. A Community Resource Specialist can provide individuals with guidance and referrals for any number of concerns, including aging services, benefits counseling (by appointment), intellectual and developmental disability services, mental health services, and substance abuse services.

The CRC has recently updated and improved the **Community Resource Guide**, an online informational tool for services and organizations throughout the community. The guide can be accessed by scanning the QR code above with your smartphone or you can download the guide here: <https://riversidetownship.org/community-resource-center/>.

The CRC staff is available **Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 am - Noon and from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm**. Staff is also sometimes available during later hours, from **6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, on Wednesday and Thursday**. Please first reach out to the Resource Center by phone at **(708) 853-9578** to schedule an in-person appointment, or send an email to: crc@riversidetownship.org.

Radio Players Return

The Riverside Township Radio Players return for their 25th season of old time radio programs, set to be presented each month in the **2nd floor Auditorium of the Town Hall**.



Performances take place once a month, from September to May each year, and **begin at 7:30 pm**. All are welcome to attend these **FREE**, live performances of shows from the Golden Age of Radio.

Here are their upcoming performance dates for the 2023 half of the season:

**September 29 | October 27 | November 17
December 15**

For more information, visit their website at:

<https://riversidetownshipradioplayers.com>

Free Weekly Movies

FREE weekly movie screenings continue **every Thursday at 12:30 pm, on the 1st floor of the Town Hall**, and all are welcome to attend. So come on out and enjoy some free popcorn and light refreshments while viewing a film selected from any year, from old classics up to recent, present day releases.



Here are some of the upcoming films:

September 21 - **"The Fugitive"** (1993)

September 28 - **"12 Angry Men"** (1957)

October 5 - **"The Philadelphia Story"** (1940)

October 12 - **"The Imitation Game"** (2014)

October 19 - **"Psycho"** (1960)

October 26 - **"Young Frankenstein"** (1974)

Mental Health Board Supports The Community

The Riverside Township Mental Health Board is 50 years old this year and a lot has changed in all that time. From the way people think about mental health, to the types of services provided, the Mental Health Board continues to adapt to meet the needs of the community. The Board has grown from just 3 core agencies to now 3 core agencies and 5 discretionary grants that serve various Township partners today.



In 2019, the Mental Health Board launched the Community Resource Center, which assists residents with guidance and referrals to state and federal programs that they may need. The Mental Health Board also provides Riverside Brookfield High School with a part-time social worker and funds the **Support4U** cell phone program in which students can **text "TALK" to (844) 670-5838** to access mental health-related support resources.

The West Suburban Special Recreation Association provides recreation services for children and adults with disabilities in Riverside and North Riverside. The Mental Health Board pays half of the fees and transportation costs of Township residents for any WSSRA program that they participate in. The Board also paid for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for local police departments. CIT training teaches local first responders how to deescalate different situations without resorting to physical interaction. Furthermore, the Riverside Police Department has partnered with the Mental Health Board on providing a part-time social worker to serve residents of Riverside.

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Mental Health Board? Riverside Township is looking for individuals within the community to serve on the Mental Health Board in the coming year. Inquiries about this opportunity can be emailed to Supervisor Vera Wilt at: supervisor@riversidetownship.org.



Riverside Township
27 Riverside Rd.
Riverside, IL 60546

Phone: (708) 442-4400
Fax: (708) 447-0302

Medical Equipment Loans

The Riverside Township Nurse's Closet offers short-term loans (up to 3 months) of durable medical equipment to Township residents, **FREE** of charge. Examples of such equipment available are walkers, canes, crutches, wheelchairs, shower benches, commodes, and toilet seat risers. The Township also accepts donations of such items if they are in good, clean condition. Please call the office to see what items are in stock.

The Nurse's Closet is open **Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm, and Friday, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm.**



Visit us online!

www.riversidetownship.org

www.facebook.com/riversidetownshipIL

Shred-A-Thon Event In October

If you missed the springtime "Shred-A-Thon" event hosted by the Township earlier this year, worry not! Another one is coming up sooner than you'd think. The always popular paper shredding event will be back again on **Saturday, October 21st, from 9:00 am - Noon**, in the parking lot of the **Riverside Masonic Lodge at 40 Forest Avenue in Riverside.**

As always, this **FREE** event is only for Riverside Township residents and only for personal, confidential documents. No shredding of business documents will be allowed. Each household will be limited to **no more than 3 boxes of paper**, and all documents will be securely destroyed and disposed of on site by American Mobile Shredding and Recycling.

Please note: be sure to remove all paper clips, binder clips, and spiral binders before you bring your items. Do not bring magazines, newspapers, junk mail, or other items that belong in traditional recycling. Just like in the past, this will be a contactless, drive-up event; no need to get out of your car! Just place your documents in your trunk, follow the signs at the event and then pop the trunk. We will remove the documents and shred them for you.



We ask that you **consider bringing a non-perishable food item to donate to the Township Food Pantry as well.** The Food Pantry is always in need of donations of non-perishable, non-expired items from charitable residents and organizations within the community. The Township will also accept monetary donations as well; make checks payable to the "Riverside Township Food Pantry". Every little bit helps, so please bring a donation if you can!