

# Cuba Township

28000 W. Cuba Road  
Barrington, IL 60010

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No.  
12

## 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: 847-381-7994

### IMPORTANT VOTING INFORMATION!

## Clerk, *PRISCILLA H. ROSE*

The next election is the presidential election on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. If you have moved or changed your name since the last election, you will need to re-register to vote. To see if you are registered, go to [www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk](http://www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk)—click on voter registration. Voter registration is available at the Township office to any Illinois resident 18 years of age or older, Monday through Friday, 9 – 3:30 pm. The office will also be open, for voter registration only, on Saturday, October 4, 2008, 9 am—noon. Two forms of identification are required, one must have your current address. The *Temporary Absent Student Program* provides absentee voting to students who are registered to vote, but away at college. This enrollment form is available at the Township office.

The *Snowbird Program* provides absentee voting for residents who reside out of Lake County part of each year (usually winter). This enrollment form is available at the Township office.

Early Voting is available at the Township office to any registered Cuba Township voter beginning Oct. 13, 2008.

A government issued photo i.d. is required by law to vote early.

The following is important information relevant to this upcoming election.

**VOTER REGISTRATION CLOSES** Tuesday, October 7, 2008

**EARLY VOTING BEGINS AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE** Monday, October 13, 2008

Monday– Friday 9 am—4:30 pm

Saturdays, 9 am—2 pm

**EARLY VOTING ENDS** Thursday, October 30, 2008

**IN PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING BEGINS AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE** Friday, October 31, 2008

Friday, October 31st and Monday, November 3rd 9 am 4:30pm

Saturday, November 1st 9 am— noon

**IN PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING ENDS** Monday, November 3, 2008

**ELECTION DAY** Tuesday, November 4, 2008

**VOTER REGISTRATION RE-OPENS** Thursday, November 6, 2008

Election judges are always needed to serve at the polls on election day. Teens, aged 17 years and older, are eligible to serve in this capacity. For more information regarding serving as an election judge, or any election related questions, please contact the Lake County Clerk's office at (847) 377-2317 or refer to the website [www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk/elections](http://www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk/elections).

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

## Officials

David F. Nelson, Supervisor

Priscilla H. Rose, Clerk

Rebecca M. Tonigan, Assessor

Thomas W. Gooch, Hwy. Commissioner

Donald F. Griffith, Trustee

Richard J. Kosner, Trustee

Arthur L. Rice III, Trustee

Roberta A. Svacha, Trustee

CUBA  
TOWNSHIP

Township board  
meetings are held  
the second Thursday  
of each month at  
7:00 pm at the  
Township office,  
28000 W. Cuba  
Road, Barrington.  
All meetings are  
open to the public

Office hours—  
Monday—Friday  
9:00 am—3:30 pm

# Cuba News

Fall 2008

## 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 36 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 and senior RTA passes.

The Township Highway Commissioner, Tom Gooch 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 Villages of Barrington Hills, Deer Park, Lake Barrington, North Barrington and Tower Lakes. 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 and assists with early and absentee voting.

Township trustees Don Griffith, Dick Kosner, Art Rice and Roberta Svacha 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).

## Supervisor, *DAVID F. NELSON*

Recently, I have received questions about Cuba Township and what a township does. I hope the information above and elsewhere in this newsletter will be helpful in answering those questions. As your Township officials, we take our commitment to our elected positions seriously, after all, we all live in Cuba Township too! We take pride in providing quality services at a very reasonable cost to the taxpayer.

The Barrington area has a long standing history of open space and limited commercial development. There are many beautiful areas for recreation and enjoyment. No doubt, this is one reason many of us chose to live here. But, most of these spaces are tax exempt properties and therefore do not share in the tax burden placed on the other property owners in a particular taxing district. This is the price of open space. While no one likes to pay taxes, they are fundamental to the workings of your local governments and taxing bodies. So, consider the value you get for your local tax dollars with the benefit of open space and low commercial development.

I continue to work on behalf of Cuba Township and the Barrington area in the fight against the CN acquisition of the E, J & E rail line. The overwhelming response and turn out of over 5100 concerned citizens at the August 27th meeting at Barrington High School was very encouraging. It is the voice of the people that will ultimately resolve this situation and I thank all of you that came to the most recent meetings and those in the past. There is much more work to be done on this issue and I ask you to stay the course and continue as your community leaders and TRAC (The Regional Answer to Canadian National) do the same. For more information on the situation, please go to [www.fightrailcongestion.com](http://www.fightrailcongestion.com).

Cuba Township is pleased to present its annual *Fall Festival*. Saturday, October 18, 2008 is the date of the 8th annual event. From 1—4 pm, the Township offers an afternoon of fun, including pony rides, a petting zoo, food, games and live music. Located at 28160 W. Cuba Road, on Township property known as *The Grove*, the afternoon will also feature a bake sale this year. Proceeds from the bake sale will benefit the food pantry. I look forward to seeing you all there!

## 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 card 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.

**R.T.A. applications** for passes for senior citizens 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 free fare on trains and buses in the Metra system. It will be received in approximately 4 weeks. The Township will take the required photo, complete the application and mail it to the R.T.A. The photo is no charge for Township residents- \$2 for non-township residents. The R.T.A. will then mail the completed pass to you.

**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 \$6.00. Please stop in the office to sign up for this program. Proof of age is required.

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

**The Cuba Township food pantry** is available to any Township resident indicating a need. Please call the office for more information. Donations of non-perishable food 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. 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 in late October/early November and continues through the heating season. 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.

**Passport processing services** are offered at the Township office by appointment only. Processing takes up to 8 weeks. Identification (usually a driver's license) and proof of citizenship (birth certificate or naturalization papers are required.) Please call the Township office for an appointment. More details on requirements, fees and documentation are available at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

**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 siren 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. Please call Clarke's hotline at 800-942-2555 for more information.

**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 3:30 pm.

**Early and Absentee Voting** is available at the Township office prior to every election. You must be a Cuba Township resident to vote at the Township office.

**The Cuba Cares fund** is a 501 © (3) charitable fund. Monies donated to this fund are used to assist residents in need who do not qualify for other resources. After determination of need, disbursements are made to vendor to assist in maintaining self-sufficiency. Funds are available to any Township individual or family only every 12 months. All monies donated are tax deductible; the fund is administered at no expense to the Township and no taxpayer funds are used to maintain it. To make a donation or inquire about assistance, please contact the Township office. All information regarding disbursements or inquires is confidential.

**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.

Please go to [www.cubaroads.com](http://www.cubaroads.com) for services provided by the **Cuba Township Road District**. 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**.

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



## Property Taxes and the Real Estate Market

Due to the present downturn in the real estate market and the ongoing media coverage, property owners believe there has been a severe loss of market value in property values in our township. The property tax system is a complex process, and when one adds in the currently challenged real estate market, the process becomes even more difficult to understand.

Despite the reports of housing values plunging downward, foreclosures at an all time high, and homes simply not selling at seemingly any price, property taxes continue to rise. This is a very challenging concept for property owners to accept. Many homeowners must feel that our office is not properly reacting to market conditions.

The Assessor is responsible for assessing property at one-third of the fair market value. Properties are valued as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. However, the county and the state monitor assessor values so that values throughout the county and state are equitably assessed. This year our equalization factor is 4.93% which is placed on each property by the County. I have no control over this factor. The formulas that are used to measure our accuracy and equity always include consideration of actual sales over a three-year period as required by law. Therefore when our office valued properties for January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, we were obligated to look back at the sales that took place during 2007, 2006, and 2005. We are not permitted to just look at the market place that existed on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Below, is a chart of sales activity in Cuba Township for the past five years. As you can see, the market was in a rising trend during 2004, 2005, and most of 2006. But in 2007 it appeared to stabilize and so far in 2008 the **number of sales** dropped off sharply, however, the sales prices continued to be stable in 2007 but are dropping in 2008. There is no indication in our township of excessive decrease in property values as measured by the actual sales taking place. The law also does not allow our office to consider non-arms-length sales such as foreclosures.

All of this simply means that there can be no immediate reduction of assessments based on the available data and the current laws that govern the process. The data does show a definite slowdown in the local market, particularly in the **number of homes** sold. Please be assured that our office will continue to closely monitor the sales activity in the market and adjust assessments accordingly.

Most importantly, everyone should understand that regardless of what happens in the market place and even if assessments were to be reduced, **this does not mean that property taxes will go down**. Please remember that property taxes pay for local services such as schools, parks, police, fire protection, and if these local units continue to provide services and increase spending, then property taxes will continue to increase. This process was explained in my last newsletter and can be found on our website @ [www.cubatownshipassessor.com](http://www.cubatownshipassessor.com).

Please know that our office is painfully aware of the challenges being faced by those who are trying to sell their home in this very difficult market. We will continue to monitor the sale activity in our township and calculate the assessments based on that market, as measured over a 3-year period (as required by state law). For the assessment date January 1, 2009, we will look at sales in 2008, 2007, and 2006.

I hope this article helps explain the assessment process and how it relates to current housing market conditions.

YEAR	NO. OF SALES	MEDIAN SALE	AVERAGE SALE	SALES RANGE
2004	366	471,250	533,210	18,500 to 2,334,500
2005	418	460,000	611,521	122,900 to 16,500,000
2006	301	510,000	602,976	5,214 to 3,360,000
2007	232	528,750	622,721	164,000 to 2,825,000
*2008	52	482,500	548,275	170,000 to 2,600,000

\*The 2008 sales are only through May 2008.

## Highway Commissioner, *THOMAS W. GOOCH*

### Notes from the trenches.....

Actually, that's a pretty good way to start this edition. We spent a lot of time in the trenches this summer installing storm drain- as I write this we have used over 7000 feet of 12" pipe and hopefully have cured a few more drainage issues around the area. We have a lot more work to do and presently are looking at projects for next summer. I bet a lot of you have suggestions and, as always, I am happy to hear from you. I think sometime this winter we will have meetings around the various villages and with homeowner's associations in hopes that many of you will not bring feathers or tar but, will bring questions and want to meet and talk about drainage and roads with our Township engineer and me. I thought we could schedule these meetings during winter on a few Saturday mornings so I could hear from you and you could hear from me on some of these issues. If you are interested in getting your neighbors together at an association meeting or meeting here or in a local Village office, call me and let's get it scheduled for a Saturday in December or January. You bring the cookies – I like Oatmeal Raisin –.

Speaking of being in the trenches, the college work force had a pretty rugged summer between shoveling hot asphalt and digging up buried utilities. I suspect they went home tired and ready for bed....I do know they went home dirty. I came to work one morning and "the kids", as we called them, had a sign up: "welcome to the slave ship". I know deep down inside they really loved my management style. We hire local students every summer season- by and large the program has been a real success. They work from a week after school ends to 7 to 10 days before classes resume. You don't need "connections" or to bring me Oatmeal cookies to get your child hired; I have never played that game and won't. I interview following March 15 when I know who is coming back from the previous year. We accept applications any time. We generally have a work force of 12 during the summer and every year seem to hire 4-6 new kids due to graduations or non returns. So, if you have an interest in having your child too exhausted to do anything but eat and sleep most nights next summer, by all means get an application.

This year we began using a new process called "heated scarification" for re-paving. It takes the existing pavement and heats it to the melting point, injects rejuvenating chemicals into the hot asphalt and then rolls it back on the pavement. Over this we place 1 1/2" of new surface asphalt. I had been watching roads in other jurisdictions for the past 3 years where this process was used and they have held up well. This year we used it and saved about 40% over the old way of re-paving roads. With asphalt prices hitting almost 100% higher than 2 years ago, we need to continue looking for cost cutting methods like this. As you know, I administer the paving contracts not only for the Township but also for the Villages of Lake Barrington, North Barrington and Tower Lakes. In conjunction with those village boards we decided that by centralizing engineering services and administration we would save costs for all. Everyone's re-paving programs have been restricted as the result of costs, every one of us would have liked to pave more this year, but we did what budgets allow. We will continue to use innovation to get the biggest bang we can for **your** buck!

### Maintenance here at the Road District.

Gone and not fondly remembered are the days of beating a misbehaving piece of equipment into submission with a large hammer.....

I have been steadily improving our maintenance facilities and services with the intent of accomplishing two goals: first to make the road district much less dependent on outside repair facilities and secondly to create a profit center out of our maintenance facilities. This process has been ongoing over the past 2 years and I think we will be about where I would like us in another year.

One of the problems has been the loss of manpower every time a truck needed to be transported for warranty work or repair (needs a driver and one other person to bring the driver back) and the loss of use of that truck, sometimes for days depending on the work back-up at where ever the truck is taken. The down time is just as troubling, anyone running a business knows that when capital equipment is down, the efficiency and profitability of the business suffers. A governmental organization needs to be run on the same principles, this one is. So, 2 years ago we began having employees attend classes and obtain the necessary certifications to work on our international trucks. Then we got him the needed equipment to fix our trucks and other equipment. At this point I had my suspicions confirmed: a hammer is no longer used to make something work by beating it. Instead, computers are frequently used to diagnose and repair what are now known as "issues" as opposed to the "stupid #@&\*@x%#+ thing that don't work". Times do change and we will always continue to change with them.

Several good things then occurred: Amongst others, I was able to convince the manufacturers of our trucks to allow us to do our own warranty work and be paid for doing the work. Secondly, we now have the equipment to repair almost anything right here quickly and correctly and ,thirdly, every month we take in more work from other Township Road Districts and area municipalities which gets their equipment back on the road quickly and helps us amortize some of the costs for our facilities. The net winner is of course you and me as taxpayers.

### Re-cycling

Here at the Road District we continue to expand our re-cycling programs to help you rid yourselves of things like old paint cans. This program ends every year in October and doesn't resume until April- so now is the time to drop off old paint cans. If we are out working leave them by the garage doors facing Cuba Road. If someone is around, we will be happy to help unload your car. We are here from 7 to 3 Monday to Friday. The Road District office is open from 8 to 4:30 Monday to Friday, located at the farm house west of the garages.

Speaking of recycling – we hear the State Legislature has passed a bill which now awaits the Governors signature for TV recycling. This law will require manufacturers to accept for recycling at their expense analog TVs which will be replaced by many with digital next year when the new digital signals are used exclusively. We also accept TV's here so if you're replacing yours, please feel free to bring it in.

We also take computers, printers, dead mice and other parts to your outdated computer. Small appliances are welcome, as are old tires from cars and pick-ups, only.

I am organizing some re-cycling days for next year where we will bring the trucks to your neighborhoods for pick up and will update you more in the spring. I am trying to get this organized with **Lake Barrington Shores Condo President, John Schaller** for a test run this fall in LBS. Watch for further information and dates.

### Fall Festival

As you read elsewhere in this newsletter, our annual fall festival is coming on October 18<sup>th</sup> this year. It's a lot of fun and you'll get to meet and talk to me! Please do join in. I wanted to give away beer, but our insurance company thought something like nail files or balloons might be more appropriate. Seriously again – I always look forward to this event...from the leaf pile to pony rides- it's great to see the kids, young and old, having old fashioned fun and I sure look forward to seeing you there.

I am here to listen to your concerns, questions. even a complaint. The Road District is a separate organization from the Township and I am the guy to talk with regarding Road District issues. I'm easily reached at the office at 847 381 7793, on my cell at 847 951 7575 or at my home at 847 382 1224. Our website is [www.cubaroads.com](http://www.cubaroads.com), interactive– check us out. Don't be bashful.

Best regards,

Tom Gooch

### P.S. FLASH FLASH FLASH NEWS ON SALT

As we are finishing this newsletter for the printer, the media is beginning to carry stories regarding a salt shortage this winter. Undoubtedly the articles will get more spectacular as winter approaches. I want you to know that I am on top of this situation and we will have salt this winter. It's going to be more expensive, but we will have enough to keep you safe....Not sure how this problem developed other than greed of salt companies, but there is plenty of time to visit that subject....right now I want to reassure you that I have been heavily involved in the effort to secure adequate supplies for Lake and McHenry Counties and *we have secured adequate supplies*. Frankly, many of us will regard this as an opportunity to use less salt, a movement I heartily agree with.....CUBA GOES GREEN??? I will have more info for you as we get closer to winter.

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In conjunction with Secretary of State, Jesse White, Cuba Township is pleased to offer

## ***MOBILE DRIVER SERVICES DAY***

**Thursday, November 13, 2008**

**10 am to 2 pm**

**Residents can obtain:**

***Duplicate driver's license***

***Corrected driver's license***

***Illinois State ID card***

***Driver's license renewal***

Please refer to [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

Click on *Rules of the Road*

For more information on documentation and charges

# Cuba Heritage

by Barbara Benson

The elected officials of Cuba Township are pleased  
to present  
The 8th annual

# FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 18th, 1–4 pm  
28160 W. Cuba Road– The Grove  
Barrington

This fun-filled afternoon will feature pony rides, a petting zoo,  
games, hayrides, face painting, food and live music

New this year to the Fall Festival is a  
**BAKE SALE**

Your donation of home baked goods can be dropped off at  
the Township office, Friday, October 17th, 9 am to 3:30 pm.  
Items should be wrapped and labeled, with suggested  
pricing. All proceeds benefit the Cuba Township food  
pantry. Thank you for your support!

Questions– please contact the Township office  
at (847) 381-1924

In the Winter 2008 Newsletter, I had resurrected the fact that North Barrington Elementary School, before construction of the first building in 1947, was referred to as Indian Lake School. This derived from the fact that the present-day lake at Lake Barrington Shores across the road was first called Indian Lake and was a man-made entity.

My follow-up tells the story of the lake's evolution as it was unearthed by the late Andre (Dusty) Rhoads through conversations in 1985 with Leroy Miller and Charles Davlin. Davlin, grandson of a pioneer settler in the area, worked as a youngster on the Emil Miller (no relation to Leroy) farm, which covered land from Route 59, west on Miller Road (named for the family), north along the present day western edge of LBS, back across to approximately 500 yards south of the Kelsey Road intersection and south along 59 to Miller.

Charlie recalled that working around the Miller homestead he noticed that there was a natural basin in the center of the farm, and he speculated that it might hold water. So he got permission from the Millers to cut some brush, mostly willows, which he piled with slough hay and dirt at the north end of the property near what is now the LBS overflow dam. He was proven right, and soon a small lake formed about five feet in depth, fed entirely from a creek flowing in from a pond that Charlie had dug near the main entrance to LBS.

Since there are no springs in the lake, nobody thought this new body of water would make it, but a 2-inch rainfall one year, and the continuous, but often meager flow of water from the creek, established the lake. This was in the early 1920s, because until 1925, no lake appeared on early plat maps. Indian Lake was first mapped in that year.

Later, the Miller homestead was sold to G. C. Criswell of the Criswell Candy Company who added some more parcels to the farm, the property becoming his country estate. He hired a cement contractor to raise the level of the dam by five feet, and planted some 7,000 elm trees, and hundreds of spruce and pine. According to Leroy Miller (who still worked at LBS at the time of Dusty Rhoads' article,) the oaks were natural, and Charlie said that some of them were as much as 150 years old.

It was Criswell who built the stone house that stood until recent years near the Miller Road entrance, with a commanding view of the lake. When the addition was made to the dam, Criswell also built an 18-foot concrete retaining wall behind it so that there would not be any risk of the dam giving way. The initials GCC were carved into the dam at that time, often misread as CCC and leading to the mistaken theory that the dam was a project of the depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps.

Space considerations send "the rest of the story" to the next newsletter!

## **CUBA TOWNSHIP**

### **POLITICAL DISPLAYS/ SIGNS POLICY**

Cuba Township has a long tradition of keeping its facilities and property "campaign free zones" and non-partisan. This is especially important during the time of contested elections. The facilities of Cuba Township are used heavily during this time for voter registration, early voting, in-person absentee voting and as an Election Day polling place.

In addition, Cuba Township's campaign free zone tradition tends to avoid any confusion that might otherwise arise should campaign materials be posted on Township property, as Cuba Township does not endorse particular candidates or political parties.

Thus, it is the intent of the Township to maintain its non-partisan integrity by discouraging political yard signs, banner or any other displays being posted on its property on a continuous basis. Any such signs or displays within the Township buildings or left on other Township property for an extended period will be removed.

This policy is not intended to and should not be understood as intending to infringe, limit or otherwise disturb constitutional freedoms including, but not limited to, free speech. Neither is this policy intended to be and should not be understood as intending to be in any manner inconsistent with the Illinois Election Code.

This policy is effective September 1, 2008 and covers all properties owned by the Cuba Township.