

Cuba News

WINTER 2006

Supervisor, *DAVID F. NELSON*

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
9:00am—3:30 pm



Best wishes and Happy New Year to all readers of our *Cuba News*. This newsletter. I hope you will find it informative and useful.

2005 was a productive and very busy year for our General Assistance Coordinators Tanaka and Kate Formichella. They saw the Township food pantry reach a new size. The good news is the pantry's donations have *tripled!* Unemployment and many other factors play in to the reasons for an individual or family needing the pantry. Any Township resident expressing a need is eligible to receive a pantry once a month. Please contact Cheryl or Kate at the Township office if help is needed. All inquiries are kept confidential. Non-perishable food items and supplies are generally in stock due to the generous donations we have received. If you would be interested in donating to the pantry, please make note of the HAVE A HEART FOOD DRIVE, February 11, 2006. This drive will benefit both Cuba and Barrington Township pantries. More information is included inside this newsletter.



One more opportunity to assist the food pantry is through the *Shop and Share* program at Jewel-Osco stores. By using the certificate below on the designated shopping days, Jewel-Osco will contribute 7% of all purchases to the pantry in the form of Jewel-Osco gift certificates. These certificates enable us to replenish the pantry or provide certificates to pantry recipients for items not in stock. The certificate on the bottom of this page can be reproduced. Additional certificates are available for pick-up at the Township office.

Hurricane Katrina presented another opportunity for help to the General Assistance Coordinators. Cuba Township, as part of a local coalition of agencies and local governments, has been instrumental in assisting several families who located in the Township after the disaster. The Township was able to provide connections to car repair, medical services and housing. The Township has been able to act as liaison and referral to many agencies that were able to help these families get back to the normal activities of daily life. The Township is pleased to have been part of this community effort and wishes these families good luck in their recovery.

	SHOP & SHARE IDENTIFICATION SLIP													
	0130067					AMOUNT OF PURCHASE								
GROUP NUMBER					DOLLARS					CENTS				
GROUP: Cuba Township Food Pantry														
YOUR SHOP & SHARE DAYS: February 13-15 & 20-22, 2006														
SIGNATURE _____														
PLEASE SIGN THIS SLIP AND TURN IT IN TO YOUR CHECKER WHEN YOU SHOP. PARTICIPANTS CAN MAKE PURCHASES AT ANY JEWEL-OSCO ON THE DATE ABOVE. IDENTIFICATION SLIPS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN FRONT OF ANY JEWEL-OSCO.														
														

Assessor, *REBECCA M. TONIGAN*

Happy New Year – Hope all had a wonderful Holiday Season.

The 2005 assessment books were closed as of December 16, 2005. All appeals were heard and all further appeals to the State Property Tax Appeal Board are in the process of being filed. We had approximately 360 appeals at the County level (190 being from the same property), which left us with approximately 170 others. Of those 170, approximately 30-40 were from the unincorporated area that was revalued. This revalue was a necessary step to take in achieving the uniformity needed in that area of the Township because the property values in that area were very low – in some cases 50-60% low. When that happens, the tax burden is distributed amongst all other taxpayers in the district, which creates an unfair burden to the remaining property owners.

This year we will be revaluing the remainder of the Township. Preliminary figures show that some areas are in good shape, and other areas need some work. It is too early to tell which areas need the most work.

Our hope is to close the books as early as possible this year so we can get notice out to the property owners and have the option to meet with homeowners in my office to review the changes made and determine if we are missing any information. This process will hopefully be done before the publication of the assessment changes for the year so that if we find any discrepancies they can be changed before the books are published.

Please note that you may see field people in your areas. These people are there to simply verify the information we have on each property so that our information is accurate and up to date.

Cuba Heritage

By Barbara Benson

When writing about the one-room country school houses of Cuba Township for the last issue of *Cuba News*, I left out one, simply because it isn't there any more. But it was a building with an interesting history.

In the last thirty years of the 19th century, the Porter family owned acreage in the vicinity of the present Buckley and Oak Knoll Road intersection. Elliot Porter gave land on the east side of Buckley Road, just north of the present day entrance to Tudor Oaks Farm, for a schoolhouse. He, and his son Lorenzo were directors of the school, which was of typical balloon frame construction. In 1889, Ren as the son was known, hired a new teacher. Hattie Brown was the daughter of Joseph and Emaline Hawley Brown, who lived in the Octagon House on Barrington's West Main Street. This is noteworthy, because, beginning in 1889, Emaline and Hattie started writing letters, some 700 of which survived, to Hattie's sister Laura, who, after her marriage to Joseph Nightingale moved to Fairmont, Minnesota.

Those letters describe Hattie's year teaching at the Porter School, her subsequent courtship and marriage to Ren Porter in 1893. Hattie had been a substitute teacher at "the Village School", the original Hough Street School and she first had to attend a Teacher's Institute in Libertyville before taking up her post at the Porter School.

As Emaline wrote "He (Ren) hired her for the winter and spring term both, he said he would rather hire that way, they pay her thirty dollars a month the four winter months and twenty five dollars a month for two spring months, and they hire her fires built. She intends to go to the Lake County Institute."

There was the matter of where Hattie would board during the week. In your minds'eye, walk on muddy trails from the Octagon House, along Main Street to Hart Road, north to Oak Knoll, and west all the way to Buckley, then north to the school. In a letter written to Laura on October 6th, 1889, Emaline writes: "Pa got Crabtree's horse and carriage the other day, and took Hattie to see her school house, and to see about a boarding place, Mrs. Porter (Ren's mother) said she did not want to be bothered with a boarder and Mrs. Johnson said the teacher they used to have paid three dollars a week Monday till Friday night, and Hattie told her that she had never paid but two dollars, so Mrs. Johnson said that she would talk it over with her husband and let her know what they would do about it. She is delighted with the school house, it is new, has nice seats, has plenty of desks and blackboards and a nice map".

The Johnson house was on Oak Knoll Road east of Buckley, and the Porter house was on the south side of Oak Knoll, just west of Buckley. Both are still there. More information to be continued in the next newsletter.

**RULES OF THE ROAD CLASSES
SCHEDULED FOR CUBA TOWNSHIP**

In conjunction with Secretary of State, Jesse White, Cuba Township will present the *Rules of the Road* class. The class is designed as a review for anyone needing to take the written portion of the drivers' examination.

Wednesday, February 15, 2006
Wednesday, April 19, 2006
9:30 am—11:30 am
Cuba Township office
28000 W. Cuba Road
Barrington

Please call the office at **(847) 381-1924** for more information or to make a reservation. The class is offered at no charge, however a reservation is required.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH
HEATING BILLS
FOR LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS**

Cuba Township is pleased to administer 2 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 assistance to qualifying families and individuals. If accepted, the funds will be applied directly to the NICOR account. The SHARING program, offered through the Salvation Army, operates in a similar manner to LIHEAP. Each program, however, maintains different qualifying income levels. Please call the Township office at (847) 381-1924 to determine eligibility or to make an *appointment* to apply.

**BARRINGTON AREA COUNCIL ON AGING
SERVICES**

The Barrington Area Council on Aging (BACOA) is providing assistance to area seniors trying to decide which *Medicare Part D insurance* to take.

Seniors can call the office with questions; one-on-one appointments may also be available at the office at 6000 Garlands Lane, Suite 100, Barrington. Seniors can call BACOA at (847) 381-5030 for information or to schedule an appointment.

BACOA is once again offering the *AARP Income Tax Assistance Program*.

A trained AARP volunteer will assist seniors with their taxes on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 am to noon at the BACOA office at 6000 Garlands Lane, Barrington. Assistance is by appointment only and will run from February 1 through April 13th.

Appointments fill quickly, so call as early as possible to schedule an appointment. For more information, or to

MOBILE DRIVER SERVICES DAY

WHAT: MOBILE DRIVER SERVICE DAY

WHERE: CUBA TOWNSHIP OFFICE, 28000 W. CUBA ROAD, BARRINGTON

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006

TIME: 9:30—2:30

Drivers will have the opportunity to renew their drivers' license, obtain duplicate or corrected license or obtain Illinois identification cards. No written or driving test will be administered.

To renew a current drivers' license or identification card, a current valid drivers' license or identification card is required. An applicant applying for either a duplicate or corrected license or ID must present two forms of identification. To determine acceptable forms of identification and renewal fees, please call 800-252-2904 or visit the Secretary of State's website at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.



Have a Heart Food Drive

**5th Annual Food Drive to benefit Barrington and Cuba Township's food pantries
Your donations serve Barrington area residents**

Saturday, February 11, 2006

9 am—1 pm

2 drop-off locations for your convenience

Barrington Countryside Fire Station #1

440 W. Northwest Highway, Barrington

Barrington Countryside Fire Station #3

22N22 Pepper Road, Lake Barrington

Facility tours will be available

Suggested donation items

Canned fruit
Canned vegetables
Dried pasta
Peanut butter
Jelly
Laundry detergent
Toilet paper

Paper towels
Feminine hygiene products
Napkins
Cereal
Microwave popcorn
Toiletries
Canned tuna and chicken

Grocery and discount store
gift cards
Toothpaste
Snack foods— crackers, etc.
Cookies
Canned prepared meals
Fruit juice

Voter registration is also available at both drop-off locations

To be eligible to register you must:

1. Provide 2 forms of identification with your current address— one must be a photo id
2. Be 18 years of age or older on or by the next election date of March 21, 2006

Highway Commissioner, *THOMAS W. GOOCH*

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SAVE OUR SCHOOL

I THINK WE SHOULD SAVE AN OLD SCHOOL HOUSE HERE IN CUBA TOWNSHIP. Others may disagree and this is your opportunity to weigh in on the subject. **YOUR OPINION** may very well decide the issue.

On Miller Road at the corner of Kelsey Road stands the **Old Flint Creek School** complete with corner stone and name stone. This “one room style” school house was built in 1936 to replace the old wooden school which mysteriously burned down one night. It is in its original outside dimensions. The interior could easily be restored to original school room specifications or even restored to the appearance inside of the original school at Flint Lake.

Many original pioneer families attended school here both in this school house and in the previous school on this site.

It is so very important to preserve as much three dimensional history as possible. Reading is good, pictures are great but nothing does it like being able to touch and see the real thing, It would be a shame to lose this asset to the community.

The property it sits on is slated for development; a demolition permit has been issued but the community can save it. Cuba Township has “The Grove” which is the site of the first Town Meeting in 1844 and could in the future provide a lot to the community’s history. There is room on the property for the school house and we could move it here. Is this a worthwhile use of public funds? Only you have the answer to that.

I think a combination of public funds and donations is appropriate and could get the job done. We have a \$65,000.00 (plus permits) estimate from a mover to bring it here. We will need a foundation for it. After that, there is plenty of time for the community to decide how and when it should be restored.

PLEASE EMAIL ME AT: tomgooch@cubaroads.com. Let me know what you think, time is crucial on this one. No email? No problem. Call and leave a message at 847 381 7793 but, please, to be counted, leave your name and address with a phone message. You can also write to me at 28000 West Cuba Road, Barrington, Illinois 60010. Have more questions or want to get involved: My cell phone is 847 508 1201, my home number is 847 382 1224.

I think this is the kind of school my Father said he had to walk to every day. That was back when there was a blizzard every day he had to walk through, or a tornado. I think tomorrow’s children should have the opportunity to see what an education was like “back then” What do you think?

Stay Warm–

Tom Gooch

TEEN CENTER NOW OPEN

New Generations is pleased to announce the opening of its **Teen Center**. Located at 121 S. Hough Street in downtown Barrington (formerly Consolidated Music), the Teen Center is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday after school until 6pm. Teens are invited come to the center to spend time with friends, do homework, and enjoy a variety of games including air hockey and foosball. Weekend activities vary and will be posted on the door. New Generations is a not-for-profit group whose mission is to provide safe social and service opportunities for Barrington teens. For more information, please contact Theresa Mikosz, Program Director, at (847) 381-5643 or go to www.newgenerationsbarrington.org.

We're on the web-
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

Clerk, *PRISCILLA H. ROSE*

The next election is March 21, 2006. This is a primary election and will also contain local referenda .

To be eligible to vote on March 21, 2006, you must be a registered voter. The deadline to register to vote in the next election is February 21, 2006— 28 days prior to the election. To **register to vote**, you must provide 2 forms of identification, one must have your current address, and you must be 18 years of age on or before the next election. Voter registration is available at the Township office during office hours, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am—3:30 pm. Voter registration is also available on Saturday, February 18, 2006, 9:00 am—noon. *Grace period registration* permits a qualified individual to register to vote up to 14 days prior to an election. Grace period registration must be done at the Lake County Clerk's office. Those registering under the grace period that wish to vote ,must do so at the time of registration. Additionally, if you have moved or changed your name since the last election, you will need to re-register

Both early voting and absentee voting allow persons to vote prior to Election Day. Early voting became law in Illinois in August 2005, giving any voter the opportunity to vote 22 days prior to an election through the Thursday before Election Day.

As the next election is March 21, 2006, **early voting** will begin at the Township office on February 27, 2006 and continue through March 16, 2006. Voting is available during office hours of Monday through Friday, 9:00 am—3:30 pm.

Absentee voting begins Friday, March 17, 2006. Absentee voting is available to those voters who are physically unable to vote on election day or who will be absent from Lake County. Absentee voting is available March 17, 2006, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, Saturday, March 18, 2006 9:00 am to noon. and March 20, 2006, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

For more information, please contact the Township at (847) 381-1924 or the Lake County Clerk's office at (847) 377-2317 or visit their website at www.co.lake.il.us/cntyclk.