

Talk of the TownshipSM



Newsletter of Moraine Township, Illinois

Vol. 4, No. 2 - Winter 2010

Township Cemeteries: Daggitt & Mooney Do You Have a Plot Deed We Should Know About?

Moraine Township operates two historic cemeteries, Daggitt and Mooney. You may be surprised to learn that these were relatively recent acquisitions, and are not filled with paupers' graves. In fact, they each have an interesting history associated with our earliest settlers.

Daggitt Cemetery (also called Grace, sometimes Braeside, or spelled Daggett), located on Lake Cook Road near the Braeside train station, was essentially abandoned until taken over by the Township in 1996. *Mooney's Cemetery*, on Ridge near Deerfield Road, adjacent to St. Mary's Cemetery, was acquired from the family in 1960. To our knowledge, no plots remain in Daggitt, and few are known with certainty to be available in Mooney.

"No plots have been sold since my tenure began in 2005," says Supervisor Mari Barnes. "The inherited record-keeping for Mooney is chiefly on typed, undated index cards, sometimes overwritten with new notations (also undated) or contradicted by another index card (also undated) – and is simply unreliable. While previous administrations undertook surveys and made attempts to confirm grave locations and ownership, the historical development of these sites is such that it may be impossible to ever have certainty."

Mooney's deeds were recorded at the County seat in Waukegan for initial transactions in 1908 and thereafter, but if plots changed hands by being sold or given privately, that would not have made it into Township records. Our records do show that some lots sold in recent decades had to be reassigned when subsequent investigation revealed them to be already occupied.

"We would love to have the cooperation of the public who may have family deeds for Mooney, so we can update and modernize our records. We hope residents will search for and share their deeds with us – especially in advance of the need for burial someday," urges Barnes.

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Talkin' About:

- ▲ *Seeking Cemetery Documents*
- ▲ *Spotlight On Grantees*
- ▲ *Complete Count Census 2010*
- ▲ *Pantry Plants Project: After the Thaw*
- ▲ *Open House: View Remodeling & Honor Former Assessor*
- ▲ *AssessorTalk: First Hello*
- ▲ *ClerkTalk: Election Information*
- ▲ *CommunityTalk: Go Green!*
- ▲ *Meet the Staff*
- ▲ *Calendar*
- ▲ *Contact Us*

Mission

Moraine Township government administers public funds to provide responsive, efficient and compassionate services and support for residents in need.

Our boundaries include all of Highwood, most of Highland Park, and small portions of Deerfield and Lake Forest. The Township officially provides general assistance to individuals; property assessment services in the Assessor's Office; election and record-keeping functions in the Clerk's Office; and operates two cemeteries, Mooney and Daggitt, in Highland Park.



Volunteer Santa, Peter DeBellis, kept children busy while parents picked up gifts

Santa & Santullano

Generous residents of the Moraine Township community – about 400 individuals from families, organizations and classroom groups – stepped up in a challenging economic season and provided gifts for 680 children pre-school through high school in the Township's annual Phyllis Santullano Holiday Gift Drive. Gifts of donated, wrapped new clothing and toys, and grocery gift cards, were distributed to parents on December 17 and 18. Trinity Episcopal Church again donated the use of their space for this purpose. Many thanks to all involved! ■

Calendar

Moraine Township Board of Trustees
meets in the Township Office
777 Central Avenue, Highland Park
2nd Thursdays of the month at 5:00 pm
&
4th Thursdays of the month at 7:30 pm
This meeting is recorded for cablecasting.

~ Of Special Interest ~

Spotlight on Nonprofit Agencies

Agencies receiving Township grants
discuss their services & community needs
at meetings 4th Thursdays. Attend our
regular meeting in person or watch us on
Cable Channel 10
Tuesdays at 5:30 pm, Fridays at 7:00 pm

Moraine Township Grant Application
Deadline: February 1, 2010

Talk to the Township

Township Office (847) 432-3240
Supervisor (847) 432-3240
Clerk (847) 432-3240
Assessor (847) 432-2100

Van Line (847) 432-3000

Fax (847) 432-2178

Email info@morainetownship.org

Mari Barnes Super@morainetownship.org
Ellen Gussin Clerk@morainetownship.org
Patty Powers PPowers@lakecountyl.gov
Dwayne Douglas TrusteeDouglas@morainetownship.org
Bryna Gamson TrusteeGamson@morainetownship.org
Margoth Moreno TrusteeMoreno@morainetownship.org
Jackie Schechter TrusteeSchechter@morainetownship.org

<http://morainetownship.org>

SuperTalk: Mari Barnes



Happy New Year! It's a pleasure to be writing in this post-remodeling period, reporting on how well the old space works as finally reconfigured. I hope you have followed our progress with the photos on our website, or been into the office to see for yourself. Not only did we achieve our goals of making the entire office handicapped accessible, but also we are hearing from our visitors how well it suits them. People dropping off and picking up Food Pantry supplies make positive comments; clients coming in to attend to confidential needs are appreciative. Aisles throughout the back office space allow for ease of movement for our walker and cane using residents. Staff can interact privately with clients. Assessor staff and Board members have a pleasant conference room in which to hold meetings. In short, we think it is a big success – and cordially invite everyone to drop by and see us.

With that in mind, we plan an Open House on Thursday, February 11, following our regular Board of Trustees meeting, which will move up to a 4:00pm start. The Open House, from 5:00 to 7:00pm, will feature tours of the new space and an opportunity to salute Pete Koukos, who has completed his term as Assessor. Everyone is welcome, no RSVP needed.

Throughout the construction, our staff has been terrific. In the midst of everything, we handled the huge coordination task of the annual Santullano Holiday Gift Drive, and they showed their usual cooperative ways. We've redefined roles of my staff somewhat, so that now I can thank "Records Manager" Shannon Mosier and "General Assistance Manager" Paula Peddle, and our Receptionist/Van Scheduler Grizell Toledo for their very fine work! With Paula and Grizell both fluent in Spanish, communication with residents has improved.

I am also proud to tell readers that we have once more received generous funding support – \$35,000 – from the Healthcare Foundation of Highland Park to underwrite rides to medical appointments for economically disadvantaged seniors and disabled residents in our Moraine Door-to-Door paratransit van service. Thank you to the Foundation!

Our front page article and subsequent details to be found on our website about the cemeteries in our care was researched by Trustee Bryna Gamson. Thank you, Bryna! We were aware that there were myriad record-keeping issues with Mooney, especially, but Bryna's research has brought it into sharp focus, and made it clear how far back the problems go. It has also launched us on a future task to put as much of those records in order as is humanly possible from this late date, over 110 years later. We invite genealogists, historians and all interested persons to contact our office to sign up to work on this project.

We are entering the budgeting season of Township activities. The levy has been published. The Board will be considering the budget over the next two months at regular meetings, as always, open to the public. Documents are always available to the public in our office. Please make an appointment so we can assist you.

One aspect of budgeting is the direct funding support we give to various nonprofit agencies serving Township residents. Last year, we allocated \$120,000 to this important function. The Citizen Grant Advisory Committee will be reading and discussing grant applications during February and March. We expect their recommendations to the full Board by the end of March. I have appointed Trustee Jackie Schechter to join Trustee Gamson as liaison to

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Township Grants to Health, Homeless, More Spotlight on Grantee Organizations

In past issues, we have highlighted the work of several of our twenty-some grantee organizations, from childcare to mental health to crisis intervention groups, and those serving persons with disabilities. Here is an eclectic mix of other nonprofit agencies serving Moraine Township residents, recommended for funding by our Citizen Grant Advisors.

Cancer Wellness Center, Links and PADS have been repeatedly funded by Moraine Township. Each group has a very different mission from the others, but they have several aspects in common: they are well-run organizations, responsive to constituent needs, have evolved programmatically to meet those needs and use volunteers effectively.

Cancer Wellness Center, “through psychosocial support and education, empowers those affected by cancer to enhance the quality of their lives.” Founded in 1989, their programs now include counseling; educational outreach; and wellness programs – all provided free of charge. Bilingual services have been added to professional staff. The Board of Trustees approved the recommended full funding of their requested \$2,500 last year.

Links has been a provider of youth health services and information since 1973. Located in Northfield, they provide low cost confidential counseling/support and medical clinics for teens, with the goal of helping them make informed, healthy lifestyle choices. They serve LGBTQ young people in their Pride Youth program, and mentor teen parents. Links is invited to local schools, giving effective presentations on topics ranging from substance abuse to date rape and more. Links received the full \$5,000, which is 1% of their operating budget.

PADS has been the only agency dealing with homelessness in Lake County. Their programs have evolved to not only provide overnight shelter and food, but also a daytime drop-in location, and transitional housing. They received the full \$3,000 requested to fund their Family Center, providing a safe environment with semiprivate sleeping areas, meals, tutors, and self-help groups all year long for families working to find permanent shelter.

The Township also funded another group, Interfaith Housing of the North Shore’s Homesharing Program with \$1,500.

Learn more about each of the nonprofit agencies funded in FY09 by linking to their websites from ours under “Links.” Proposals for FY10 will be reviewed after February 1. ■

Catch us on Cable!

Board of Trustee meetings held on 4th Thursdays of the month are recorded. These meetings include reports on community needs from our grantee agencies and all public business.

Shown on Cable Channel 10, Tuesdays at 5:30 pm and Fridays at 7:00 pm

SuperTalk...continued from page 2

this group. Harry Crane is the new Chair.

The Latino Advisory Committee is working on a new brochure in Spanish, and discussing ways to improve communication with residents. Trustees Dwayne Douglas and Margoth Moreno are the liaisons to that group. Paul Martinez from Highwood is the Chair.

It’s been a busy but rewarding six months. Keep updated by attending meetings or via our website until we publish *Talk of the Township* again in June. ■

CommunityTalk Going Green In Highwood

The City of Highwood announced in September that it is providing 300 rain barrels for residents, businesses and municipal buildings free of charge.

Use of rain barrels helps to save money and energy by reducing tap water demand for things such as watering gardens. Rain barrel use also helps reduce runoff volume.

The City partnered with State Sen. Susan Garrett and Coca-Cola to create the rain barrel project. Barrels are recycled Coca-Cola syrup drums. In addition to providing them, the company is providing manpower and funding to help convert them to rain barrels. Students in Highland Park High School’s Green Initiative Club will assist City staff with the assembly, delivery and installation of the rain barrels.

As a partner in the Highland Park community-wide Green Initiatives Alliance, Moraine Township salutes Highwood for its initiative, for bringing attention and solutions to problems of the environment. ■

Talk of the Township

Moraine Township is pleased to communicate with residents about Township business. We hope this periodic publication will foster our goal to keep the public fully informed about Township services and activities.

- Supervisor Mari A. Barnes
- Clerk Ellen S. Gussin
- Assessor Patty A. Powers
- Trustee Dwayne Douglas
- Trustee Bryna G. Gamson
- Trustee Margoth K. Moreno
- Trustee Jackie B. Schechter

Consult our website for timely information, including Agendas, Meeting Minutes, links to related information and on-line versions of *Talk of the Township*.



<http://moraintownship.org>

Meet the Staff: Shannon Mosier Records Manager

One of the people behind the pleasant voices on the telephone at the Township Office is Shannon Mosier.



Shannon was hired as our bookkeeper, but has quickly proven herself to be a valuable asset in several spheres that fall under record-keeping – and so it is that she is now “Records Manager.”

Shannon does indeed keep the financial books, working with our accountant and assisting the Supervisor with budgets, payroll, grants and other bill paying functions, including General & Emergency Assistance bills. She also assists our Clerk with records, is a Voter Registrar, and helps the public who come in for RTA passes and notary needs. Shannon has been assigned responsibility for the cemetery records.

“I enjoy helping people,” says Shannon, “and this job allows me to interface with the public in a positive way, to make a difference. I really like helping to provide our variety of services.”

A resident of Wildwood since 1956, Shannon graduated locally from Trinity College with a BA degree in Interpersonal and Group Dynamics. Her interests include enjoying nine nieces and nephews; listening to books on tape; doing accounted cross-stitching (a form of needlepoint); and walking in our forest preserves. Shannon worked for the Lake County Public Guardian for 14 years, assisting in a variety of legal and record-keeping tasks. Earlier, she also worked as a key punch “computer” operator.

Preserving records from a genealogical perspective is another big interest, says Shannon, so she is enjoying working with our historic cemetery records. ■

Township Cemeteries...continued from page 1

There have been burials at Mooney in the last few years. These have gone smoothly when, happily, their deeds match our files. However, the time has come to explore with modern instruments where plots are occupied and where they are not. Tombstones seem to have been placed randomly, at the head or foot of graves, and only approximately on the grave being marked – and possibly stolen or tampered with over the decades by vandals. Locating a plot without exact documentation caused some confusion as recently as last year.

The Township will be engaging in an exhaustive documentation project beginning this Spring. In the meantime, we have begun the fascinating exploration of the history of these cemeteries from their pioneer days, and will be posting on our website as much documentation as can be made electronic. What follows is a sketch about Mooney to whet your appetite. Many thanks to Julia Johnas, Highland Park Public Library; Marc Brogan, Lake County Recorder of Deeds Chief Deputy; and Sheila Platt, a Moraine Township Deputy Assessor. Appreciation to the late Marvyn Wittelle whose 1958 *Pioneer to Commuter: The Story of Highland Park*, published by Rotary, set the stage, along with IC Church’s 1946 *Centennial Program*, and an undated (circa 1899) oral history account transcribed by Jesse Lowe Smith. Another source is John Halsey’s *History of Lake County* (1912).

A Brief History of Mooney’s Cemetery

The Mooney’s Cemetery story begins in about 1846, when early Catholic pioneer settlers, including Irish immigrant James Mooney, built a little log church along Military – now Greenbay – Road in Highland Park. By 1853, they had vacated that land to the new railroad right-of-way, and moved their St. Mary’s of the Woods church to a 4-acre donated property near what is now Lincoln Avenue at Greenbay Road. (For reference purposes, our township was established in 1850.) That property gradually added a cemetery in the churchyard. About 1872, the church moved again, eventually becoming Immaculate Conception Church at its present location. The abandoned former log church and cemetery grounds fell into disrepair, and by 1899, the property reverted to its original owners, who sold it for development. Bodies had to be removed, and Jim Mooney’s son, John, took his family’s remains and allowed others to remove theirs to a section of his land on Ridge Road. One account describes a confusing disarray in the old churchyard: “tumble-down marble slabs; some with wooden crosses; many unmarked; many more untenanted; all neglected....” Not surprisingly, the removal process was “incomplete” – since graves were reportedly found during subsequent development excavations on Greenbay Road in 1909. Some accounts say that John Mooney allowed those graves to also be moved to his property.

On record with the Lake County Recorder of Deeds is a 1904 Quit Claim document showing John Mooney’s transfer of cemetery property to the Catholic Bishop of Chicago. A 1907 plat on file was officially surveyed as *Mooney’s Cemetery*. A *St. Mary’s Cemetery* plat obtained from the Chicago Archdiocese office is dated 1908: John Mooney donated a portion of his property to St. Mary’s and the remainder was reserved as a private cemetery.

More evidence of the inexact record-keeping appears in a later account. An August 9, 1951 article about Mooney’s Cemetery by Evelyn Lauter published in the *Highland Park News* reports an array of “old tomb stones [which had] come along with the original bodies and all along the west side of the place today may be found the moldering markers.”

Even the spelling of names varies in the historical record. In her article, Lauter goes on to update the contemporaneous local Mooney family history by identifying John as the “father of the present Mooney family whose homestead was on the site of today’s Sunset

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ClerkTalk: Ellen Gussin New Year, More Progress

Each New Year brings us a fresh start. I'm pleased to report that physical office renovations just completed offer greater operational efficiency, increased privacy for meetings with clients on sensitive issues, and, at last, meet code requirements such as handicapped access. I urge every reader to plan a visit to our office, sit in on a meeting, or consult our web pages for detailed information and direct links to the many resources we provide,

including our meeting schedules and election information provided by Lake County.

Voter Services Thrive in Moraine Township

The Primary Election of February 2 is upon us now. Hoping that you exercise your vote in the Primary, I can assure you that we will all be reading and listening to much more election news in the months leading up to the November 2 General Election. All of the voter services highlighted in this column will serve you in both elections. Because of the great number of voters casting their vote prior to Election Day, the number of polling sites has been reduced, yielding greater efficiency and cost savings. A complete Election Calendar is available at <http://morainetownship.org> and linking to the Clerk page, or at <http://lakecountyiil.gov/CountyClerk/Elections/default.htm>. Locations for Early Voting for each of the four municipalities in Moraine Township are also noted on the Township's website via Clerk page.

Voting By Mail - And NEW "Permanent" Vote By Mail

Illinois law now permits any registered voter to receive a ballot by mail. One-time requests for a ballot can be made via a form provided online at the County Clerk's website, as above; by email at VotingByMail@lakecountyiil.gov; or by calling (847) 377-2406.

For voters who prefer to vote from home, the Lake County Clerk's Office offers a new *permanent voting by mail* program. I've used it myself and find it extraordinarily easy and helpful. Enrollment forms are available online from the County Clerk's Office. Permanent voting by mail helps reduce increased printing costs. As required by state law, voting by mail requests cannot be processed until 40 days prior to each Election Day (or later, subject to final certification of candidates by the State Board of Elections). Ballots cannot be mailed any later than the Thursday before an election. Please note: voters requesting a ballot prior to Election Day are not entitled to cast a ballot on Election Day.

Snowbird Program

Voters who travel seasonally can enroll in the Snowbird Program and specify elections and an alternate address to which a ballot should be mailed. Those enrolled will automatically receive a ballot by mail as specified.

Student Program

The Temporarily Absent Student Program is available to students away at school. A student must be a registered voter in order to enroll in the program. Use the fillable online enrollment form which can be printed, signed and mailed to the County. Enrollment is valid for two years and each summer the County office confirms the student address for the coming year away at school.

Calling All Students!

Become An Election Judge

- *be a citizen of the United States;*
- *be a high school junior or senior in good standing or a student enrolled in a Lake County public, community college or private secondary school;*
- *have a cumulative grade point average equivalent to at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;*
- *have the written approval of the principal of the secondary school attended at the time of appointment;*
- *have the written approval of parent or legal guardian;*
- *have satisfactorily completed the training course for judges of election.*

I invite all students to give this job some serious thought.

Voter Registration

Voter Registration will resume immediately following the Primary Election, available Monday through Friday at the Moraine Township Office during regular business hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm. To register to vote, bring two forms of identification — one with your name and current address. You must be a United States citizen, 18 years old by the next election (a 17-year-old can register as long as his/her birthday is on or before the date of the next election) and have resided in the voting precinct for 30 days prior to the next election.

The voter identification card is your official source document for determining where to vote. Your polling place is determined by your precinct number and is listed on your voter registration card. Polling place locations, addresses, as well as maps, are also available online.

Questions and Concerns

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to email (see page 2) or call (847)432-3240. ■

Pantry Plants Garden Project Committee Plans for 2010

Community volunteers recruited by Sam Piro and also organized by lead gardener Fern Anderson closed out a successful Pantry Plants Garden Project last fall, and have already begun plans for next year.

Appearing before the Board at the January 14 meeting, Sam and Fern laid out their plans for improving garden productivity, but also adjusting its scope to include collaboration with the beneficiaries of its produce. Sam and Fern strongly believe, and the Board concurred, that Food Pantry clients could benefit from the satisfaction of working on their own plots with the assistance of volunteer gardeners. Residents who love to garden but are physically unable, can also benefit by partnering with clients as “garden buddies.” Ways of helping include giving rides to the site at Woodridge Park, teaching gardening tips, and getting to know one another as human beings.

“We really feel people should be invested in their own well-being, and that by being responsible for a particular plot, they can have a sense of ownership and pride. We’d like to increase the sense of community, and assist them,” said Piro.

An opening drive for workers is scheduled for March. Planting begins in April. ■

Please! Check with the Township

before bringing in a donation of food or clothing. Unfortunately, some things simply aren't useful to those we serve, and might be put to better use elsewhere. Call (847) 432-3240. Thanks!

AssessorTalk: Patty Powers New Assessor, New Trends



The start of a new year is also the start of my term of office as your new Moraine Township Assessor. Thank you to the voters of this township for giving me the opportunity. I have been with the Assessor’s Office for twelve years and have worked with three previous Assessors. I hope my experience and knowledge of the assessment process will benefit homeowners and be useful to staff under my management.

Peter Koukos completed his four year term as Assessor at the end of December. He was a great boss and friend and we will all miss having Pete at the office. (Luckily Dairy Queen is just up the street so we know where to find him for dessert.) As with every public office Pete has held, he served his term with a focus on treating the public with open and honest answers and being sure all were treated with fairness and respect. This commitment is also my focus as incoming Assessor.

New Trend

A new trend for the Assessor’s Office is *negative* equalization factors. Because state law mandates using the three previous years of sales to determine a market value, assessments tend to lag behind actual market values. Just as assessments were often lower than market value in the “boom” years, assessments also don’t react in a downward fashion as quickly as the market can. The market decline that began at the end of 2007 is now being recognized in the assessments. The 2009 negative equalization factor of .99 (or -1%) was the result of the sales vs. the level of assessment for the years 2006-2008. Now that the 2006 sales will be dropping off the books and the 2009 sales added, we should again be seeing a negative equalization factor for 2010. Years 2004-2008 saw equalization factors between +1.8% and +9.87%. The Chief County Assessment Officer/CCAO has the final say on assessed valuations as he views the entire County picture. This trend to negative equalization factors means any multipliers applied by the CCAO to our valuations should be lowered rather than raised this year.

Take Advantage of Exemptions, Update Property Records

We know each year that homeowners who might be due tax exemptions have failed to take advantage of them by applying. Be sure to check into all tax exemptions you may be entitled to. You will find a list on our website at <http://morainetownship.org/assessor.html> and further links to the County’s information. Our office is happy to assist you with any of these applications. See the sidebar for examples of the exemptions available.

We also occasionally find, when a homeowner is visiting our office, that there is an old error carried on their “property record card.” Our office does its best to ensure accurate information; however, errors still occur over the years. We urge every homeowner to review their property record card either in person at our office or online at the County’s site to be sure that the physical characteristics are correct. (You can link to the County site via our Assessor page.) If we find an error, we will be happy to visit the property and correct our files.

Deadlines Always Loom

We hope to again close our books in August this year. An early close means we can wrap up appeal hearings before year-end which allows us added time to prepare for the next General

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AssessorTalk...continued from page 6

Reassessment, previously known as the "Quadrennial." 2011 is our next General Reassessment year. This is the time when we take a closer examination of the Township and the sales that occur neighborhood by neighborhood.

Please remember that at the time your tax bill arrives in May, it is too late to address any changes in your assessed value. Your next opportunity will be in the late summer/early fall when Property Assessment Notices are mailed and published in the *Highland Park News*. The only time the entire Township is published is in a General Reassessment year. In all other years, the properties published are only those that have had some change other than the equalization factor.

You may have noticed that the Property Assessment Notice was not a blue postcard this year, but rather a full letter sized paper mailed in an envelope from the CCAO. This new assessment notice is meant to give homeowners more information about their assessments.

While we have yet to establish a target date for turning our books over to the Chief County Assessment Office, make a note to check with us in July so that you don't miss the thirty day window to file your appeal for tax year 2010. ■



above: Supervisor Mari Barnes congratulates Assessor Patty Powers



right: Clerk Ellen Gussin congratulates future Assessor after completing swearing-in at last Board meeting of 2009

Assessor Powers holds flowers brought by her family

December 10, 2009

Exemptions for 2010

- General Homestead Limited \$6,000
- Senior Homestead \$4,000
- Homestead Improvement (up to) \$25,000 Assessed / \$75,000 Market
- Senior Freeze Income (Total Household) \$55,000
- Disabled Veteran's Exemption \$70,000 Assessed
- Senior Tax Deferral Income \$50,000
- Disabled Person's Homestead Exemption \$2,000
- Returning Veteran's Homestead Exemption \$5,000
- Disabled Veteran's Standard Homestead Exemption \$5,000 (min. 75% disability) or \$2,000 (min. 50% disability, but less than 75%)

Do you turn 65 this year? Don't miss out on applying in time for any exemptions you might be entitled to.

Call our office at (847) 432-2100!

A vast amount of information is readily available online on the Lake County website.

For property information, go directly to the Chief County Assessment Officer's homepage at

<http://lakecountyil.gov/assessor/default.htm>

or link to it from ours at <http://morainetownship.org/assessor.html>

Census 2010: Be Certain You Count!

Census Day is April 1, but it is no April Fool's joke if we don't make every effort to be counted in full! *Population counts* in matters of Congressional seats, and other government financial distributions based on population. We urge all residents to spend the few minutes it takes to fill out the confidential 10-question Census forms being mailed in March. They even come in a postage paid envelope. If you will be away, please be certain your mail is forwarded. Applications are provided in Spanish and English, so we hope every resident finds it as easy as the U.S. Census Bureau has planned. Our website has links to online information. Make a difference! Be counted! ■

Talk Back/Volunteer

We welcome feedback on any or all of our programs in Moraine Township. If you have a comment or question about something you've read in this issue of *Talk of the Township*, contact the Supervisor's Office at (847) 432-3240 or email Super@morainetownship.org.

If you are interested in joining our efforts in public service – for brief or on-going tasks – also contact the Supervisor's Office. We are always looking for volunteers to serve on Citizen Advisory Committees, in the following or other developing *ad hoc* capacities:

- Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
- Grant Advisory Committee
- Latino Advisory Committee
- Pantry Plants Garden Project
- Senior Services
- Township Cemetery History
- Transportation



Moraine Township
777 Central Avenue
Highland Park IL 60035
ph 847.432.3240 • fx 847.432.2178
Van Reservations 847.432.3000
Assessor's Office 847.432.2100
email info@morainetownship.org
http://morainetownship.org

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Permit No. 31
Highland Park IL

Cemeteries...continued from page 4

Park Golf club. A son, Thomas, died last February [1951] at the age of 82 in his home on... N Ridge Road, near the cemetery. Mrs. Mooney, who today acts as sexton for the burial ground, is the former Cecelia [sic] Zahnle....”

Nine years later, in 1960, an elderly Cecilia Mooney deeded Mooney's Cemetery to the care of Deerfield Township, now called Moraine.

An article by Sandi Wisenberg published in the *Highland Park News* on October 25, 1979 contains revealing observations from Bob Hinkey, identified as a local funeral director and then-sexton for St. Mary's and Mooney's. Wisenberg wrote: “No complete map exists locating each grave, so a special rod is used to determine if a vault is below the intended gravesite. In winter it takes all day to locate a grave.

‘It's really a problem,’ Hinkey said [in 1979]. ‘People are buried in here and we don't know who they are.’”

Each generation, it is said, “discovers” anew their own history. Moraine Township would like to record that history as accurately and completely as possible. We invite our readers to add their family reminiscences and records to ours. Then, check out our website for the complete story – such as is known and as it develops – of Mooney/Mooney's and Daggitt/Daggett/Grace/Braeside Cemetery. Add your knowledge to ours, for the record! ■

Calendar Notes

Open House: Farewell to Pete Koukos & View Remodel

Come see us on Thursday, February 11! The Regular Meeting will start at 4:00pm, and from 5:00-7:00pm, Moraine Township will have an Open House to honor retired Assessor Pete Koukos, and hold tours of our remodeled offices. Everyone is welcome!

JobTalk: Plans with Career Resource Center, City of HP

Moraine Township, in cooperation with the Career Resource Center and the City of Highland Park, will be presenting LinkedIn Vice President Mike Gamson addressing expanding business opportunities and employment enhancement techniques in a brown bag lunch talk this Spring. Look for details of this free talk on our website. ■