



## Beecher Community Calendar App the “Go-To” Place to Find Community Information!

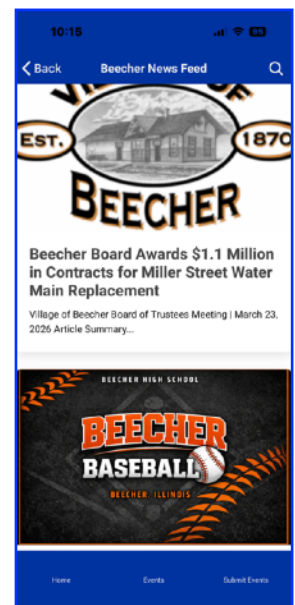
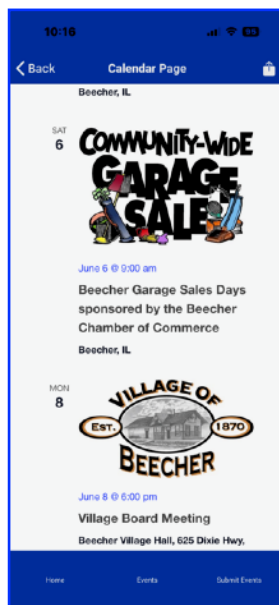
In 2024, Washington Township launched the Beecher Community calendar app to give residents a quick and easy way to see what events and other activities were happening on any given day by just looking at their phone.

The free phone application stays current by “pointing” to local websites and pull events directly from their website calendar. The app currently is pulling information from Washington Township, the Beecher Fire Protection District, Beecher Library, Village of Beecher, and the Beecher School District. It also includes events such as; community dinners (church / school dinners, fish fries, chili contests, etc.), health events, concerts, Farmers Markets, plays, special presentations, car shows, and promotions benefiting local non-profit groups and many other programs. Keep forgetting when recycle day is in Beecher? Just check the app. Do you have kids in school? The app lists sports events, Board meetings and scheduled days off and breaks.

The app’s newest feature is a “Local News” page! Using AI technology, the app finds and summarizes articles from meetings from the Beecher Library District, Village of Beecher, Beecher Police Department, Beecher Fire Protection District, Washington Township and the Beecher School District 200U (Including sports events). In addition, there is a section dedicated to Will County Board meetings and other news. Don’t waste time scrolling through multiple Facebook pages or websites, just check your phone.

The screen shots below show various sections of the app. Don’t have the app? Download it today and stay current with your local news and events!

If your business or organization would like their community event on the calendar, you can either use the “Submit Event” feature on the app or just email your flier / brochure to [clerk@washingtontownshipil.com](mailto:clerk@washingtontownshipil.com) and we’ll add it to the calendar! Community events are defined as a FREE event that would be suitable for all ages to attend and/or senior and youth only events. **Download the app at Google Apps or the Apple App store!**



**From Supervisor Mike Stanula**

I hope this issue of the Washington Township Spring Newsletter finds you and your loved ones happy and healthy. Please read through this issue of your newsletter; the next few months are going to be very busy, and I don't want anyone to miss out. Here is a fun fact! Did you know that our are was once named Washington Center before being changed to Beecher?

Speaking of history, you most likely have seen hints of what is coming July 4, 2026. America's 250th anniversary, known as the Semi-quincentennial, marking a historic milestone that goes far beyond celebration. It represents 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 for our still young democracy. A moment that established the United States as a nation founded on ideals of liberty, equality and self-governance. Reflecting on this anniversary offers an opportunity not only to honor the past but also to evaluate the present and envision the future. This nation has experienced profound challenges, including wars, social movements, economic upheavals, and political transformations. America's 250th anniversary is not just about looking back- it's about looking ahead. It is time to reaffirm and strengthen civic and humanitarian participation. Become involved. Be a voice. Reach out to your neighbor. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, of which the Village of Beecher is currently named for, once said "The Philosophy of one century is the common sense of the next"

***Because it's one of the things that make Beecher a Great place to be!***

**Getting Around Town with Washington Township Dial-a-Ride**

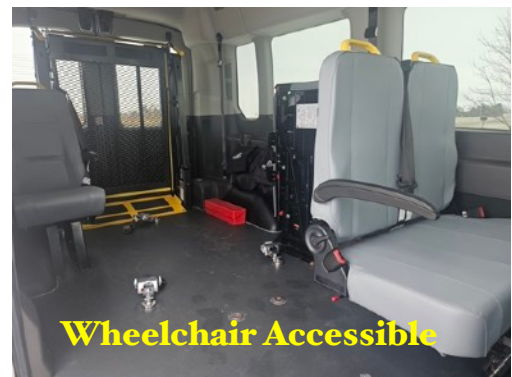
Warmer temperatures are just around the corner, making now a great time to get out and about town. Washington Township's Dial-a-Ride program serves disabled residents and senior citizens that live within Washington Township.

Whether you are looking for a ride to run errands or to visit with friends or relatives, Dial-a-Ride is a safe and convenient way to get around the Township. The bus operates Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM (with the last pickup at 2:00). The Township bus is equipped with a wheelchair lift and four-point restraint system to serve our disabled residents. We also provide curb to curb service for all our riders.

New this year, we are offering transportation to shopping centers in Crete. Trips to Crete will be available on the third Thursday of each month. We will be dropping off at Berkot's plaza on Exchange and Kohl's plaza located off IL 394. Stores at these plazas include Ace Hardware, Veld Vision Center (Optometry), Berkot's Super Foods and Kohl's. Dining options include Culver's, Starbucks, and Taco Bell.

Pickup for out-of-township trips to Crete will start at 10:15AM. The bus will head back to the Township at approximately noon. Please reserve at least 24 hours in advance as seating is limited.

For any rides, we ask that you please call to make a reservation for your pickup. Advanced notice (at least 24 hours) helps to ensure that all our riders can get to their destinations in a timely manner. A suggested donation of \$2 per one-way trip is encouraged. For questions about Dial-a-Ride or to schedule your trip, contact Washington Township at 946-2026.



**Looking for a Ride Out of Town?**

In addition to our Township bus program, Will County offers bus service within the county and surrounding areas through "Access Will County Dial-a-Ride". Registered Will County residents can ride anywhere within Will County, one mile outside of the county border, and to portions of southern Cook County with this program. These rides are available to disabled residents and senior citizens within Will County. If you would like to sign up for this transportation service, contact Washington Township to get registered. Registration must be completed before you schedule your first ride. For more information on Will-Ride, contact Will County's executive office at 815-774-6346.

## Update on Regional Hospital Changes and Potential Impacts to Emergency Services

The Beecher Fire Protection District has received numerous questions from residents following the November 2024 Chicago Tribune article outlining the future plans for Franciscan Health Dyer Hospital (formerly St. Margaret Mercy South). Over the past year, District leadership has closely monitored this evolving situation to better understand how regional healthcare changes may affect emergency services within our community.

After months of outreach, our administration met on February 27, 2026, with Franciscan Health senior leadership, including President and CEO Raymond Grady and Chief Operating Officer Sean Leahy. The discussion provided important clarity regarding the hospital's long-term plans and allowed both organizations to share information about community needs.



Franciscan Health officials confirmed that Franciscan Dyer will transition to a specialized behavioral health campus in late 2027, with full implementation expected by early 2028. This change is largely driven by the rapidly growing mental health crisis in Lake County, Indiana, and the need to expand inpatient behavioral health services. As part of this transition:

- The current emergency department will be converted to an Express Care clinic
- A dedicated behavioral health intake department will be established
- The hospital will no longer accept ambulances transporting high-acuity medical emergencies or traumatic injuries once the transition is complete

To offset this change, Franciscan Health is currently expanding services at Franciscan Munster. Once construction is complete, the Munster campus is expected to serve as the primary receiving hospital for high-acuity ambulance transports throughout the region.

These developments follow several significant regional healthcare changes in recent years:

- St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights closed in 2018
- Franciscan Health Hammond (formerly St. Margaret Mercy North) closed in 2022
- Munster Community Hospital withdrew from the Region 7 EMS System in 2023
- Prime St. Mary's in Kankakee closed its OB department in 2023 and lost Level II Trauma status

Each of these changes has increased the demand placed on remaining hospitals and ambulance providers across the region.

### **What This Means for Beecher Residents**

Currently, Beecher Fire Protection District ambulances transport patients to several hospitals depending on the patient's condition, including Franciscan Dyer, Franciscan Olympia Fields, Riverside Medical Center, Prime St. Mary's in Kankakee, Franciscan Munster, and Franciscan Crown Point.

Presently, when a patient is transported to Franciscan Dyer, the average total time an ambulance is committed—from dispatch until returning to Beecher—is approximately 1 hour and 50 minutes.

Once Franciscan Dyer no longer accepts emergency ambulance transports, ambulances will be required to travel greater distances to reach appropriate hospitals. This is expected to increase total call times to 2½ to 3 hours per incident.

Extended transport times significantly affect our emergency response capabilities. The Beecher Fire Protection District staffs between four and five responders per day. Daily staffing consists of one full-time lieutenant/paramedic and one contract firefighter/paramedic, supplemented by up to three part-time firefighter/paramedics and/or EMT-Basics.

***Continued on next page.....***

**Update on Regional Hospital Changes and Potential Impacts to Emergency Services (cont)**

When an ambulance transports a patient, it typically commits approximately 50% of on-duty personnel to that incident.

Longer transport times mean:

- Ambulances and personnel remain unavailable for longer periods
- Increased strain on remaining on-duty crews
- Greater reliance on neighboring departments for mutual aid
- Potential delays during multiple simultaneous emergencies



Currently, the District experiences overlapping or back-to-back emergency calls approximately 16% of the time, and this trend continues to rise. Reliance on neighboring communities for mutual aid may become more difficult, as they are experiencing similar challenges due to longer hospital transport times.

**Our Commitment to the Community**

The purpose of this update is to keep residents informed — not to cause alarm. Transparency is a responsibility we take seriously, and we believe our community deserves to understand the challenges that may affect emergency services in the coming years.

Beecher Fire Protection District leadership will continue working closely with healthcare partners and government officials to monitor developments and plan accordingly.

We are also actively pursuing state and federal grant opportunities to support additional staffing and resources; however, these funding programs are highly competitive and limited.

Our mission remains unchanged: protecting the lives and safety of the Beecher community with professionalism, preparedness, and compassion.

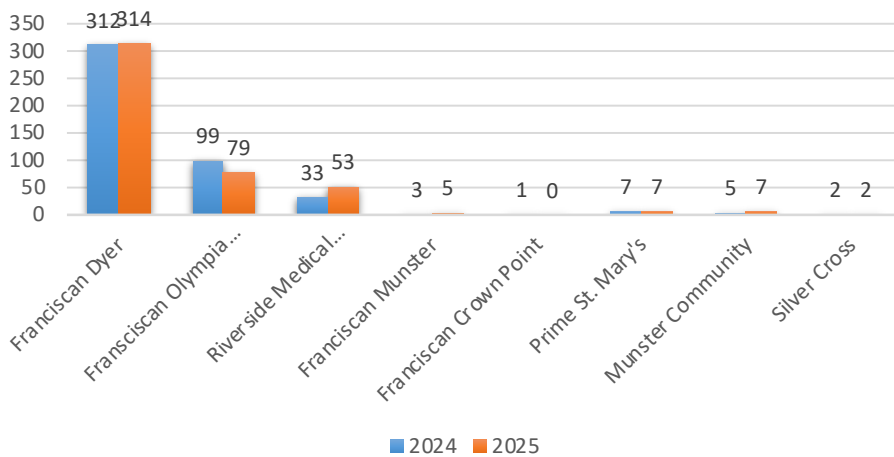
Further updates will be shared as new information becomes available.

Yours in service,

Joseph M Falaschetti Jr - Fire Chief

(Thank You Chief Falaschetti for providing this valuable information!)

**BFPD Ambulance Transports (2024-2025)**



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 606 GOULD ST., BEECHER, IL 60401  
 (708) 584-6020

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# Washington Township Senior News

## Take Me Out to the Ball Game Bus Trips!

- **June 16 @ 6:35 PM - Joliet Slammers Baseball - Free transportation plus food! Tickets \$15**
- **July 7 @ 6:40 PM- Chicago White Sox vs. Boston Italian-Heritage Night & \$5 Night! Tickets \$20 & include transportation.**



Tickets are limited to both games! Call us at 708-946-2026 for more information or to reserve your tickets! Bus leaves at 4:45 PM for BOTH games!

## SENIOR MOVIE NIGHT

May 6 @ 6:30 PM



### “Song Sung Blue”

*Starring Hugh Jackman & Kate Hudson*

Washington Township Center  
Refreshments will be served.

*Bring a friend!*



## Important dates for our Seniors:

**May 6 - 6:30 PM**

Senior Movie Night - Come and watch “**Song Sung Blue**” with us. Refreshments will be served!

**May 28- 10AM - 2PM**

Senior Assessment Freeze Assistance Program (page 5)

**June 17 - 6:30 PM**

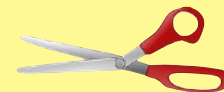
Senior Movie Night - Come and watch “**Solo Mix**” with us! Refreshments will be served!

**Aug 1 - 9 AM**

4th Annual Community Blood Drive & Health Fair / featuring IL Lions Club Hearing Screenings. (This event is for ALL ages of the community!) “Back To School” Supplies giveaway!

**Sep 16 - 6:30 PM**

Senior Movie Night - Come and watch “**Nuremberg**” with us! Refreshments will be served!



## Beware of IRS Phone Scams

With the **2025** tax season nearly over, the IRS reminds seniors to remain alert to aggressive and threatening phone calls by criminals impersonating IRS agents. The callers claim to be IRS employees and sound very convincing but are **NOT**.

**The truth is the IRS or its authorized agencies will NEVER:**

- **Call** to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. The IRS does not use these methods for tax payments. Generally, the IRS will first mail a bill to any taxpayer who owes taxes.
- **Threaten** to immediately bring in local police or other law enforcement groups to have the taxpayer arrested for not paying.
- **Demand** that taxes be paid without giving the taxpayer the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed.
- **Ask** for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

**If you ever receive one of these calls, REMEMBER:  
Never give out personal information and hang-up immediately!**

## Turning 65 Soon?

*You are automatically eligible for the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption. See page 6 for the details!*

## Seniors, do you need a ride within Washington Township?

**The Washington Township Dial-A-Ride bus is now running Monday & Thursday between 9 am - 3pm!**

**Call our office at (708) 946-2026 for more information.**

**Exemption Event Offered on May 28**

Washington Township Assessor Pat Peters has announced that the Will County Supervisor of Assessments will be offering assistance to Washington Township residents on **May 28 from 10 am to 2 pm** to assist seniors in completing their exemption forms. County workers will be assisting with the application process. **No appointments are necessary - first come first serve.**

Disabled persons exemptions are also renewable at this time. If you have already received your senior freeze assessment application or if you have not received a form and feel that you qualify, we encourage you to visit the township center for assistance.

**Are you eligible for a tax exemption?**

There are many exemptions that you may qualify for! Call Assessor Peter's office if you qualify for any of the exemptions listed below.

**General Homestead Exemption**

- Do you live on the property, a named owner on the deed, and it is your principal residence? You qualify! This exemption is added and removed by our office, there is no form. ALWAYS check your property tax bill to make sure you have it if you qualify.

**Disabled Person Exemption**

- Are you collecting disability? You qualify! Please bring in the proof of disability or come to the office to get the form for the doctor to fill out for the proof and we will assist you with the exemption form.

**Senior Homestead Exemption**

- Do you turn 65 this year and a named owner on the deed? You qualify! Bring in your drivers license or ID for proof of age and we will assist you in the application.

**Senior Freeze Exemption**

- Are you 65 and have a total household income of less than **\$75,000**? You qualify! Bring in your current "Federal" income tax form and/or any forms you would normally take to have your income taxes done. If you meet the filing requirements, we will have the forms in our office after April 1st and can assist you in filling out the form.

**Disabled Veteran**

- Are you a Veteran with at least 30% service-connected disability through the Department of Veterans Affairs and a named owner on the deed? You qualify! Bring in a copy of your DD 214 as well as the proof of disability for the current year you are applying for that lists your percentage of disability and we will assist you in filling out the form.

**2026 Concert in The Park Series Bands Announced!**

Once again, Washington Township will be cosponsoring the Concert in the Park series with the Village of Beecher. This year's lineup includes some of the best bands in Chicagoland!

**Jun 13 (6 PM) - The Ron Burgandys** turn the smooth-rock soundtrack of the 1970s and early 1980s into a live, singalong celebration. Leaning into sax-forward arrangements, tight harmonies, and Anchorman-inspired flair, the band delivers a polished, good-time show built for parties, clubs, and festivals. Their set draws from yacht rock and classic rock favorites, spotlighting the glossy hooks, breezy grooves, and feel-good chorus's fans love. Expect playful onstage chemistry, sharp musicianship, and crowd interaction that keeps the dance floor moving.

**Jul 2- REARVIEW** are a "Tribute to Pearl Jam" and is the Midwest's premier Pearl Jam tribute band. Composed of die-hard Pearl Jam fans with years of musical experience, Rearview - A Tribute to Pearl Jam captures the sound and feel of a live show. Another band that plays many major venues like the Cubby Bear and BOS Center Bank of Springfield. They will be playing during Beecher's Annual 4th of July Celebration!

**Aug 22 (6 PM) - One of These Nights** are an Eagles cover band coming back for the 3rd straight year! This band of performers is as close as you can get to the real thing while also playing hits from the member's solo careers. A talented group of musicians that perform with other bands, this band has a limited schedule and plays major festivals and other large venues. Get there early because they draw a large crowd!

**Sep 6 (6 PM) - Southtown Soul & Groove** is a 13-piece Soul & R&B powerhouse delivering the full, high-energy sound of classic soul music. No tracks. No shortcuts. Every note you hear is played on stage. From deep-pocket funk to Motown classics and modern R&B favorites, the band recreates the electricity of a true soul revue—the kind that fills dance floors, raises the roof, and keeps audiences locked in from the first hit to the final note.

**Mark you calendars, call your friends and get ready for a concert series like never before!**



**UPCOMING TOWNSHIP ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS for 2026**

Highway Commissioner Mike Smith has indicated that he will be concentrating on the following projects as construction season starts. The district improved 14 miles of road last year and look to do at least 10 miles or more again this year. The district is also planning to buy a new / used truck to replace their 1988 Mack dump truck.



**Road Improvements (Tar & Chip)**

- Corning Road W of Rt 1
- Western Ave N of Indiana Ave
- Church Road E of Ashland Ave
- Racine Ave from Church Rd to Indiana Ave

**Ongoing Maintenance for the Season includes:**

- ◆ Misc spot repairs throughout the township (Asphalt or tar & chip) as needed
- ◆ Culvert assessments / repair or replace as needed
- ◆ Ditch mowing & cleaning (especially corners)



THE WILL COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS OFFICE INVITES YOU...

**2026 EXEMPTION EVENT**

**Come see one of our exemption specialists to assist you with:**

- **Low Income Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze**- total household income of \$75,000 or less
- **Senior Homestead**- 65 years and older
- **Disabled Person**
- **Disabled Veteran**- service connected



**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP**  
 30200 Towncenter Road  
 Beecher, IL 60401  
**MAY 28, 2026**  
**10 AM - 2 PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 815-740-4648 OR VISIT [WWW.WILLCOUNTYSOA.COM](http://WWW.WILLCOUNTYSOA.COM)

**4th Annual Community Blood Drive & Resource Fair on August 1**

Through the combined efforts of the Beecher Fire Protection District, Beecher Lions Club and Washington Township, a Community Blood Drive and Wellness Event has been scheduled for August 1 from 8 am to 2 pm at Firemen's Park and the Beecher Fire Department located at 711 Penfield Street.

Along with the blood drive, there will be "Jump on the Bus" back-to-school event and the Illinois' Lions will be offering free hearing screenings from 9 am - noon. Several local health care and service groups are also attending the event to discuss their services and programs. Currently the Beecher Fire Protection District, Beecher Lions Club, CASA of Will County, Catholic Charities, Got Naloxone, Illinois Lions Hearing Screening Services, Kicking It Back Center, MorningStar Missions, Washington Township have committed to the event, and we are expecting groups to join us!

**The schedule is as follows:**

- **8 am - 2 pm / Blood Drive (Contact the Fire Department for details & to sign up online).**
- **9am - Noon / Lions Hearing Screening Mobile Unit (First come - first serve)**
- **9am - 1 pm / Wellness Event (Healthcare and Service Groups onsite!)**
- **9am - 1 pm / Beecher Lions Farmers Market / FREE School Supplies Giveaway first come - first serve**

**Washington Township Medical Closet**

Washington Township residents can take advantage of the township's Medical Closet for many of their "short term" medical equipment needs. The medical closet typically has wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, and shower chairs in inventory and available for checkout.



There is no cost to residents to borrow items and we simply ask that all items be returned clean when they are no longer needed.

Please call our office at (708) 946-2026 to make arrangements to drop-off or check out equipment. Pickup is available Mon - Fri from 9 am - 3 pm.

### Four Way STOP Signs to be Installed at County Line Road and Illinois Route 1 Intersection

On Monday April 13, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced they will be installing a four-way stop sign and flashing red lights on IL Rte 1 and County Line Road. Rumble strips have also been added to County Line Road to alert motorists there is a sign ahead. The new signage is to be installed by the end of April. A special "Thank You" to the Beecher Fire Department for initiating action!!



This decision was reached after the Beecher Fire Protection District hosted a meeting on March 9th with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) at the request of State Representatives Thaddeus Jones and Jackie Haas, along with State Senators Elgie Sims and Napoleon Harris. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ongoing safety concerns at the intersection of County Line Road and Illinois Route 1 and to request immediate action to eliminate accidents and save lives.



On April 13, IDOT reported they will convert the existing Two-Way stop condition to an All-Way Stop (AWS) control. In addition to placement of new left and right-side STOP signs along IL 1 at County Line Rd, the existing advance Intersection Warning signs along IL 1 will be changed to Stop Ahead signs with supplemental post mounted amber flashing beacons. Red flashing beacons will be post mounted on the new northbound/southbound STOP signs along IL 1 while the Department prepares the design and schedules the installation of an overhead mounted AWS red flashing beacon. The Department will also review the pavement markings and will refresh or modify markings as needed as part of the new AWS stop condition. The conversion to the AWS condition using Department resources is anticipated no later than the end of April subject to weather conditions and the availability of materials. The new overhead flashing AWS beacon is anticipated to be constructed using the Department's Electrical Maintenance Contractor and energized by the end of May subject to weather, contractor availability and coordination with the utility companies.

The Department recently completed the preliminary engineering and environmental studies for a long-term improvement which includes the construction of a modern roundabout, and the project is in Phase II engineering, which includes preparation of contract plans and land acquisition. The Department is committed to advancing this project as efficiently as possible while complying with state and federal requirements related to design, environmental coordination, and right-of-way acquisition. The project is currently targeting a contract letting in 2028, contingent upon completion of design and land acquisition activities.

**98th Annual** **SAVE THE DATE!** **JULY 1ST - JULY 4TH** **BEECHER 4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL**

We can't wait to see you all again at Firemen's Park to celebrate our Nation's 250th birthday. We have a number of big events and surprises in store for everyone – and don't worry, your favorites are all still here: live entertainment, food, carnival, parade, fireworks, and more. The best way to stay up to date as the Festival approaches is to follow us on Facebook and Instagram. We are grateful for every neighbor and business that helps make this celebration possible. The Commission is proud to be in its 24th year of carrying on a tradition nearly a century in the making – and we couldn't do it without the community behind us.

**See you at the Festival!**

<b>JULY 1ST</b> 6:00PM to Midnight 5:45 PM Kid and Pet Parade (5:30 Lineup) 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bingo and Festival Market 6:00 PM All American Throwbacks 8:30 PM Flag Raising Ceremony	<b>JULY 2ND</b> 6:00PM to Midnight 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bingo and Festival Market 8:00 PM Beer View	<b>JULY 3RD</b> 2:00PM to Midnight 2:00 PM Festival Market 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bingo 8:00 PM Infinity	<b>JULY 4TH</b> 2:00PM to Midnight 6:00 AM Men's Club 5K Run/Walk 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Festival Market 7:30 PM Parade Registration and Lineup 8:00 PM Parade - The Big Parade - American Legion 8:30 PM Fireworks 10:00 PM Fireworks
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**Carnival Wristbands**

July 1st 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM	July 2nd 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM	July 3rd 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM	July 4th 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM
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\*Schedule and wristbands subject to change

**THANK YOU** to all of our businesses that advertise in our newsletter. Please patronize our advertisers as they have shown a commitment to support your community! Their advertising helps keep the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter to a minimum!

**Thanks!**

### Washington Township Community Hall Updates

The Washington Township Community Hall continues to be a cornerstone of our community, and we are excited to share several important updates regarding improvements to the facility and upcoming changes to rental rates.

The Community Hall will be closed for the entire month of April 2026 as we complete a major upgrade to our HVAC system. This project will provide a more efficient, reliable, and comfortable environment for all who use the facility. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we make these important improvements.

#### A Decade of Improvements

Over the past 10 years, we have been proud to invest in the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the Hall. These improvements include:

- Refinishing the John C. Dean Memorial Theater flooring
- Installing a new roof
- Adding beautiful new flooring to the lower level
- Replacing most kitchen appliances
- Installing an ADA-accessible chair lift serving all three levels
- Rebuilding the outside concrete stairs and adding an ADA-accessible ramp



#### Current Projects Underway

- Replacing the outdated HVAC system with a new, modern system at a cost of over \$150,000
- Adding a digital sign in the front of the building

These upgrades help ensure the Community Hall remains safe, accessible, and welcoming for years to come.

As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain and improve the facility, updated rental rates will take effect beginning May 1st: Washington Township Residents: \$150 plus a \$100 deposit / Non-Residents: \$300 plus a \$100 deposit. All rentals that have been previously scheduled or have deposits submitted will continue to be honored at the previous rates.

The Community Building Board of Manager remain committed to providing an affordable, high-quality space for community events, family gatherings, and celebrations. For rental inquiries or additional information, please contact us: Email: [WTCH673@gmail.com](mailto:WTCH673@gmail.com) / Call/Text: 708-627-0734

Thank you for your continued support of the Washington Township Community Hall. Your support allows us to keep improving this important community space for everyone to enjoy.

#### From Clerk Joe Burgess

The Washington Township Clerk's office provides the following services to all Washington Township residents!

- Voter registration & Early Voting
- **FREE Fax service**
- **FREE Notary Public**
- Issue Temporary Handicap Parking Placards (Assist with Permanent Placard Applications)
- Freedom of Information (FOIA) - Township records are available on our website, submitting a request or contacting the Clerk
- The Clerk also maintains the township's website and creates the newsletter



#### Your Township Officials:

**Supervisor** - Mike Stanula

**Clerk** - Joe Burgess

**Assessor** - Patricia Peters

**Hwy Commissioner** - Mike Smith

#### Trustees

Paul Goldrick - Tracy Heldt

Mark Herlitz - George Obradovich

**Office Hours - Monday - Friday**

**9am - 3pm / Phone 708-946-2026**

[www.washingtontownshipil.com](http://www.washingtontownshipil.com)

**Assessor’s Office Will Be Measuring Properties All Year**

The Assessor’s “Job” is to assign or appraise a **“fair market value”** to your property. This is done by reviewing your property and comparing it to similar properties in the area and then looking at what those similar properties have recently sold for and using that information to create a value of your property. ***The assessor does NOT set or raise your taxes, those rates are set by the taxing bodies within the county, township and village.***

**By law**, the county requires that ALL assessors remeasure every property in their jurisdiction every four years. This is called the “quadrennial assessment” and it takes place in 2027. Because Assessor Peters does not have the staff to measure over 4000 parcels in one year, her staff will be out as weather permits, measuring new properties, reviewing any property that “pulled” a permit for improvements and reviewing as many other properties as possible. This is the only way any property can be properly reviewed per the county’s requirement.

So, what does this mean, to you the homeowner? The measurers may stop by your home and ring your doorbell letting you know why they are at your home. They will be wearing yellow vests, and their vehicle will have a “Washington Township Assessor” sign clearly displayed on the side. They will NOT ask to enter your house but simply let you know they are there to measure the exterior dimensions of your home and note if the driveway is concrete or asphalt, and if there is a fence, etc. The entire process may take 30 minutes or more depending on the size of the home. If you are not home, they will measure your property and leave a notice on your door that they were there.

Homeowners react differently when the measurers arrive, please remember they are just doing their job & be kind.

***“Girls on the Run” Event on May 16!***

Beecher Elementary School is sponsoring their 2<sup>nd</sup> “Girls on the Run” program for girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The program will conclude with a fun non-competitive 5K Celebration run or walk through the streets of Beecher on **May 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM**. The 5k will start and finish at the Beecher Elementary School.



“Girls on the Run” is a non-profit organization whose mission is to “inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running” and they “envision a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams.”

Meeting in small teams, trained volunteer coaches inspire girls to build confidence through interactive lessons and physical activities. Lessons focus on building social, emotional and physical skills in participants while encouraging healthy habits for life. This culmination gives participants a tangible sense of accomplishment and inspires confidence that they can complete anything they set out to do.

This year’s BES “Girls on the Run” coaches are Loren Assise, Emily Beaulieu, Rachel Doyle, Meghan Lause, and Nicole Tepper. The Beecher Lions Club will be assisting with the course setup and will provide volunteers on the course to keep the girls safe. ***Please mark your calendars and come out and support these girls as they complete their goals!!***

**2026 Beecher Lions Farmers Market**

This year we have many vendors signed up for the season, including food vendors. We are excited to invite local farmers, growers, and artisans to participate in our 2026 market season! Our mission is to provide the community with fresh, locally grown produce and quality, handmade products, and more!

**For more information or to signup as a vendor please the Scan QR code below or visit our website at: [beecherlionsclub.org](http://beecherlionsclub.org)**

The market runs 9am to 1pm.

- ★ May 16 - Sollitt Tap
- ★ June 13 - Beecher Police Depart. Parking Lot
- ★ July 18 - Beecher Police Depart. Parking Lot
- ★ Aug 1 - Firemen’s Park
- ★ Aug 15 - Beecher Police Depart. Parking Lot
- ★ Sep 5 - Gould St during “All American Days”

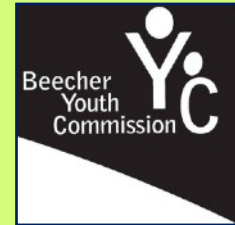


**UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

- \* **May 16** - Beecher Chamber **Business Expo** @ Beecher Amvet Hall
- \* **May 16** - Beecher Lions **Farmers Market** - 9 am -1 pm at Sollitt Tap
- \* **June 4,5,6** - Beecher Chamber of Commerce **"Garage Sale Days"**
- \* **June 6** - Beecher Chamber Scholarship **Golf Outing** at Cardinal Creek. Contact the Chamber for details.
- \* **June 6** - Beecher Youth Commission **"Kick-Off" to Summer** @ Firemen's Park
- \* **July 1 thru 4** - Annual Beecher **"4th of July" Celebration** at Firemen's Park. Win a new car! Fireworks on July 4!
- \* **July 4 @ 8 AM** - **Freedom 5K Run/Walk** sponsored by the Beecher Lion's Club
- \* **July 25** - Beecher Lions Club **Golf Outing**, contact the Lions Club for details.
- \* **Aug 1** - **4th Annual Community Blood Drive & Resource Fair** at Firemen's Park

**Beecher Youth Commission Kickoff to Summer June 6th - Fishing Derby May 2**

Spring is finally here and that means Summer is right around the corner! And with that, the Beecher Youth Commission will be hosting their annual Kickoff to Summer! This fun and free event will take place on June 6<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm at Fireman's Park. The Lion's Club will also be generously offering FREE hot dogs, chips and water! Kids of all ages are sure to have a great time!



We have decided to host a fishing derby at Monee Reservoir May 2nd from 10am-12pm. Registration for this will be limited and available on village website.

Annual Kid and pet parade will be 5:30pm on July 1st.

The Beecher Youth Commission meets every third Tuesday at 7:30pm in the village hall. Meetings are opened to the public and all are encouraged to attend. Volunteers are always needed for events! Questions? Reach out to us at: [beecheryc@gmail.com](mailto:beecheryc@gmail.com)!

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