

# 'A lot of us will be happy to get boxes out of our houses' Growing pains

Riley office expansion includes substation

By LORI PALONIK Times Herald

RILEY TWP. — New township offices under renovation will mean more township employees — and more storage space for them at home.

"A lot of us will be happy to get to get boxes out of our houses," Supervisor Jerry Hannon said.



Sheriff Dan Lane said the new officers in a renovated building at 1242 River Road, on Feb. 24. The building is adjacent to the township hall.

Township office space will grow from 300 square feet to about 1,500 square feet. The new offices will be home to all township officers, including clerk, treasurer, assessor and supervisor.

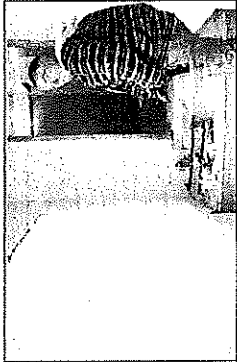
Township meetings and elections will continue to take place in the hall. The new building is for the St. Clair County Sheriff Department. Sheriff Dan Lane hopes to someday make it a substation to serve the county's western residents and patrol deputies.

In Township has the county's only other substation, which opened in May 1984. Deputies will open the office March 1 on an accredited basis.

No one will be stationed there, but deputies working in the western part of the county can use it for fingerprinting, interviewing witnesses and other work normally done at the depart-



FIXING UP OFFICES: Carpenter Roger Sandy of Mel McNutt Carpentry on Monday applies polyurethane to oak trim at the front desk in the reception area of the new Riley Township offices and St. Clair County Sheriff Department substation.



CHECKING IT OUT: Riley Township Supervisor Gerald Hannon walks by a glass-block window opposite a room that will house the Sheriff Department substation inside the new township offices.

Lane eventually would like to staff the office a few days a week with a records department agent to offer the same services as the Riley Township substation.

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## RILEY

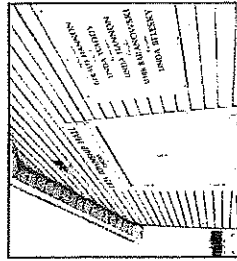
Continued from Page 1B

Hannon said Riley Township bought the house and surrounding 18 acres for \$320,000 and will spend \$80,000 to turn it into an office building. The township bought the property in August with bonds.

"It was a good deal no matter where it was, but the fact that it was adjacent to the township property made it that much better," he said.

Resident Nancy Friedberg, a party store clerk, called the sheriff department office a waste of space. "We don't have high crime out here," said Friedberg, 44.

Hannon said having a substation will mean more police visibility, which will be good for



By MELISSA WAWZYNSKO, Times Herald

OLD HALL: Township board meetings still will take place in the old Riley Township hall, township residents.

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