

FUNDING FOR THESE AGENCIES PROVIDED BY WHEELING TOWNSHIP

- Wheeling Township funds a variety of important human care services for residents of all ages. Because of Township funding, services provided by these agencies are available to residents on a sliding-scale basis.
- Alexian Center for Mental Health
 - Avenues to Independence
 - Catholic Charities (housing, senior services)
 - Center for Enriched Living
 - Children's Advocacy Center
 - Clearbrook Center
 - Countryside
 - Escorted Transportation Service NW
 - Faith Community Homes
 - Hands On Suburban Chicago
 - The Harbour
 - Journeys - The Road Home
 - Kindred Life Ministries
 - Life Span
 - Lutheran Services of Illinois Behavioral Health Services Program
 - Northwest Compass (childcare, headstart, housing)
 - Omni Youth Services
 - P.H.D.
 - Salvation Army
 - Shelter, Inc.
 - St. Mary's Services
 - Suburban Primary HealthCare / Access to Care
 - WINGS

WHEELING TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS



Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays
 Township Board Meetings: 8:00 p.m.
 on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

www.wheelingtowship.com
 847-259-7730
 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road
 Arlington Heights, IL 60004



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REPORT

WINTER 2017

From the Supervisor – Kathy Penner



CHANGES TO THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT...

A referendum to abolish the Wheeling Township Road District passed by a substantial majority vote in the November 2016 General Election. As a result, starting January 1, 2017, the maintenance of the 5 miles of unincorporated roads within Wheeling Township is now the responsibility of the Township Board of Trustees. The need to elect a Highway Commissioner has been eliminated but staff, under the direction of the Board, will contract for all needed services. We are presently in transition mode but we expect no reduction in services to the unincorporated areas. Tom Neitzke, long time Deputy Highway Commissioner, now Highway Manager, will work with Township Administrator Jo Stellato to outsource services to ensure maintenance is done without interruption, in a timely manner, and within budget. The first order of business was to award a bid for snow and ice control for the winter months. Prioritized plans are now being developed for road maintenance projects for spring, summer and fall of 2017. If we can be of

service, or you have questions, please direct your calls to Tom Neitzke at 847-259-7730.

We are grateful...

Northshore University Health System completed a needs assessment of residents in their service area. The results indicated six areas of need, one of which was food insecurity. Each year the employees at their hospitals donate their holiday bonuses to not-for-profit agencies. Northshore's Glenbrook Hospital voted to donate to the Wheeling Township Emergency Fund's Food Pantry. These funds were *matched* by Northshore, for a donation of \$10,000! This generous donation will allow us to keep the shelves stocked for quite some time. We are extremely grateful and will be good stewards of this most generous donation.

Wheeling Township cares for the community with multiple social services, while always keeping the costs and liability to homeowners in the forefront of our planning. Our elected officials and professional staff take pride in each and every program the township offers. We have one of the lowest local tax rates, balanced budgets, and provide full transparency. Many of our programs function with little or no cost to taxpayers because of a legion of dedicated volunteers and donors. See page 3 for a list of some of our generous and caring partners this past holiday season. *We are so very grateful to all who participated!*



General Assistance Director Julie Villarreal receives a check from Peggy McCallum and Dave Rahija of Glenbrook Hospital.

SENIOR AND DISABILITY NEWS

Call 847-259-7730 to register for any of the programs & services offered through Wheeling Township.

SENIOR SCENE PROGRAMS

SENIOR SCENE programs, hosted by the Wheeling Township Senior Advisory & Action Council, provide educational opportunities for all seniors. The timely topics and lively discussion offer older adults a chance to expand their knowledge and share fellowship.

To register for the following free classes, call the Township or email: LLahey@wheelingtowship.com. **Registration is always limited – and we fill up fast – so call NOW to reserve your place!** All programs are held in Wheeling Township's meeting room on the 1st floor.

WHICH WOULD BE BEST FOR YOU? A TABLET OR PC?

Great Tips
and Suggestions!

Tuesday, April 11, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



A tablet or PC: What's Best for Me?

Mary Jo Lepo, Specialty Services Coordinator for the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, will identify steps you can take to decide which option might work best for you. Are you wondering if it's time to trade in your PC for a tablet or buying a computer for the first time? Learn the key differences between desktop computers, laptops, and mobile devices like smart phones and tablets. Don't miss out on this informative program!

Back by Popular Demand...

CONTAINER GARDENING



Tuesday, May 9, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Kim Ellson, Horticulture Educator for U of I Extension, will share great tips and ideas on how to make and sustain container gardens. Containers are a simple way to garden with minimal physical exertion and still reap the rewards of vibrant floral displays. Learn first-hand how to design, assemble and care for a variety of different containers, including patio planters, window boxes and hanging baskets. Have your container be the envy of the neighborhood!



IMPROVE YOUR POSTURE... Improve Your Life!

Tuesday, June 13, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

From reducing muscle fatigue to preventing back pain, good posture is vital for maintaining your health and independence. Want to improve yours? **Join Marie & Bill Aquino, physical therapists from Northwest Community Healthcare**, who will help answer important questions and present exercises and information

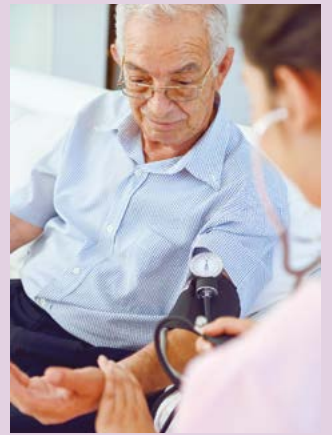
that can help you be more confident and improve YOUR posture.

Did You Know ????

Wheeling Township offers the following

Medical Services:

At Wheeling Township, we recognize the importance of older adults remaining as healthy and independent as possible – *for as long as possible*. To that end, the following health services, administered by the Township nurse, are available for residents 60 years and over.



Tuesdays & Thursdays

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (appointments recommended)

- **Blood Pressure** (no charge)
- **Blood Sugar Screening** (\$1 charge)
- **PRO Time/INR Testing** (\$6 charge)
- **At-home hemocult screening tests available** (\$4 charge)

2nd & 4th Thursday of Each Month

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (appointments recommended)

- **Cholesterol Screening** (\$15 charge)

Available to residents 18 years & older. It requires an 8-hour fast (only water allowed), and provides a lipid profile including total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and blood sugar.

Wheeling Township Transportation



Much more than just a ride!

Looking for safe and affordable transportation? If you are over 60 (or 18+ and permanently disabled), Wheeling Township's outstanding transportation service may be the perfect solution for your needs. With 8 buses on the road every day, we are doing our very best to

help Township residents get where they need to go. Last year, over 24,500 rides were provided to Township residents.

When is service available? Rides are available for Township residents to a wide variety of locations within the Township, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Some locations outside the Township are covered for medical services.

When should I call? For medical appointments, call at least one week in advance, as buses fill up quickly (you may call up to 30 days in advance for medical appointments). For casual appointments (hair salon, grocery store, etc), you must call two days in advance.

How much? \$2 each way.

How do I sign up? Call our transportation department if you have any questions – or for an application. Applications can also be found online at www.wheelingtowship.com.

Call today for more information – (847) 259-7743.

State & Federal Program guidelines can be complicated...

SHIP Could Help You!

If you are enrolled in Medicare or have health insurance questions, our SHIP volunteers may be able to help you. Our dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers are trained by the Illinois Department of Insurance to assist Medicare and Medicaid participants with understanding their benefit coverage, helping with filing their medical bills and claims, explaining Medicare Supplemental Insurance and Long Term Care Policies, and providing resolution support for any problems that you might be experiencing.

If you are nearing Medicare eligibility and have questions regarding traditional Medicare, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Part B or Medicare supplements, our SHIP counselors are here to help you.

In 2016, Our SHIP counselors assisted over 450 people. Make your appointment to see one of our amazing, dedicated SHIP counselors today!



IMPROVE YOUR DRIVING SKILLS

Secretary of State "RULES OF THE ROAD" Review Course

This free, one-session Secretary of State Refresher Course will help prepare you for your driving test and soothe those road test jitters! This class is designed to give drivers — especially senior citizens and persons with disabilities — the knowledge and confidence needed to renew or obtain a driver's license. The review course, taught by knowledgeable volunteers, combines an explanation of the driving examination with a practice written examination. Call the Township office to register.



9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. on the following Thursdays

■ May 11 ■ July 13 ■ September 14

Secretary of State Mobile Driving Unit

RENEW YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE / GET A STATE ID

Thursday, April 13 • 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Services available: Vision screening, duplicate license, corrected license, Driver's License renewal, State ID card, license plate stickers, organ donor registration. NO ROAD TESTS.



AARP – SMART DRIVING PROGRAM

Tune Up Your Driving Skills...

In cooperation with AARP, Wheeling Township offers the AARP Safe Driving Program, designed to help you **tune up** your driving skills, **learn** about normal age-related physical changes, **adjust** your driving to **allow** for the changes and **reduce** your traffic violations.

Register for one of the following two-day sessions. Cost: \$15 for AARP members; \$20 for non-AARP members. Checks should be made payable to AARP and mailed or dropped off at the Township Office prior to your first class. Upon the completion of the two-session class, you will be issued a certificate, which may be submitted to your automobile insurance company for a possible discount.

Class is on Mon. & Wed., 5:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. on the following dates:

■ April 3 & April 5 ■ May 1 & May 3
■ June 5 & June 7 ■ July 10 & July 12

TIME TO FILE YOUR TAXES...



Wheeling Township partners with AARP's Senior Tax Assistance Program to have trained tax counselor or volunteers assist with filing simple

income tax forms. Special attention is given to people 60 and older and people with disabilities. **All tax returns filed at Wheeling Township will be paperless.**

Appointments may still be available for the remaining Fridays in March and April. Call the Township office to schedule an appointment.

■ March 17, 24, 31 ■ April 7



LOW VISION PRODUCTS ROAD SHOW

■ Wednesday, March 29th
10am – 3pm



The Low Vision Products Road Show welcomes the public to experience state-of-the-art technology such as CCTVs, portable reading devices, and much more, including independent living aids, lighting, and even sun wear. Test each product and receive training from expert staff who can advise on the right tools to improve your quality of life.

Absolutely free! Everyone is invited to attend any time during the scheduled hours on March 29 at Wheeling Township. Chicago Lighthouse staff will demonstrate and let you try out the variety of products available for help with school, work and daily life.

With Our Thanks...

The Township's 2016 Holiday Programs... A Tremendous Success!

Bountiful **Thanksgiving Baskets** stuffed with food were given to **296 families**. Generous donations of clothing and toys to the **Adopt-A-Family Program** helped to make Christmas special for **247 families**, which included 646 children and 447 parents! These programs would not be possible without all those who shared the true spirit of the season. A heartfelt thank you goes out to each and every private donor, as well as to the businesses, churches and community organizations listed below. **We couldn't do it without you!**



The 2016 Holiday Donors

AccuQuote/Byron Udell Assoc.
Algonquin Longhouse-Indian Guides & Princesses
Arlington Countryside Church
Arlington Endodontics
Arlington Heights Memorial Library
Arlington Heights Moms Facebook Page
Arlington Heights Jr. Woman's Club
Arlington Heights Woman's Club
Arlington Heights Historical Society
Arlington Town Square Condo Residents
Armenian Relief Society
Athletico
Bar Louie
Benefit Express
Boy Scout Troop 32
Brownie Troop, 2nd grade-Westgate School
Buffalo Grove, Hersey, Wheeling Hockey Club
Buffalo Grove High School
Buffalo Grove High School- Interact Club
Buffalo Grove High School - Orchesis
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Cambridge Women's Club
CCP Inc, Financial Planning Services
Christian Church of Arlington Heights
CJBS, LLC
Cleats Manufacturing Company
Clerics of St. Viator
College of American Pathologists
Cove School
Cross and Crown Lutheran Church
Crunch Fitness
Cub Scout Pack 129-Dryden Elementary School
Cub Scout Pack 130
Cub Scout Pack 169-Olive-Mary Stitt School

Cub Scout Pack 269
Daugherty Business Solutions
Dexter Magnetic Technologies
District 214
District 214 Care Crew
District 214 Read to Learn-Forest View School
District 214 Read to Learn-Wheeling High School
Dryden Elementary School
E3 Diagnostics
EA Langenfeld Associates
18 Hole Golf Team
Elite Soccer Community Organization
Fed Ex Ground
First United Methodist Church
Fisher Clinical Services
Fluid Management, Inc.
Get Burbed
Girl Scout Troop 40842
Glenbrook Hospital
Glueckert Funeral Home
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Greenbrier School PTA
GSK
Happy Old Guys
Highland/Chestnut Book Club
Highland Park Hospital
In Working Order
Indian Trails Public Library
JFH Educational Academy West
John Hersey High School
Kilmer Elementary School
Kvitka Corporation
Lake Arlington Towne West
Lavelle Law, Ltd.

Lincoln Middle School
Lions Club of Arlington Heights Foundation
Living Christ Lutheran Church
Living Faith Bible Church
Luther Village Enrichment Foundation
Lutheran Church of the Cross
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Mark My Words
Maxim's Mission
Meadows Community Bible Study
Munch's Supply Co, Inc.
National Louis University
North Northfield United Methodist Church
North Shore University Health Systems
Northwest Community Hospital
Northwest Suburban Alpha Phi Alumnae
Northwest Suburban Montessori School
Olive-Mary Stitt PTA
Olive-Mary Stitt School
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Our Saviour's Lutheran -Chair Yoga
P.E.O. Sisterhood LG Chapter
Paragon Theater Arlington Heights
Prospect Heights Library
Prospect High School Marching Band
Reese Recreation Products, Inc.
Relevant
ReMax Suburban
Rolling Green Country Club - 9 Hole Golf League
Rotary Club of Arlington Heights Noon
Rotary Club of Arlington Heights Sunset
Sabada 1
School District 23
School District 25

Sherwood Friends
Sonoco Protective Solutions
Sonshine Tuesday School
South Middle School
Southminster Presbyterian Church
State Farm Team Burnidge
St. Basil of Ostrog Serbian Orthodox Church
St. Paul Lutheran Church
St. Peter Lutheran Pre-School
St. Viator High School
Team Logic IT of Arlington Heights
The Grand At Twin Lakes Senior Living
The Pursam Group
Thomas Middle School-Paws for a Cause
TopCo Associates, LLC
Toshiba Business Solutions
Towne Place Condominiums
United Airlines
US Dept. of Labor OSHA – TD Team
Vent Products Company, Inc.
Village Bank and Trust
Wheeling Citizens Policy Academy Alumni Association
Wa Pa Ghetts Pizza
Walgreens
Westgate Elementary School-Westgate Cares
Wheeling High School
Wheeling Senior Center
Willow Creek Church
Windsor School
Wiss, Janney, Elstner Assoc., Inc.
Worsham College of Mortuary Science
Z F Services

FROM THE ASSESSOR JERRY SADLER

SENIOR RENEWAL APPLICATIONS WERE MAILED

Senior Exemptions must be renewed every year. Anyone who received a senior exemption on their property in the past and is still living in the same home, must submit a renewal form each year. The Cook County Assessor's Office mailed senior citizen renewal applications for senior citizen property tax exemptions in January. It is not too late to return the form if you have not yet done so.

The renewal form that was mailed is a two-part application. **The front page of the renewal application must be completed by ALL seniors even if you do not qualify for the senior freeze. You only need to complete the back side if your total gross household income is under \$55,000 for the 2015 income tax year.** The savings from the exemptions will appear on the second installment tax bills scheduled to be mailed in July of 2017. The first installment property tax bills are estimated bills (55% of the previous years total). No exemptions are deducted from the first installment. **First installment bills are mailed in February and are due the 1st of March.**

Eligibility for Senior Citizen Exemptions (Born in 1951 or Earlier)

There are two senior citizen property tax exemptions:

1) **The Senior Exemption**, available to all seniors regardless of income, reduces the Equalized Assessed Value on your 2nd Installment bill by 5,000. The 5,000 is multiplied by the current tax rate and deducted from the second installment property tax bill.

2) **The Senior Freeze** may provide some seniors with additional savings if the combined gross income of **all** occupants in a senior's household is less than \$55,000 (for income tax year 2015), and if the senior has been an owner-occupant of the house since January 1, 2015.

Exemptions can only be taken on one property, and that must be the **owner's principal residence**. If you have questions, need a form or need help in completing the form, please contact us at: 847-259-1515 or visit the Wheeling Township Assessor's office. We ask that you **have the 14-digit property index number (PIN) available** when you call or visit with any property tax questions. The PIN can be found at the top of your property tax bill. If you need assistance filing for the Senior Freeze, we need your **2015 Federal income tax (1040)**, and a tax bill.

Homeowners who were born in 1951 and turned sixty-five in 2016 will not receive senior application forms when the senior renewal forms are mailed. A first-time applicant must complete the 2016 Senior Exemption application or the 2016 Senior Freeze application and attach a copy of the most recent property tax bill and a current driver's license, or a valid Illinois State I.D at the address of the subject property. The forms are available at our office, or at www.cookcountyassessor.com. They can be dropped at our office for forwarding to the Cook County Assessor's office, or mailed directly to the address on the form.

Homeowners born in 1952 and turn 65 in 2017 will be eligible for the senior exemptions in 2018 when Cook County property owners pay property taxes for 2017.

New Homeowner Packets and Disabled Persons and Disabled Veterans Renewal Forms

New Homeowner Packets and Disabled Persons and Disabled Veterans **renewal** exemption applications are mailed after the senior renewal exemption applications are mailed.

2016 Assessment Appeals

If you appealed your 2016 assessed value with either the Cook County Assessor or the Cook County Board of Review and received a reduction, it will be reflected on the second installment tax bill. If you are a senior and are eligible for the senior freeze, there is no need for you to file an appeal.

Operation Support Our Troops Donation Drive UPDATE

For the past 7 years in November, Wheeling Township has collected letters, personal supplies and monetary donations for Operation Support Our Troops America, Inc, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to mailing 'care packages from home' to active military personnel stationed around the globe. Over 5,000 packages are sent each year, not to mention the thousands of hand-made Christmas stockings during the holidays.

Wheeling Township's donation drive this past November was truly amazing! Over 910 lbs (a new record for us!) of snacks and essentials were donated by compassionate residents, as well as \$1,100 in financial donations. The best part were the more than 1,000 cards, drawings, pictures and letters that residents took the time to create for active military servicemen and women. **Our thanks to everyone who donated!**



OSOT's Executive Director Jamie Nelson (L) and Wheeling Township's Director of Senior & Disability Services Lynnadah Easterwood Lahey (R), pictured with the 900 lbs of delivered donations.

FROM THE CLERK JOANNA GAUZA



2017 ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION

Although we just completed the General Election this past November, our local Township and Municipal elections will be held shortly. The Consolidated Primary Election will be held on February 28, 2017, and the Consolidated General Election on April 4, 2017. These elections will select your Wheeling Township Officials, local Mayors and Legislative Officials, including school boards that directly affect our lives. If you want to vote in these elections, now is time to make sure you are registered. If you are not registered, have just moved into the Township, have moved to another residence in the Township, or changed your name, you need to register to be able to vote in these elections. To register, come to the Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday, between 9:00-4:30. All you need are two forms of identification (one showing your current address), to be a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older by the April 4, 2017 Consolidated General Election, and to have lived in the Township for at least 30 days before the election. For naturalized citizens, you must prove the date of your naturalization. If you have an Illinois driver's license or state ID, you may register online through the Illinois State Board of Elections website elections.il.gov. If you don't have a driver's license or state ID, go to cookcountyclerk.com and complete the form online, print, sign and mail it to the address on the application. If you register by mail, you must bring a valid state issued picture identification when you vote for the first time.

| Key Dates | Event |
|-----------|---|
| 1/4/2017 | First day to apply for a mail ballot |
| 2/28/2017 | Consolidated Primary Election |
| 3/7/2017 | Last day to register to vote by paper application |
| 3/8/2017 | First day of grace period registration and voting |
| 3/19/2017 | Last day to register to vote by online application |
| 3/20/2017 | First day of early voting |
| 3/30/2017 | Last day to request a mail ballot, including military and overseas voters |
| 4/3/2017 | Last day of early voting |
| 4/3/2017 | Last day of grace period registration and voting |
| 4/4/2017 | Last day mail ballots can be postmarked |
| 4/4/2017 | Consolidated General Election Day |

Additional information about the elections and early voting can be found at <http://www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections/earlyvoting/Pages/EarlyVotingLocations.aspx>. Providing a Government-issued photo ID is helpful if there is a question about the voter's registration, address or signature, and can also speed up the process.

Mail Ballots: Any registered suburban Cook County voter may request a mail ballot using the online application at <https://mailvoting.cookcountyclerk.com>. Once your registration is verified, the county will send a paper ballot to the mailing address on your application. The deadline to apply is five days before an election. Applications are also available at our Clerk's office.

Election Judges: Interested in earning some money while serving on election day? You can earn \$180 as an Election Judge or \$340 as an Equipment Judge. To qualify, you must be registered voter and live in Cook County. The duties include completing online and hands-on training classes, helping set up the polling place with your fellow judges, and working the entire Election Day. To apply, visit <http://www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections/electionjudges>. You may also apply at Republicans of Wheeling Township by calling (847) 632-1774 or Wheeling Township Democrats online at <https://wheelingdems.com>.

WELCOMING WELLNESS HOUSE

Wellness House, a non-profit organization whose mission is to let you live your life with cancer and beyond, will soon begin meeting at the Wheeling Township Community Center. Diagnosed individuals and their loved ones are welcome:

- **Living with Cancer, Being a Caregiver** – come together with other cancer patients and caregivers on the journey. Two support groups, one time. Starting March 15, groups will be offered the third Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM.
- **Mindful Yoga** – Nurture your entire being with mind/body movement. No yoga experience necessary. Beginning March 13, yoga will be offered on Mondays, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

All Wellness House programs are offered at no cost to participants, but registration is required. To register, contact Kelli Mitchell at 630.654.5197 or kmitchell@wellnesshouse.org.

