



REPORT

From the Supervisor – Kathy Penner



GRATITUDE

Merriam-Webster defines gratitude as “the state of being grateful: thankfulness.” As I begin my 9th year as Township Supervisor, I am grateful. Grateful for the incredible generosity of our community, grateful for the opportunity to serve, grateful to participate in programs and services that make a difference on a daily basis to fellow residents. All of us know residents, friends and community members who have been faced with numerous setbacks and personal challenges, yet they continue to help others. We see it here at the Township, year after year, and for that, all of us here are grateful and thankful.

“*Neighbors Helping Neighbors*” represents much more than just being our motto: it’s a mission that is fulfilled on a yearly basis through an abundance of services and programs available to residents. In addition to helping residents experiencing financial or personal challenges, seniors and persons with disabilities, Wheeling Township also has many opportunities for residents to give back through donations and volunteering.

Residents’ incredible donations of Thanksgiving baskets stuffed with food, beautifully wrapped toys and other gifts for the Adopt-A-Family program, and year-round Food Pantry donations are both amazing and inspiring. It’s very clear that we all look after each other in our Township.

Some of the many ways residents received assistance last year - or provided help to those in need – included:

- **Food Pantry:** There were 5,722 visits to the Food Pantry last year, of which 12,130 people were fed (2,866 were children under 18). We are incredibly thankful for the substantial monthly donations from private citizens, businesses, houses of worship and organizations. Many businesses, schools, organizations, and community groups also held food drives throughout the year.
- **Home Delivered Meals:** There were 12,555 nutritious hot and cold meals delivered to homebound seniors in 2023. The efforts and dedication of the many volunteers and 25 local churches involved in the delivery of the fresh meals, five days a week, even on holidays, is truly appreciated.
- **Giving Garden:** Residents with ‘green thumbs’ donated hundreds of pounds of fresh vegetables during the summer season to supplement shelf-stable products in the food pantry.
- **Thanksgiving:** 250 Thanksgiving food baskets were provided to lower income families, which fed 906 people (414 were children under the age of 18). Residents and community groups donated baskets overflowing with everything from rolls and stuffing to potatoes and dessert. Each basket distributed included a gift card.
- **Adopt-A-Family:** The annual holiday gift program served 147 families (399 were children under the age of 18), and thanks to your generosity, the wish lists of those families were fulfilled. Each family received wrapped gifts and donated food cards as part of their holiday package, as well as being offered new hats, gloves and scarves which were donated by local organizations and several very talented individuals. Additionally, all the children were offered a craft kit from the Prospect Heights Library, and new books, graciously donated by the Arlington Heights Memorial Library employees.
- **Military:** As part of our annual Operation Support Our Troops donation drive, residents donated an incredible 2,122 pounds of candy, snacks, personal hygiene items and socks, as well as over 1,000 beautiful handmade cards or hand-written letters. Additionally, \$5,255 in monetary contributions were collected to help support the organization’s care package mailing costs.

Wheeling Township is indebted to its residents who compassionately focused on assisting their neighbors, like they do every year. If you need assistance, or wish to learn more about some of the ways you can make a difference in this community, call us at 847-259-7730.

FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Ken Jochum

UPDATE ON TAX YEAR 2023

The first tax bill, which represents 55% of the previous year's total bill, was sent out in February due in March 2024. It is anticipated that the second tax bill will be on time.

Our office assisted with filing approximately 410 appeals to the Cook County Assessor for tax year 2023. Additionally, we assisted with approximately 800 appeals at the Cook County Board of Review. This year we conducted outreaches with both Board of Review Commissioners who service Wheeling Township; Commissioner Samantha Steele and Commissioner George Cardenas.

In preparation for the Cook County Clerk to determine the equalized assessed value for the Township we have processed over 4,857 permits, totaling over \$238,783,382 compared with 3,900 permits totaling \$201,318,579 in the previous year.

TAX YEAR 2023:

When the Cook County Assessor announces the beginning of the next appeals season we will begin accepting prefiles from taxpayers so that we can provide comparables and assist with filing when Wheeling Township is open.

You will be able to prefile by coming into our office or sending an email including the following information.

Taxinfo@wheelingtowship.com

Subject Line: Pin Number

Body: Name and address

I authorize Wheeling Township to submit this appeal on my behalf.

Please forward my appeal to the appropriate office.

EXEMPTIONS:

Homeowners exemption, senior exemptions and persons with disabilities exemptions will renew automatically.

SENIOR FREEZE MUST BE RENEWED EACH YEAR:

If a Senior Freeze Exemption was on your 2022 Tax bill, a renewal application will be sent to your home soon.

First time applicants must apply. Contact our office for further filing details.

VETERANS WITH DISABILITY EXEMPTIONS MUST BE RENEWED EACH YEAR:

Contact our office for further filing details.

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.

- Ascension Center for Mental Health
- Avenues to Independence
- Northwest Compass
- Center For Enriched Living
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Clearbrook
- Connections to Care
- FamilyForward
- The Harbour
- Hands On Suburban Chicago
- Journeys | The Road Home
- Kindred Life Ministries
- Life Span
- Little City Foundation
- NCH Foundation-Mobile Dental Clinic
- Omni Youth Services
- Resources for Community Living
- Shelter, Inc.
- Hopeful Beginnings of St. Mary's
- Suburban Primary Healthcare - Access to Care
- The Josselyn Center
- WINGS



FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

Joanna Gauza

2024 ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION

The Presidential Primaries are here. In this election, the various political parties will select their candidates for President, U.S. Congress, Illinois State Legislative offices and local judges. Illinois will hold its Primary Election on March 19, 2024. If you want to vote in this election, now is the 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 this election. To register, come to the Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday, between 9:00-4:30. All you need are: 1) two forms of identification (one showing your current address); 2) to be a citizen of the United States; 3) be 18 years of age or older by November 5, 2024; and, 4) 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 <https://ova.elections.il.gov/>. If you don't have a driver's license or state ID, go to <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/register-vote> 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. As always, you can register to vote on Election Day. If you want to vote by mail, please contact Cook County at <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/vote-mail> to request a mail ballot. However, ballots will not be mailed to voters until after February 8.

Key Dates for the March 2024 Primary Election:

Date	Event
02/20/24	Voter registration closes for deputy registrars and local election officials
03/03/24	Last day to register to vote by online application
03/04/24	First day of early voting
03/14/24	Last day to request a mail ballot , including military and overseas voters
03/18/24	Last day of early voting
03/18/24	Last day of grace period registration and voting
03/19/24	Last day mail ballots can be postmarked
03/19/24	Election Day

BECOME AN ELECTION JUDGE AND EARN \$250 - \$400

Every election requires a team of Election Judges and Polling Place Technicians to serve at the polling places. These poll workers are paid \$250-\$400 depending on the position they work on Election Day. The two positions are as follows:

★**Election Judges** check in voters, provide ballots, and ensure the polling place runs smoothly. This position pays \$250.

★**Polling Place Technicians** work directly with the election judges to assist voters. Polling Place Technicians also have more responsibility for setting up and maintaining the voting equipment. Due to the additional responsibility, Polling Place Technicians receive more training and higher pay of \$400.

For information on signing up to work as an Election Judge or Polling Place Technician, please go to <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/work-election-day>. You can also contact the political parties. Contact the Democratic Party at <http://www.wheelingdems.com> or the Republican Party at <http://www.rowtgop.org>.



TOWNSHIP ROAD & BRIDGE MANAGEMENT

The Beauty of Trees

Trees are vital to our health and the wellbeing of the planet; they help keep our air and water clean and provide much-needed shade. Trees support wildlife and the entire ecosystem, and of course they are beautiful reminders of the seasons, especially here in the Chicago area.

As Spring is just around the corner, it's a good reminder to inspect the condition of your trees and shrubs. We recommend speaking with a Certified Arborist for guidance. An Arborist can identify potential tree concerns even before the leaves come out. Their tree checklist includes examining conditions of the canopy, branches, roots and trunk and often includes identification of insects and fungus. Their advice allows property owners to identify tree risks and thus potentially reduce storm damage.



Prevention is the key to avoiding interruption of services to your home. As we all know, storms can damage trees, which can damage aerial lines, thus affecting electric, communication, telephone, internet, cable TV and roofs. Tree root growth can impact and lift driveways, patios or sidewalks, creating trip hazards. Tree roots can cause back-ups, sewer flow or septic tile issues if pipe joints are cracked or broken. We recommend speaking with an Arborist and experienced Landscape Contractor if you are considering new or replacement trees and shrubs. They can assist you in tree selection and tree location so trees are planted outside of drainage swales or public utility easements.

For Unincorporated Township residents, seeking professional guidance becomes even more important, as all property owners and homeowner associations within Unincorporated Cook County are required to obtain permit approvals before trees can be removed or replaced. A "Tree Removal Permit" must be completed before removing any trees. The Removal Permit form can be found at this website: https://www.cookcountyil.gov/sites/g/files/ywwepo161/files/service/tree-removal-application_0.pdf.

If the homeowner has a Cook County Building Zone Department (CCBZD) building permit application for demolition, remodeling, or new construction, tree removal and replanting requests must be emailed to: permitcontrol.bnz@cookcountyil.gov. If the removal of a tree is NOT performed in conjunction with a building permit application, the tree removal request must be emailed to: info.bnz@cookcountyil.gov.

CCBZD also requires a Tree Survey and Landscape Plan for the required replacement trees for trees 6" or larger diameter, or evergreens (over 10' tall) before removal is begun.

CCBZD requires 'Contractor Registration,' so please verify your Landscape Contractor is registered and has adequate insurance coverage and bonding. See the CCBZD website listed here: <https://www.cook-countyil.gov/sites/g/files/ywwepo161/files/service/contractor-registration-application-affidavit-v3.pdf>

Additional Tree & Landscape Plan information can be found in the Cook County Codes. Website searches of Tree Mitigation, Tree Preservation, Landscaping and Screening (Cook County Code Chapter 126) include examples such as minimum size of the replacement trees and a regional specimen list that safeguard the ecological and aesthetic environment needed to reduce surface heat and land disturbance.

Please remember the Cook County Assessor's website has high resolution aerial photography of Wheeling Township, which clearly identifies locations of and number of trees on your property for use by your Arborist, Landscape Architect or CCBZD staff in providing code violation documentation. The "Cook Viewer" website address is: <https://maps.cookcountyil.gov/cookviewer/mapViewer.html>

Landscape Architects, Certified Arborists and experienced Landscape Contractors can recommend affordable local tree species and explain tree planting limitations relating to a tree's "drip line," or for lots with septic systems and private wells. Their site visit, training and code knowledge allows them to preserve trees by improving root and canopy growth required for tree stability.

It's important to budget adequate funds for routine tree pruning, removal of damaged trees/stumps and to meet required standards for tree replacement in the unincorporated neighborhoods outside Village or City limits. The Wheeling Township and CCBZD (Cook County Building & Zoning Department) staff look forward to working with you and your Registered Contractors to preserve the trees and improve your property values.

If you have any questions, reach out to Mark Toberman, Wheeling Township Highway Manager, at highwaymanager@wheelingtowship.com.



With Our Sincere Gratitude...

The 2023 holiday programs were a tremendous success! Bountiful **Thanksgiving Baskets** stuffed with food were given to **250 families**. Generous donations of clothing and toys to the **Adopt A Family Program** helped to make Christmas special for **147 families**, which included 399 children and 260 parents! In addition to the many holiday gifts, new children's hats, gloves, scarves and books were distributed. 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!

2023 HOLIDAY DONOR LIST

Agnes Zielinski Olechno, LLC
 AMCA
 American Legion Auxiliary #208
 American Legion Post #208
 Arlington Heights Garden Club
 Arlington Heights Memorial Library
 Arlington Heights Memorial Library Staff
 Arlington Heights Senior Center
 Arlington Heights Jr. Woman's Club
 Athletico
 Campbell Courte Condo Association
 Carlson Consultants, TD
 Carnicerias Jimenez Grocery Store
 Chicago NW Suburban Alpha Phi Alumnae
 Children of Abraham Coalition
 Christian Church of Arlington Heights
 Cinergy Cinema
 CJBS, LLC
 Clerics of St. Viator
 Crescent Cardboard Brands, LLC
 CVS Health
 Deep Roots Orchard
 DFS Corporate Services LLC
 District 23 Parent Teacher Organization
 Drost Kivlahan McMahon & O'Connor LLC
 Dryden Book Club
 Elite Soccer Community Organization
 Fairfield Homes, Inc.
 Fed Ex
 First Presbyterian Church of
 Arlington Heights
 Fisher Clinical Services

Gerry's Café
 Grace Lutheran Church
 Greater Wheeling Area Chamber of
 Commerce
 Gourmet's Delight
 Hancock Square
 Happy Old Guys
 Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh Swami
 Harayan Temple
 Indian Trails Public Library
 Indian Trails Public Library Staff
 In Working Order
 Kidde Academy
 Kindercare
 Lions Club of Arlington Heights Foundation
 London Leaders at London Middle School
 Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
 Meetings by LJ, LLC
 Moreno U-15 Girls Softball Team
 North Northfield United Methodist Church
 Northgate Turkey Trot
 NWSRA Wheeling Pursuit
 Olive-Mary Stitt School
 Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
 Pathway Church of Arlington Heights
 PEO Chapter HN
 PEO Chapter JX
 Project Gratitude
 Prospect Heights Public Library
 Prospect High School
 Prospect High School Band Boosters

Prospect High School Football Team
 ReMax Suburban
 Rotary Club of Arlington Heights Noon
 South Church of Mount Prospect
 South Middle School
 St. James Church
 St. James School
 Tarkington Elementary School
 Taylor Plumbing, Inc.
 Terrazzo & Marble
 The Arlingtones
 The CAF America
 The Pointe Apartments
 The Pursam Group
 The Salem Group
 Thermo Fisher
 Vail Ave. Condo Association
 Viator Giving Garden
 Village Bank and Trust
 Weber Flavors
 Wheeling Helping Hands
 Wheeling Park District
 Wheeling Police Department
 Wheeling Police Unity Foundation
 Wheeling Township Republican Organization
 Windsor Elementary School
 Wyatt's Dog Company
 Zen Leaf



SENIOR AND DISABILITY NEWS

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

Improve Your Driving Skills...

Secretary of State "Rules of the Road" Review Course

Thursday, May 9, 2024

This FREE, two-hour 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 the knowledge and confidence needed to renew a driver's license. The review course combines an explanation of the driving examination with a practice written examination. **Date: May 9th, 10am – Noon. Location: Wheeling Township office.** Call today to register: 847-259-7730.



DOES YOUR HOME NEED TO BE PAINTED?

Apply by July 1



Do you own your own home – and does the exterior need to be painted? Learn more about whether you might qualify to get your home painted for FREE as part of the **37th Annual Community Paint-A-Thon**. Wheeling Township is one of 10 area organizations participating in this annual program. Older (60+) or disabled homeowners of single-family residences who are financially disadvantaged and are physically unable to paint their homes are eligible to get the exterior of their home painted. Homes must be owner-occupied and in sufficient condition so that scraping and spot priming are the only preparations needed. Paint Day is Saturday, September 7th. **Applications are due by July 1, 2024.** Call 847-259-7730, ext 21 for more information and an application.

Paint-A-Thon is also a major VOLUNTEER event – and we're always looking for teams of volunteers! Teams are recruited from businesses, churches, schools, social service and civic groups (volunteers must be at least 16). If you're interested in applying to get your home painted, or to learn more about volunteering on Paint Day as part of a team, contact Lynndah Lahey, Wheeling Township's Director of Senior & Disability Services at 847-259-7730, ext. 21.

HOME DELIVERED MEAL PROGRAM

If you have concerns about your ability to shop or cook for yourself (or know someone who might need help), consider Wheeling Township's Home Delivered Meal Program. The Township offers a reasonably priced home-delivered hot meal program for residents of the Township who meet eligibility requirements.



How does the program work?

A hot, freshly prepared meal is delivered at mid-day, Monday through Friday, right to the door of the recipient by a friendly volunteer. Applicants must agree to receive meals five days a week for at least a month.

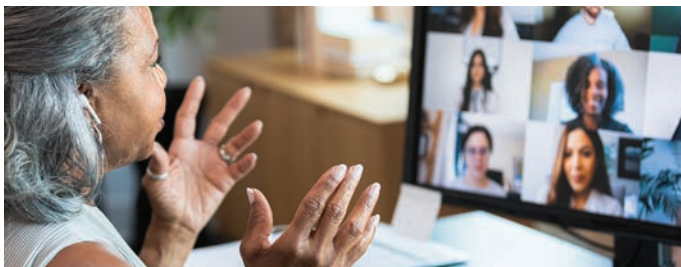
Cost of the meals?

Wheeling Township's program is a self-pay program: The hot meal is \$8.00 per day. A cold meal (which is delivered at the same time) is available for an additional \$5.75 per day. Bills are mailed monthly for the meals received.

Who is eligible?

- Must be a resident over 60 or permanently disabled individual over 18
- Must reside within Wheeling Township
- Must be considered homebound and/or no longer driving
- Must not have a full-time caregiver
- There must be availability on a route

If you're interested in finding out more about the program, call Kathy Lewiston, our Home Delivered Meal Program Coordinator, at 847-259-7730, ext. 19, or send an email to: HomeDeliveredMeals@Wheeling-Township.com.



VIP-VISUALLY IMPAIRED SUPPORT GROUP

Meets on Zoom: 1st Thursday of every month, 1pm – 3:00pm

If you have any type of vision loss, Wheeling Township's VIP Visually Impaired Support Group might be of help to you! Share with others, socialize, learn from educational presentations and find out about other services available to you. Started in 2000, the VIP group has over 40 members with eye conditions ranging from AMD and Glaucoma to total blindness. Please call Lynndah at 847-259-7730, ext. 21 to learn more about this great support group.

Medicare can be complicated...

SHIP Can Help!!

If you are enrolled in Medicare, are close to enrolling in Medicare, or have health insurance questions, Wheeling Township's SHIP Counselors may be able to help you. SHIP Counselors objectively counsel Medicare beneficiaries, their caregivers or representatives who have Medicare questions.

Our five dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers are extensively trained by the **Illinois Department On Aging** to assist Medicare participants with understanding their benefit coverage, helping with filing medical bills and claims, explaining Medicare Supplemental and Part D Insurance, and providing resolution support for problems. Our SHIP Counselors also help with Benefit Access. Call 847-259-7730 to make an appointment.



ILLINOIS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ACCESS CORPORATION

Have trouble hearing on the phone?

Test amplified phones on Monday, March 18

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone (landline or cell)? Test the ITAC amplified phones and amplified cell phone attachments at the Wheeling Township offices on **Monday, March 18th, 10:00am - 2:00pm**. Free amplified telephones and cellphone attachments are available to qualified Illinois residents with a hearing loss.

Participants MUST make appointments by calling Schaumburg Township at 847-884-0030 in advance; NO walk-ins.



Low Vision Products Road Show

Monday, April 1st • 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Low Vision Products Road Show welcomes the public to experience state-of-the-art LOW VISION 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. **Free! No reservations needed.** For more info, call 847-259-7730.

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Meets on Zoom: 3rd Tuesday of every month, 1pm – 2:30 pm

Providing care for someone with memory loss can be a labor of love, but it can also be exhausting and stressful. Wheeling Township partners with the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Illinois Chapter, to offer a monthly support group for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease. Lynndah Lahey, Wheeling Township's Director of Senior & Disability Services facilitates this group, encouraging caregivers to maintain their personal, physical and emotional health. Please contact Lynndah at 847-259-7730, ext. 21 for more information.

Donation Drive Update...

Thank You!

Wheeling Township held its annual donation drive last November to collect food, cards and funds for Operation Support Our Troops America, Inc, a local nonprofit organization that mails 'Comfort & Care Packages' to active military personnel stationed around the globe. **Township residents REALLY outdid themselves! 2023's donations beat previous years by a considerable amount.**



Residents donated:

- **2,122 pounds** of snacks, socks, candy and toiletries;
- **1,100+** cards/letters/pictures; and,
- **\$5,255.50** in monetary contributions.

2023's Donation Drive was the most successful yet – and it's all thanks to the generosity of Wheeling Township residents! Many thanks to everyone in the community who took the time to drop off snacks, candy or other food items, write a card, or make a financial donation for this great cause – **you made a difference.** Don't forget that we hold this donation driver EVERY November, so we look forward to seeing you again this year.



AARP Smart Driver Program

Tune Up Your Driving Skills

The AARP Smart Driver Course is designed to help you **tune up** your driving skills, **learn** about normal age-related physical changes and how to **adjust** your driving to compensate, and **reduce** your chances of receiving a traffic violation or getting into an accident. Upon the completion of the eight hour, two-session class, you will be issued a certificate which may be submitted to your automobile insurance company for a discount on your auto insurance. You must attend both sessions to get the certificate.

Cost: \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-AARP members. Checks or cash accepted; checks should be made payable to AARP and brought to the first class. Classes are held at the Wheeling Township building. Dinner is not provided, so you may bring a sandwich. Coffee, water and cookies will be available. Call 847-259-7730 to register.

Dates/Times: 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Mondays & Tuesdays:

- **March 4 & March 5**
- **June 10 & June 11**

Wheeling Township Report, Inc.

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

www.wheelingtowship.com

Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays

Township Board Meetings: 8:00 p.m.
on the fourth Tuesday of each month

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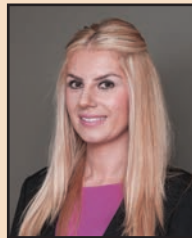
WHEELING TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS



Kathy Penner
SUPERVISOR



Ken Jochum
ASSESSOR



Joanna Gauza
TOWN CLERK



Patricia Kozicki
TRUSTEE



Jeanne Hamilton
TRUSTEE



Joe Murglin
TRUSTEE



Darrel Talken
TRUSTEE

SPRING FOOD PANTRY TOP 5

- Canned Fruit
 - Pineapples
 - Peaches
 - Pears
 - Mandarin Oranges
- Pancake Mix and Syrup
- Beans
 - White Northern Beans
 - White Cannellini Beans
 - Red Kidney Beans
 - Baked Beans
- Potatoes
 - Instant Mashed Potato Boxes
 - Flavored Instant Potato Pouches
 - Flavored Potato Boxes
- Soup
 - Cream of Chicken
 - Beef Vegetable
 - Chicken Noodle
 - Minestrone



WHEELING TOWNSHIP TRANSPORTATION

Much more than just a ride!

Looking for safe and affordable transportation? 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.



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. Call as soon as possible to reserve your ride, as buses fill up quickly (you may call up to 30 days in advance for medical appointments).

How much? \$2 each way.

How do I sign up? Call the transportation department with questions – or for an application. Applications can also be found online at www.wheelingtowship.com under "services."

Call today for more information: 847-259-7743.