

FUNDING FOR THESE AGENCIES PROVIDED BY WHEELING TOWNSHIP

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 Services
- Faith Community Homes
- MySolutions
- Hands On Suburban Chicago
- The Harbour
- JourneyCare
- Journeys - The Road Home
- Life Span
- Lutheran Services of Illinois Behavioral Health Services Program
- Midwest Council for Children with Disabilities
- NCH Foundation Mental Health Navigator 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

We're Proud to Serve You..



(left to right) Michael B. Schroeder Supervisor, Joanna Gauza Township Clerk, Robert Hoban Trustee, Ruth O'Connell Trustee, Mike Domrzalski Trustee, Kathy Penner Trustee, Scott Saewert Highway Commissioner, and Jerry Sadler Assessor

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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



SPRING 2015



REPORT

From the Supervisor...
Michael B. Schroeder

The Wheeling Township annual Volunteer & Donor Appreciation luncheon took place on Friday April 24, 2015 at Metropolis Ballroom. The theme **"many hands make light work"** recognizes the army of volunteers and donors that afford Wheeling Township the opportunity to offer essential services and control spending. It's always my pleasure to acknowledge and thank those that give of their time and resources to help those facing life's challenges. We are humbled and grateful to be part of such a giving community.

A special Thank You goes to Kris Freeman, Director of Senior/Disability Services, and Chris Guth, Assistant Director, for planning yet another outstanding event. The attention to detail by these talented, creative women produced an amazing, fun-filled celebration for 197 remarkable volunteers and donors.

We are especially grateful to our Lutheran Home partners (see photo on page 3). Last year the Lutheran Home Culinary Services department prepared 19,498 dietary restricted meals for our homebound residents. The success of this program is a direct result of the knowledgeable and professional staff at the Lutheran Home, the many dedicated, caring volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers, and our own exuberant Chris Guth, a.k.a. Vanna White. They make it all possible...**many thanks.**



(L to r) Sue & John Cafarella, Char & Ed Perlow, Diane & Jack Ferguson, Victoria Kopulos, Lou Barnett, Deanne Rehmer, Supervisor Michael Schroeder

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.

Just call our office to register for the upcoming free programs offered at the Wheeling Township Center on the following dates. **Registration is limited, so call now to reserve your place!**

MAINTAINING YOUR BALANCE Stay Strong and Safe

Tuesday, June 9 • 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Wondering how to maintain and improve your balance? What is osteoporosis and what can I do to make my bones stronger and healthier? Physical therapists from Northwest Community Healthcare will help answer these important questions and present exercises and information that can help you be more confident and reduce your risk of falling... all helping to make you more independent.



FOUR YEARS THAT CHANGED AMERICA

Tuesday, July 14 • 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Each year is important in the life of our nation. A given year might be memorable because a certain person was elected President, because the Chicago Cubs won the World Series or because NASA landed men on the moon.

But a few years are exceptional – so full of critical events that we can summarize those events and say that year changed our country forever.

Join us for **Professor Gary Midkiff's** presentation about the four years he believes changed America and the reasons for his selections.



Spoiler alert. 1908 (the last year the Cubs won the World Series) is NOT one of the four years.

Gary is a college professor who teaches business and American history at colleges throughout the Chicago area. He works with MBA and undergraduate students, gifted high school students and adult life-long learners. Gary is back by popular demand... join us for an interesting historical perspective.

UNDERSTANDING MEDICARE PART D Prescription Drug Coverage

**Open Enrollment for Medicare Part D
October 15 through December 7**

Tuesday, September 8 • 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Seniors have many choices when it comes to Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage. Understanding those choices can insure that you receive the prescription drugs you require at the most beneficial cost to you. Join the SHIP counselors from Wheeling Township Senior Services as they explain how Medicare Part D works for you and how they can help you make the best choices when it comes to your prescription needs. The session will include a live internet demonstration of the tools you can use to personalize your Part D drug coverage, information on how and when to enroll in or change plans, and explanations of various programs that may allow you to save money on your prescription drugs. Whether you are able to attend the presentation or not, you can call the township at 847-259-7730 to schedule a one-on-one appointment with a SHIP counselor to review your Part D drug coverage during the annual enrollment period. SHIP counselors are not affiliated with any insurance company.

If you are a member of a local civic group, faith community or an organization that would like to learn more about Medicare and how recent changes might affect you, our SHIP volunteers are available to come and speak to your group.



Lou Barnett, SHIP Counselor and Supervisor Michael Schroeder

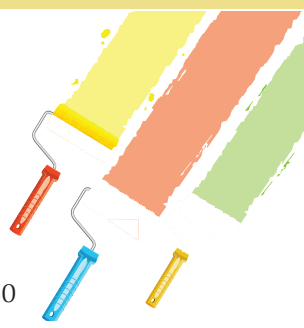
The COMMUNITY 2015

Paint-A-Thon Paint Date

September 12

Paint-A-Thon is a unique community partnership designed to paint the exterior of homes owned and occupied by persons with limited financial resources, who are at least 60 years of age or have a permanent disability, making them unable to do the work themselves.

Contact the Wheeling Township Senior & Disability Department for an application for the program or to find out how you might be able to volunteer.



MEDICAL SERVICES

Karen McNeir, R.N., B.S.N.

Wheeling Township recognizes the importance of older adults to remain living independently in their homes and their communities.

The following health services, administered by the Township nurse, are available by appointment, for residents 60 years and over.

Tuesdays & Thursdays • 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- **Blood Pressure** (no charge)
- **Blood Sugar Screening** (\$1 charge)
- **INR & PRO Time – Anticoagulation Therapy Testing** (\$6 charge)

Cholesterol Screening:

2nd & 4th Thursday of Each Month • 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(Available to residents 18 years & older)

Eight hour fasting (water only) lipid profile including total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and blood sugar (\$15.00 charge) Cholesterol screenings require drawing of a blood sample from the fingertip.

At-home hemocult screening tests available for \$4.00

VOLUNTEER AND PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS OFFER COMPASSIONATE SERVICES

Celebrating her 100th Birthday – Aging in Place with Township Services

TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER SERVICES “NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS”

Meals On Wheels dedicated volunteers, Bill and Mary Kopp made a special meal delivery, including a beautiful floral bouquet and a delicious chocolate éclair to Helen Shannon who turned 100 on Friday, April 3.

Helen and her husband were married for 50 years and she found volunteering for the Women's Auxiliary at Holy Family a rewarding experience. Helen lives independently and appreciates all of the support from the Meals On Wheels program and volunteers, who deliver a hot meal, a smiling face and compassionate conversation.



9/24/15

Save the date!

SENIOR CELEBRATION

Save the date and mark your calendars!

**Thursday, September 24, 2015
Arlington International Racecourse**

The 27th Annual Senior Celebration Day will now be held on Thursday, September 24 from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm. The same FREE event with health screenings, exhibitors, discounted lunch, entertainment, raffle prizes, free parking & shuttle, and so much more!



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES...

More Than Just a Ride!

Unable to drive? Looking for safe and affordable transportation? If you are age 60 and over or age 18 and over with a permanent disability, the Wheeling Township Transportation services may be an answer for your transportation needs. In 2014, over 24,500 rides were provided to our residents. Service hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday within the Wheeling Township boundaries.

For those needing to travel outside Wheeling Township boundaries for medical appointments, TRIP may be the answer. This long standing collaboration between PACE, and Elk Grove, Hanover, Palatine, Schaumburg, and Wheeling Townships, uses State grants to subsidize riders fares. The one-way cost is \$5.00 for every township line crossed during a single trip, not to exceed \$10.00. TRIP's service hours are Mon. thru Fri. 5AM-9PM & Sat. 7AM-4PM. Destinations include VA medical facilities in Maywood, Elgin, & North Chicago and Stroger Hospital, Rush University Hospital, University of Illinois Hospitals, Loyola Medical Center, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Good Shepard Hospital, ARA So. Barrington Dialysis Center and specified Social Security Offices. Call our Transportation Department at 847-259-7743 for program services and eligibility.

A-OK ACTS OF KINDNESS

Acts of Kindness (A-OK) is a partnership with Wheeling Township and Township High School District 214. Keeping up with small household maintenance projects can be a challenge to older adults with lower incomes who are still trying to live independently. The work is done by high school volunteers under the supervision of A-OK school advisors. Students can wash windows, rack leaves, change furnace filters, and help accomplish many other projects. Services are available during the fall and spring seasons. If you are interested in the program, or know of a neighbor who might benefit from this intergenerational experience call Wheeling Township 847.259.7730 and ask about the A-OK program...*just another way to help your neighbors in need.*



RING, RING! TEST THE AMPLIFIED TELEPHONES!

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone? Join Wheeling Township & Schaumburg Township Disability Services on Thursday, June 18 from 10a.m. – 3 p.m. to test the ITAC fee amplified telephones and learn more about getting a free amplified phone. (Clients are also eligible for a new phone every four years.)

Participants must make appointments by calling 847-884-0030 in advance. Free amplified telephones are available to qualified Illinois residents with a hearing loss. To qualify applicants must:

- Be a legal resident of the State of Illinois
- Have telephone service at the address shown on your application form
- Have a licensed physician, speech pathologist, audiologist or designated DHS/DRS counselor sign the application form certifying the applicant is deaf, hard-of-hearing, Speech-Disabled or Deaf-Blind

FOOD AND MORE...

The Wheeling Township Client Choice Food Pantry celebrated its 3rd anniversary in April with the number of visits continuing to climb. Being a member of the Greater Chicago Food Depository allows items to be purchased at a fraction of the cost, but the vast majority of donations come from our own local community. *Here are a few ways you can help the Food Pantry continue on a success path:*

• **Giving Garden:** A wonderful addition to the food pantry during summer months is fresh produce. The food pantry proudly participates in the Daily Herald's Giving Garden Program, which provides fresh produce to needy residents. Home grown vegetables and fruit are such a nutritious supplement to the non-perishables from the food pantry. Having a locally grown, perfectly ripened tomato is a wonderful treat! As you till the soil, please consider planting a few extra seeds for the Giving Garden.



• **Paper & Personal Essentials:** Unknown to many is the fact that non-food items are not allowed to be purchased with SNAP benefits. Formerly called Food Stamps, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, can not be used to buy items needed every day like toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. The food pantry has separate shelves dedicated to these items but they are often empty. Next time you're shopping,

please consider donating a few of these needed, non-food items

• **Easy Staples:** Just like in your pantry or cabinets at home, there are staples always needed for the food pantry. When on your way to the grocery store, don't worry if you forgot your newsletter or didn't print the list from our website. Peanut butter, jelly, soup, cereal, tomato products, and juice are all typical items that families buy every week. Our food pantry families are no different from yours. Think about the staples you buy for your own family and simply add one or two extra for the food pantry!



Each and every donation makes a difference and helps us to fulfill our mission of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"!

STOP IN TO IMPROVE YOUR DRIVING SKILLS...

Secretary of State RULES OF THE ROAD Review Course

The one-session Secretary of State Refresher Course will help prepare you for your driving test and soothe those road test jitters! The review course, taught by knowledgeable volunteers, combines an explanation of the driving examination with a practice written examination.



If you are interested in this course, offered from 9:30 a.m. until noon on the following Thursdays, please call our office to register:

■ July 9 ■ September 10

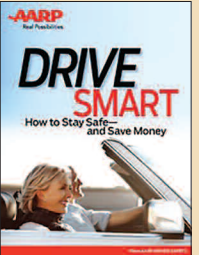
SAVE TIME AND STAY IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD

SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE AT THE TOWNSHIP ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 • 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Call for an appointment...Services available include vision screening, duplicate license, corrected license, driver's license renewal, State I.D. card and license plate stickers. There are NO ROAD TESTS available!

AARP – SMART DRIVER COURSE 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.



Call our office to register for one of the following two day sessions. A \$15.00 charge for AARP members and \$20.00 for non-members applies for the two session class. Checks should be made payable to AARP and mailed or dropped off at the Township Office prior to your first class.

Class is on Monday & Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on the following dates:

■ June 1 & June 3 ■ July 6 & July 8

■ August 3 and August 5 ■ September 14 and September 16

Upon the completion of the two-session class, you will be issued a certificate, which may be submitted to your auto insurance company for a possible discount.

Secretary of State, Department of Drivers Service

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK...



Kris Freeman, (right) Director of Senior/Disability Services, and Chris Guth, (left) Assistant Director, once again were responsible for another excellent celebration for our volunteers and contributors!

Bright flowers and wonderful Mariano Jumbo food carriers were given as gifts to those who attended this year, with our gratitude!



Our friends at the Lutheran home are (left to right) *Irina Perza, Dietary Administrative Assistant; Javier Barrientos, Assistant Director of Culinary Services; Angela Zamora, Director of Culinary Services; and Rex Paisley, Corporate Director of Communications.*



With Our Gratitude for All That You Do!



Father Daniel Hall of the Clerics of St. Viator for the Viatorian Community Garden, which has grown vegetables for the Giving Garden program for the last 3 years. Last summer alone, produce was donated on 50 different occasions!



Erica Chianelli of the Elite Soccer Community Organization for donating Thanksgiving baskets every year since 2009. Last year they donated 127 baskets, making the grand total 516 baskets in the last 6 years!

From the Assessor – Jerry Sadler

2014 2ND INSTALLMENT PROPERTY TAX BILLS

It is estimated that the 2014 2nd Installment property tax bills will be mailed on or about the 1st of July, 2015, with a due date the first part of August 2015. We recommend that you check the entire bill carefully. The bill should have a summary of the tax bill calculation and any relevant exemptions. If an exemption is missing from the bill, you will need to complete a **Certificate of Error** form and submit it along with a copy of the current property tax bill and a copy of a valid driver's license or Illinois ID card with the address of the subject property to the Cook County Assessor's office. The Certificate of Error forms are available on line at www.cookcountyassessor.com or from our office (847-259-1515), and all Cook County Assessor's offices. In order to serve you most efficiently please have **the property tax bill with your property index number (PIN) available**. The PIN is found at the top of the property tax bill. Although we can assist you with this process, only the Cook County Assessor can issue a corrected bill.

The Cook County Assessor maintains a branch office at the Skokie Circuit Courthouse building located at 5600 W. Old Orchard Road, Room 149, Skokie, IL 60077. The phone is 847-470-7237.

Property tax bills can be paid by mail, online or in person at any Chase Bank location or at the Cook County Treasurer's office in Chicago at the County Building at 118 N. Clark Street. In order to pay by mail or at a Chase bank location, you will need an original bill. If you need a duplicate bill, you will have to contact the Cook County Treasurer either online at www.cookcountytreasurer.com or by calling 312-443-5100. Check the back of the property tax bill for more details.

"If my property value is down, why is my property tax bill up?"

Property tax bills can increase even though market values and corresponding assessments are decreasing. This is because property tax is not solely dependent upon property values. The following are variables each year affecting property taxes for residential, industrial and commercial real estate in Cook County.

- The Illinois Department of Revenue sets the multiplier or equalizer annually, which is intended to ensure all properties are assessed at the same level of market value.
- The Cook County Clerk calculates the tax rates based on the total equalized assessed value (EAV) for all property in any given tax code area and the amount of money requested (budget or levy) by each taxing body.
- Taxing bodies listed on the second installment bill annually request money (levy or budget). Increased spending and budgets/levies directly impact property tax bills.

Much of this information is available on your 2nd installment tax bill or at the websites listed on the reverse side of the bill.

2015 ASSESSMENT APPEALS

For Wheeling Township property owners, the Cook County Assessor has tentatively scheduled the 2015 30-day assessment appeal window to open in July 2015. Please note that as property taxes in Cook County are paid one year in arrears, these assessment appeals, if successful, **affect 2015 2nd Installment property tax bills paid in July 2016**. During the 30-day window, you can submit an appeal online at www.cookcountyassessor.com or with an appeal form available at that same site or from our office or any Cook County Assessor's office. Appeals are reviewed and decisions made by the Cook County Assessor's office. We are available to assist you by providing information and direction on filing your appeal. Please contact us at 847-259-1515. Have your property index number available. We can answer many questions over the phone and mail or email the relevant information.

From the Clerk – Joanna Gauza

ANNUAL MEETING:

Wheeling Township's annual Township Meeting was held on April 14, 2015. This is not a regular board meeting; it is the one meeting that the Township Clerk conducts annually. This annual meeting addresses the Township's finances and future budget. America Legion Post 208 opened the meeting by presenting the colors. As Clerk, I presented the annual Township financial report that showed the Township finances and reserves are in excellent shape. Tax levies were reduced and services increased over the past year. At this point in the meeting, a moderator is elected by the registered voters (electors) attending the meeting. Arlington Heights resident and former Township Collector, Ken Jochum, was elected moderator to conduct the rest of the meeting. Resolutions to authorize the Board to purchase loss and liability insurance, fund social service agencies, and set the date and time of the next meeting were voted upon and passed by the majority of the electors present. Mr. Jochum introduced the elected officials and those presenting reports. Supervisor Schroeder presented awards to volunteers and donors.



VEHICLE STICKERS:

For those living in unincorporated Wheeling Township only – don't get a ticket, buy a vehicle sticker. These Cook County Vehicle Stickers for the unincorporated areas only are available for purchase at Wheeling Township. Stickers are valid from July 1 2015 until June 30, 2016. The cost for stickers varies, but generally an automobile is \$80, a small truck is \$100 and senior citizens (65 years and older) can receive up to two stickers free of charge. If you have purchased a vehicle within the last 30 days or moved to an unincorporated area within the last 60 days you - you will not be charged a late fee. Please be aware that the Cook County Sheriff's Police will ticket vehicles registered in unincorporated Cook County that do not display a current sticker. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me anytime at 847-259-7730 or by e-mail at jgauza@wheeling-township.com.



Highway Commissioner – Scott Saewart

DRAINAGE DITCH & DRIVEWAY CULVERT MAINTENANCE...

Spring melting snow and rainfalls can really put the Township roadway drainage system to the test. Now is the season to inspect your driveway culvert and remove any obstructions. Leaves and grass clippings have a tendency to collect at the upstream end of your driveway culvert. Ditches and culverts that flow keep water out of the road base, thus preserving the life of the pavement.



We encourage our unincorporated residents to perform seasonal inspection, clean and cut their lawn in the parkway ditch to insure ditches remain free flowing thus preventing clogging of their driveway culvert. Look for sediment build up, cracks or corrosion if you have a corrugated metal culvert pipe. Maintaining turf in your ditch flow line will reduce soil erosion and prevent sediment from filling the culvert pipe.

The Highway Department appreciates those property owners who do their part for the common benefit of their neighborhood and also recognizes those individuals who go above and beyond to assist elderly or disabled neighbors with property maintenance.

Your voluntary cooperation saves Township resources that would be needed for enforcement of Wheeling Township Ordinance 1998-01. This ordinance was adopted by Wheeling Township to set legal guidelines for property maintenance within the unincorporated areas of the Township by stating **"it shall be unlawful for any person who owns, operates, manages or is control or possession of property located in the unincorporated area of Wheeling Township to fail, neglect or refuse to maintain such property in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance."**

Section 10 of this Ordinance provides that **"no grass or weeds shall be allowed to grow uncontrolled, which for purposes of this ordinance shall mean more than six inches (6") on occupied property and more than twelve inches (12") on vacant property."** This includes the road right-of-way and drainage ditches. Furthermore, Section 6 provides penalties for violation of this Ordinance: **"The fine for the first violation shall be \$200. The fine for the second violation shall be \$400. The fine for the third and each successive violation shall be \$500. Every day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation."**

Let's all work together to maintain the parkway drainage and driveway culverts.