#### **SPRING/SUMMER 2020**



From the Supervisor – Kathy Penner

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## Neighbors Truly Helping Neighbors: Pandemic Brings out the Best in the Community

Wheeling Township's motto: *"Neighbors Helping Neighbors"* has never been more self-evident than during these past several months. We have witnessed an incredible outpouring of gener-osity and compassion from residents, local businesses, organizations, and neighborhoods during the pandemic and shutdown, for which we are very grateful.

A few examples include the \$12,200 donation from The Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company and their employees, the 1,000 pound donation of food from ABC Plumbing, Heating, Cooling & Electric, and several hundred heavyduty bags donated by the Arlington Heights Rotary for the Food Pantry. There have also been numerous canned food drives held by local neighborhoods as a way help restock the Pantry. *Thank you to everyone in the community for the exceptional support.* 

Although the building has been closed to the public (and currently remains so), I'm proud of our Township staff members who have continued to offer essential

services for our most vulnerable residents, specifically Food Pantry, General Assistance and Transportation. Additionally, Senior Services and the Assessor's office have remained available, and all roads in unincorporated areas of the Township have been maintained.

**Food Pantry:** Over 1,100 distributions of pre-packed bags of shelf-stable food have been provided to Wheeling Township residents March 1 – May 15, and we anticipate the need will continue to increase. Should residents need food, contact the Township at 847-259-7730 or email GA@wheelingtownship.com. Pre-packed food bags are available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9 - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

**General Assistance (GA):** We recognize that residents may be faced with new financial challenges as a result of the pandemic, and we will do our best to assist whenever possible. Residents facing financial hardship, potential eviction or utility disconnections should contact the Township for assistance at 847-259-7730. A member of the General Assistance Department will return the call.

**Transportation:** Throughout the shutdown, transportation has continued to be provided for medical appointments such as dialysis, and to grocery stores and pharmacies. PACE's TRIP program has also been operational. Our buses are being sanitized, and social distancing is being practiced. For an application, contact the Transportation Department directly at 847-259-7743. Transportation is available for seniors over 60 and disabled persons over 18.

**Assessor's Office:** For any property tax related issue, contact the Assessor's office at 847-259-1515. In May, the Cook County Assessor announced that the Wheeling Township Property Tax Appeal process would run until June 19th. Call the Assessor's office or email taxinfo@wheelingtownship. com for more information on how to file an appeal. Additional information may be found at www.cookcountyassessor.com

Thank you for remaining strong as we all navigate this new normal together. Wheeling Township is here to help you!



# FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE... Jerry Sadler

## 2020 COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR APPEALS FILING DATES: MAY 14 - JUNE 19

The opportunity to appeal the 2020 assessed value of your property is from May 14-June 19th.

This time frame has been moved up from previous years when the open date was typically in July. The window has been expanded to 37 days, and the 10 day additional documentation period eliminated. Although the Assessor's office is closed to in person visits, we are available via phone or email to assist with your appeal, as well as any other issues.

Please contact us at 847-259-1515 or email taxinfo@wheelingtownship.com. We ask that you have the 14 digit property index number (PIN) available. This number is found at the top of the tax bill.

Our office can assist in finding comparable properties for an online appeal (which is the preferred method) at cookcountyassessor.com. If you email us, please include your PIN number in the subject line and name and address in the body of the email. We will send you a list of comparable properties and instructions for the new online Appeal Portal on the County Assessor website.

If you do not have access to a computer, email or call us with your information and we will file the appeal online and send you a confirmation. Information and forms are also available at the entrance to the Wheeling Township building in a box marked 'Assessor Appeals'. If you need the appeal to be filed for you, please print clearly on the appeal form your name, address, phone number and email if possible. Leave the form in the drop box outside the building and we will contact you.

**2019 Second Installment Property Tax Bills** are tentatively scheduled to be mailed by early July. Updates will be posted on the Wheeling Township website. If you do not receive the bill, a copy is available on the Cook County Treasurer website

## WHEELING TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT: Maintaining the ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY...

All public roads are located within land which is referred to as the road right-of-way, which is the area between a homeowner's property line and the street. In addition to the actual driving surface, the right-of-way typically includes roadside shoulders, road drainage ditches and/or sewers, public utilities and traffic control signs. The width of road right-of-way is established by deed, statute, or through the platting process. Regardless, lands within the road right-of-way are reserved for use of the traveling public and maintenance of the road system. Public roadways within the unincorporated areas are under the jurisdiction of Wheeling Township, which has a duty to look after the health, safety, and welfare of the public using these roads.

As per Wheeling Township Ordinance 02-01 (adopting Wheeling Township Road District Code of Ordinances), any work or activity performed within the road right-of-way, other than lawn maintenance, requires a permit www.cookcountytreasurer.com. Property tax bills can be paid by mail, online or in person at any Chase Bank. You will need an original or a duplicate tax bill. You can also pay online (no fee) at www.cookcountytreasurer.com from a bank account.

Please review your bill carefully for appropriate exemptions. If an exemption is missing from the bill, you may file a certificate of error at www.cookcountyassessor.com or contact our office to obtain forms for a refund. The forms are also available on the website. See below for exemption information:

#### **EXEMPTION TABLE EFFECTIVE 2017**

HOMEOWNER	= 10,000 x tax rate	Primary residence as of Jan. 1
SENIOR	= 8,000 x tax rate	Born in 1954 or before
<b>SENIOR FREEZE</b> Live in home 2 full years from January 1, 2018	Minimum of 2,000 x tax rate	2018 Household Income under \$68,000.00
DISABLED VETERAN	= 2,500 x tax rate need current letter from VA	30 to 49% disabled
DISABLED VETERAN	= 5,000 x tax rate need current letter from VA	50 to 69% disabled
DISABLED VETERAN	UP TO 250,000 EAV exempt need current letter from VA	70% disabled or greater
DISABLED PERSON	= 2,000 x tax rate Need Social Security Award Letter or PTAX (Physician's Statement)	Disabled year of application or prior

from Wheeling Township Road Maintenance, such as driveway installation, driveway resurfacing, irrigation installation, ditch modification, utility installation and tree removal. Furthermore, Wheeling Township does not allow any obstructions within the right-of-way that create an unsafe condition for those using the roadways, such as fences, boulders, tree stumps, masonry mailboxes, unauthorized signs or any other obstructions that can cause damage to a vehicle and/or its driver or occupants.

The unincorporated roads in the Township primarily use ditch and culvert systems to handle drainage. They are designed to collect rainfall from the road pavement and elevated properties, which then drain into storm sewer systems at strategic locations. To function as intended, these ditch and culvert systems depend on mutual Township and homeowner cooperation. The Township is responsible for maintaining drainage pipes that cross under roads and the storm sewer systems that the ditches drain into. The Township depends on homeowners to be responsible for their driveway apron and the culvert that runs beneath it. This means keeping the pipe clear of obstructions to allow water to flow freely through it.

# FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE... Joanna Gauza

## **2020 ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION**

The Presidential and General Election and other important elections are approaching. In these elections, voters will vote for candidates for the Office of the President of the United States, U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, Illinois State Legislative offices, and local judges. The nation will hold its General Election on November 3, 2020. If you want to vote in this election, 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 this election. To register, please call 847-259-7730 to make an appointment. The Clerk's Office hours are 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, be 18 years of age or older by on November 3, 2020, 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 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 photo ID when you vote for the first time. As always, you can register to vote on Election Day, but registering to vote is best done before to avoid the stress of completing the registration process at the polling site. If you want to vote by mail,

**ELECTION JUDGES** Every election in suburban Cook County requires a team of Election Judges and Polling Place Technicians. These poll workers are paid \$200-\$365 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 earns \$200.
- Polling Place Technicians work directly with the election judges to assist voters. Polling Place Technicians also have more responsibility for setting

Water pressure from a garden hose should be sufficient to clear a culvert of debris if done on a regular basis. If debris is allowed to become packed, a contractor with more powerful equipment may be required.

The Township also depends on residents to be responsible for maintaining the right-of-way area, including the drainage ditch, in front of their property by mowing the grass, raking out grass clippings and leaves, and removing litter that may accumulate, especially in the drainage ditch. It is important to grow and maintain a grass covering in the ditches to prevent silt from accumulating that will flow downstream and clog culverts, drainage ditches and sewers.

This mutual cooperation will help assure that the entire drainage system operates at its maximum capacity for the benefit of both you and your neighbors, and help keep costly drainage system and road repairs to a minimum.

If you have any questions, please direct your calls to Tom Neitzke at 847-259-7730 ex 41 or Regina Stapleton at 847-259-7730 ex 11.

please contact Cook County at https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/ vote-mail to request a mail ballot. However, mail ballots are NOT currently available and will not be available until fall, closer to the November 3, 2020 Election date.

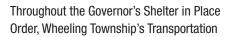
#### Key Dates for the NOVEMBER 3, 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: DATE **EVENT** 10/06/2020 Voter Registration closes for deputy registrars and local election officials 10/07/2020 First day of grace period registration and voting 10/18/2020 Last day to register to vote by online application 10/19/2020 First day of early voting 10/29/2020 Last day to request a mail ballot, including military and overseas voters 11/02/2020 Last day of early voting 11/02/2020 Last day of grace period registration and voting 11/03/2020 Last day mail ballots can be postmarked 11/03/2020 Election Day

up and maintaining the voting equipment. Due to the additional responsibility, Polling Place Technicians receive more training and higher pay of \$365.

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. You may call the Democratic Party at (224) 544-9836 or the Republican Party at (847) 632-1774.

### WHEELING TOWNSHIP TRANSPORTATION — More than just a Ride! Looking for safe 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.



Department continued to provide rides to dialysis appointments and to grocery stores. All buses are being sanitized, our drivers are wearing masks, and social distancing is being practiced (no more than 2 - 3 people per bus).

Rides are available for residents to medical appointments and other locations within the Township, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm.

Cost? \$2 each way.

*How do I get an application?* You can find the application on our website: www.wheelingtownship.com or call 847-259-7743.





#### Wheeling Township Report, Inc.

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

www.wheelingtownship.com Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays

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



**ECRWSS** 

### **Residential Postal Customer**



**SUPERVISOR** 



**Jerry Sadler** ASSESSOR

Joanna Gauza **TOWN CLERK** 



WHEELING TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS

**Ruth O'Connell** TRUSTEE



TRUSTEE



A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL DURING THIS TIME OF NEED...

Although the Greater Chicago Food Depository has closed our pantry to client

shopping due to COVID-19, Wheeling Township is providing pre-packed food bags in an effort to help our community get through this difficult situation.

The generosity of our neighbors has kept the food pantry operating! We



Ken Jochum TRUSTEE

Patricia Kozicki TRUSTEE

### FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED...

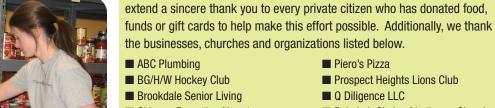
Looking for a way to help? Please consider purchasing some of these needed items on your next trip to the grocery store:

Beans (Black, Red, Kidney, Pinto, Navy, etc.)

- Pasta Sauce
- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Fruit
- Potatoes (au gratin, mashed, scalloped, etc.)
- Jellv
- Rice
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Soups (not broth)
- Meat/protein (ravioli, chili, beef stew, etc.)
- Stuffing
- Pasta
- Tuna

A cart is stationed at the west entrance (parking lot side), as the doors to the building are locked. If there is no one in the hallway, please ring the doorbell and someone will come out to retrieve your bag(s).

If you are unable to shop and would prefer to make a monetary donation, checks should be made payable to "Wheeling Township Emergency Fund, Inc.", which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.



- BG/H/W Hockey Club
- Brookdale Senior Living
- Chicago Executive Airport
- Christian Church of Arlington Heights
- Cub Scout Pack 130
- Gerry's Café
- Girl Scout Troop 45646
- Guarantee Trust Life Ins. Co.
- Historic Arlington Neighborhood Assn.
- Happy Old Guys
- Hunger Resource Network
- Illinois Bone & Joint Institute
- Lions Club of Arlington Hts. Foundation
- Luther Village Enrichment Foundation
- Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
- Maple Hill Creamery
- North Northfield United Methodist Church
- Northwest Circle of Friends

- Piero's Pizza
- Prospect Heights Lions Club
- Q Diligence LLC
- Rebekah Circle of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
- Redeeming Grace Church
- Rotary Club of Arlington Heights Noon
- Congressman Brad Schneider
- Sonoco Thermosafe
- South Church of Mount Prospect
- Southminster Presbyterian Church St. Peter Lutheran School
- St. Viator High School
- The Arlingtones
- The Orchard Evangelical Free Church
- ThermoFisher Scientific
- Tony's Fresh Market
- Trader Joe's
- Wheeling/Prospect Heights Chamber of Commerce