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REPORT

SPRING 2017

From the Supervisor – Kathy Penner

Wheeling Township's Town Meeting on April 11, 2017 was the perfect opportunity to present awards to local organizations in recognition of their efforts to help the Township fight hunger and offer joy at the holiday season. Year after year they support our mission to help our neighbors. **We are most grateful for all their assistance.**

Arlington Heights Rotary — President Jim Bertucci and Kari Kobernick

For the past decade, the Arlington Heights Noon Rotary has been donating 75 Thanksgiving baskets each year. They have provided countless refurbished used bicycles for children and needy adults as well as hundreds of cloth bags for food pantry recipients to help with the environment. In addition, last year they held quarterly food drives to rescue the pantry when donations were low. They are not only Neighbors Helping Neighbors, but also the embodiment of their own mission of "Service above Self!"



Arlington Community Church — Pastor Dave Corlew

For the past 10 years, Arlington Countryside Church has been participating in our Adopt-a-Family Christmas program. Congregation members generously buy, wrap and deliver gifts for at least 50 people each year. Thousands of smiles and wonderful Christmas memories would not have been possible without Arlington Countryside's ongoing commitment to this program. They are neighbors sharing the joy of the holiday season!



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church — Pastor Rod Krueger

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has embarked on a mission to wipe out hunger. In the last 5 years, congregation members have donated food 32 times to our pantry. In the last 2 years, they have increased their donations to every month and raised more than \$2,100 to purchase food. They are neighbors feeding neighbors!



Prospect Heights Lions Club — President Mark Toll

Since 2012 the Prospect Heights Lions have donated \$5,400 to the food pantry to help keep the shelves stocked. In addition, they regularly donate to subsidize those homebound residents who cannot pay for Meals on Wheels –\$2,200 since 2014. Lions Clubs are known for meeting humanitarian needs around the world. The giving spirit of the Prospect Heights Lions Club affords us the opportunity to further help countless neighbors in our neck of the woods.



Thanks to Those Leaving Office and Welcome to our New Trustees...

Best wishes and many thanks are extended to **Mike Domrzalski, Robert Hoban** and **Scott Saewert** for their many years of service to the residents of Wheeling Township. Join me in welcoming Trustees **Brian Medley** and **Jeffrey Battinus** to the Township's team and bidding them much success in public service.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS



WHEELING TOWNSHIP FUNDING FOR THESE AGENCIES PROVIDED BY

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 Services
- 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 (housing)
- Omni Youth Service
- P.H.D.
- Salvation Army
- Shelter, Inc.
- St. Mary's Services
- Suburban Primary HealthCare/Access to Care WINGS

For additional information regarding agencies and funding, please contact Jo Stellato, Director of Finance and Administration at jstellato@wheelingtowship.com.

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

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

www.wheelingtowship.com

847-259-7730

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

1616 N. Arlington Heights Road
Wheeling Township Report, Inc.



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 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 office. **Registration is always limited, so call now to reserve your place!**

New Program...

UNDERSTANDING MEDICARE BENEFITS – An Overview

Thursday, June 15, 2017*
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

*(*Please note: Program is on Thursday!)*

If you are already enrolled in, or are close to enrolling in Medicare, join us for a great overview presentation on unraveling the Medicare maze. Lou Barnett, Wheeling Township's SHIP Coordinator (Senior Health Insurance Program), will walk you through resources, suggestions and tips on how to understand Medicare and your options. A great program to better understand traditional Medicare, Medicare Advantage and Medicare supplements.



AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Presented by Gary Midkiff
Tuesday, July 11, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Regardless whether our President is Democratic or Republican, liberal or conservative, the same issues confront our nation - and our allies - as we seek to understand how to promote our policy goals in the new world order. A timely and important lecture, Gary's annual lecture at Wheeling Township residents promises to be thought-provoking and insightful. We hope you'll join us for this program.

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.

MEDICARE PART D Prescription Drug Coverage Choices

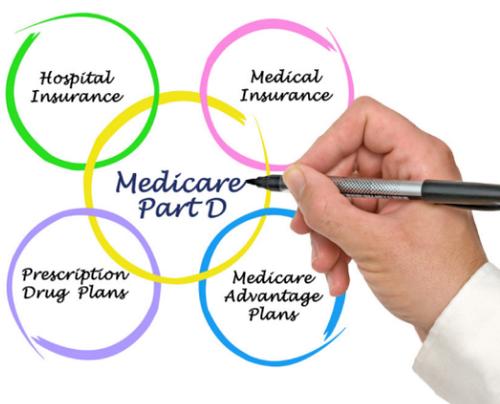
Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Due to popularity, program will be offered twice on the same day:

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
OR 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Open Enrollment for Medicare Part D is October 15 – December 7

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 Wheeling Township's SHIP program coordinator Lou Barnett as he explains how Medicare Part D works, and how SHIP counselors can help you make the best choice when it comes to your prescription needs. The session includes a live internet demonstration and information on how and when to enroll and/or change plans.



MEDICAL SERVICES...

We have a new Nurse! Meet **Pam McVoy**. Pam brings over 30 years of clinical nursing experience with her, and she's very happy about working with all our residents. We're delighted that she's joined the Wheeling Township family. Stop by to say hello and introduce yourself. We provide the following medical services to Township residents:



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.

29TH ANNUAL SENIOR CELEBRATION DAY

Don't Miss It!

Friday, June 9, 2017

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

New Location — Same Great Event!

Forest View Educational Center



This fun, **FREE** event offers health screenings, exhibitors, a discounted lunch, entertainment, raffle prizes, free parking, and so much more! Don't miss this great day out. Location: Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S Goebbert Rd, AH, 60005. Unlimited free tickets available at Wheeling Township main desk now.



WHEELING TOWNSHIP TRANSPORTATION

MUCH more than just a ride!

Looking for safe and affordable transportation? If you are over 60

(or 18 and over, with a permanent disability), Wheeling Township's outstanding transportation service and team 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 be. Last year, over 25,000 rides were provided to Township residents.

When is the service available? Rides are available 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. **Cost?** \$2 each way.

When should you call? For medical appointments, please 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.

Call (847)259-7743 for more information about the program & eligibility.

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! 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

■ July 13 ■ September 14



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.

Call Wheeling Township 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. Call the Township office to register.

5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. on the following Mondays and Wednesdays:

■ June 5 & June 7 ■ July 10 & July 12
■ August 7 & August 9 ■ September 11 & September 13

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.



Join us for our 30th Annual Community Paint-a-thon 2017

Saturday, September 16, 2017

Wheeling Township is one of 10 area townships participating in this year's Paint-A-Thon. *Who qualifies?* Older (60+) or disabled homeowners of single-family residences who are financially disadvantaged and who are physically unable to paint their homes themselves are eligible to get the exterior of their home painted. The homes must be owner-occupied and in sufficient condition so that scraping and spot priming are the only preparations needed. *Rain date is 9/23.*

Paint-A-Thon is a major volunteer event. Teams of volunteers are recruited from businesses, churches, social service and civic groups. Volunteers must be at least 14. *If you're interested in volunteering (or might qualify to have your home painted), contact Aileen Zei, Wheeling Township's Assistant Director of Senior & Disability Services, for information, or an application.*



ILLINOIS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ACCESS CORPORATION

HAVE TROUBLE HEARING ON THE PHONE??

Test amplified phones on June 22

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone? Join Wheeling Township & Schaumburg Township's Disability Services (at Wheeling Township's office) on Thursday, June 22 from 10am – 3 pm to test the ITAC free amplified telephones and learn more about getting a free amplified phone. (Clients are 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
- Have a licensed physician, speech pathologist, audiologist or designated DHS/DRS counsellor sign the application form certifying the applicant is deaf, hard-of-hearing, Speech-Disabled or Deaf-Blind

FOOD PANTRY CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF CLIENT CHOICE...

April marked 5 years since Wheeling Township re-opened its food pantry as a Client Choice Model. Unlike traditional pantries where food is pre-packed for the recipients, a client choice model allows "shoppers" to choose the items from the shelves for themselves. The idea behind this type of pantry is that recipients know what food their families eat and the statistics for use of the food pantry have confirmed just that.

In five years, there have been 24,893 visits to the food pantry. Those visits fed 59,321 people, of which 18,674 were children. The monthly use average for the food pantry prior to the Client Choice Model was 132 visits. Visits have increased every year since. During FY 16-17, the average is an astounding 471 visits per month!

Here are some other facts about the food pantry:

- The food pantry is part of a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization named The Wheeling Township Emergency Fund, which is separate from Wheeling Township government.
- Donated funds, not tax dollars, support the pantry operation.
- It takes a crew of 46 volunteers to make the food pantry run! They work 11 shifts per week, at 3 hours each.
- ALL donated food comes from local community groups, businesses, schools and private citizens. Monetary funds donated are used to purchase food.
- 87,172 lbs. of food have been purchased from the Greater Chicago Food Depository since 2012. Last year, the average cost was only 37 cents per pound.
- Senior citizens use the pantry more often than any other age group.
- Recipient check ins are done electronically, to ensure the statistical data is accurate.
- Funding from grants have purchased a freezer, a commercial refrigerator, 4 shopping carts and 2 flatbed carts, all of which are vital equipment to keep the pantry operational.
- Most shopping days serve 47-55 families, at the rate of 3-4 families every 15 minutes.
- Search, Inc., a local social service agency for disabled adults, works 2 shifts each month.
- Rotary Club of Arlington Heights Sunset works an evening shift every month to re-stock shelves, as well as donates eggs & cheese.
- The Noon Rotary Club of Arlington Heights quarterly donates food and cloth grocery bags, to ease the burden on shoppers and help save the environment.
- The Giving Garden program supplements the non-perishables with fresh garden vegetables & fruit during the summer months.
- Essential non-food items, like soap, shampoo & toilet paper are also available in the food pantry, which is important because they cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits (formerly Food Stamps).
- *Want to donate, but not sure what is needed?* You can sign up to receive an email each month listing the top 5 most needed food items.
- EVERY donation makes a difference!

We are grateful and proud to be in a community which so diligently supports our pantry. It is truly the definition of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"! We look forward to 5 more years of success in trying to help wipe out hunger.



ABC Plumbing, Heating, Cooling and Electric of Arlington Heights collected more than 300 lbs of food during their food drive in March!



Thank You to the residents & management of Mallard Lake Apartments in Wheeling for a \$500 donation to the Food Pantry in March.

FROM THE ASSESSOR JERRY SADLER

2016 2nd INSTALLMENT PROPERTY TAX BILLS

The treasurer normally mails the 2nd installment tax bills on or about July 1st, with a due date the first part of August. **We recommend that you check the 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 property to the Cook County Assessor's office. If you were born in 1951 or earlier, you are entitled to a senior exemption along with your homeowner exemption on your primary residence only. **All senior exemptions must be renewed every year.** If you have any questions, or need assistance filing for your exemption, please call us at 847-259-1515. **We ask that you have your tax bill with your property index number (PIN) available.** The PIN is found at the top of the property tax bill.

The Cook County Assessor maintains a branch office at the Skokie Circuit Courthouse building located at 5600 W. Old Orchard Rd., Room 149, Skokie, IL 60077. Their phone # is 847-470-7237. The Cook County office can issue a revised bill. Property tax bills can be paid at any Chase Bank, by mail, online, or in person 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, 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 you filed an appeal for your 2016 triennial reassessment and received a reduction, it will be reflected on your 2nd installment tax bill. You will have another opportunity to file an appeal with the Cook County Assessor for next years assessed value. We are tentatively set to open for appeals July 7, 2017. You can check the website www.cookcountyassessor.com. We are available to assist you by providing information and direction on filing your appeal. Contact us by email at taxpayerassistance@wheelingtowship.com and provide your property index number for possible comparables for an appeal. If you do not use the internet you may contact us by phone at 847-259-1515, or by visiting our office. We ask that you always have your property index number available when calling or coming in to the office, so we can assist you in a timely manner.

FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Wheeling Township has jurisdiction over five miles of unincorporated roads in the following areas:

- Forest River subdivision
- Portwine Road and Forest View Road
- Dunlo subdivision
- Buffalo Highlands subdivision

As in the past, all road maintenance work is subcontracted. In addition, we have oversight duties over new construction designs on properties in these areas to insure that property storm water drainage will not adversely affect neighbors or adjacent municipalities. We also enforce Township and Road Right-of-Way ordinances.

Projects planned for the 2017 season include:

- Road drainage improvements along Morrison Avenue from Graylynn Dr. to Lee Street
- Crack sealing along Lee Street
- Annual pot-hole patching throughout the unincorporated areas
- Work with Cook County on the purchase and demolition of six flood-prone houses in the Forest River subdivision.
- Other projects as availability of budget permits.



Feel free to call Highway Manager Tom Neitzke, or Administrator Jo Stellato, with questions.

FROM THE CLERK JOANNA GAUZA ★★★★★

VOTER REGISTRATION

The Consolidated General Election on April 4, 2017 has just been completed. Thank you to all the voters that participated in the local elections. On March 20, 2018, our next Illinois State Primary Election will be held, which includes the office for Governor of Illinois. If you want to vote in this Primary Election and avoid the last minute rush, 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 future elections. To register, come to the Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday, between 9:00-4:30. You will need two forms of identification (one showing your current address), proof that you are a citizen of the United States, will be 18 years of age or older by the March 20, 2018 election, and 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, 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 or online, you must bring a valid state issued picture identification when you vote for the first time. **Remember - Once you have registered, you do not need to re-register unless you move or change your name.**



VEHICLE STICKERS:

For residents of **unincorporated** Wheeling Township – **don't get caught without a vehicle sticker!** The new stickers must be purchased and displayed by July 1, 2017 to avoid a ticket and an increased cost of buying the vehicle sticker. These Cook County Vehicle Stickers for the **unincorporated** areas are available for purchase at Wheeling Township. Stickers are valid from July 1, 2017 until June 30, 2018. The cost for stickers varies, but generally an automobile is \$80, a small truck is \$100 and a motorcycle is \$25. Senior citizens (65 years and older) can receive up to two stickers free of charge. Others eligible for no fee stickers are individuals with physical disabilities and disabled veterans. If you have purchased a vehicle within the last 30 days or moved to an unincorporated area within the last 60 days - you will not be charged a late fee. When you come to purchase vehicle stickers, please bring a check or money order, we cannot accept cash or credit cards. If you have any questions or comments, please contact my office at 847-259-7730 or by e-mail at jgauza@wheelingtowship.com

INTERGENERATIONAL FUN...

GENERATION2GENERATION



Wheeling High School's AVID Program Coordinator Bruce Varela (L), and Wheeling Township's Senior Advisory Council members Rich Rosen and Kathy Kasprovicz (R)

Generation2Generation, a program initiated two years ago by Wheeling Township's Senior Advisory Council, links residents of the Lexington Health Care Center and Wheeling High School AVID students and provides an opportunity for students to connect and communicate with senior residents.

The program was held again on April 10th. Nine Wheeling High School students were matched up with Lexington residents – the end result? ...*Discovering they had more in common than expected!*

Generation2Generation is a catalyst for intergenerational experiences which benefit both the senior citizen and student, creating and developing new relationships and broadening understandings.