

Mainely NEWS

CAROL A. TESCHKY, SUPERVISOR

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850

Fall 2013



Carol's Corner

Supervisor,
Carol A. Teschky

As the lazy, hazy days of summer wind down, the Township continues to be a busy place for

residents. Back by popular demand, we again sponsored a document destruction day in June in our parking lot. Over 100 cars came through that day. People were able to watch as their important papers were shredded thereby safely disposing of old documents and reducing identity theft. Also, we honored our Township volunteers from various departments in June. Thank you to all our volunteers for your dedication and many hours of service to the Township.

If anyone has some free time and would like to volunteer, please call the Township. I am sure we can match you up with a worthwhile endeavor to match your talents and interests.

We served as a cooling center in the middle of July during a spell of hot, humid weather. Remember, anyone is welcome to come in to sit for a while to cool off at Town Hall.

Our Food Pantry vegetable garden continues to thrive and soon our food pantry clients will be able to enjoy fresh vegetables along with the non-perishables we normally provide. Our thanks go out to all the organizations, churches, businesses and individuals who continue to support our food pantry with food and financial donations.

We also partnered once again with Golf Maine Park District for the annual National Night Out Against Crime held at Dee Park. Thanks to Trustees Moylan Krey, Gialamas, Morask and Kazmierczak plus all the volunteers for another

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Community Garage Sale to Benefit Disadvantaged Children and Hungry Families



Maine Township's annual garage sale is a popular event with residents and vendors alike. The event brings sellers and buyers together in a bargain filled day to benefit two worthy causes.

The Annual Maine Township Community Garage Sale will be held, rain or shine, on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge. Residents are encouraged to attend the event which is open to the public.

Organized by the MaineStay Department of Maine Township and sponsored by *Chicagoland Senior News, Journal & Topics Newspapers*, Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, International Bank, Parkway Bank, and Republic Services (ARC), proceeds benefit the MaineStay Adventure Camp for disadvantaged youth and the Township's Emergency Food Pantry. Residents may participate in the Garage Sale in several different ways. They can simply attend the event and shop for good finds or they can donate cash or merchandise.

Donated merchandise will be sold by

Township staff to help raise funds. Donations of small working electronics, children's games, children's furniture and accessories, garden tools and small hand tools are especially needed. Donations of clothes, large and/or heavy furniture, firearms, explosives or any type of weapons will not be accepted. Drop-offs will be accepted from Sept. 23 to Sept. 26 but not beforehand.

"These events are not only fun, they raise money for two worthy causes—disadvantaged children and hungry families," says Township Supervisor Carol A. Teschky. "We encourage our Township residents to participate, to give financial support, or just come by to shop."

For more information, please call Ed Beauvais 847-297-2510 X270 or email him at ebeauvais@mainetown.com. Information is also posted on the Maine Township website at www.mainetownship.com.



Carol's Corner

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successful event. Many thanks to all who donated prizes to be raffled off (free) to the children. The children's poster contest was another huge success and congratulations to all the winners as well as to all who participated also.

Please read through the rest of our newsletter for important information from our other departments. You are invited to regularly visit our website www.maintownship.com for updates on events or to learn about our many services and activities.



TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Trustee, Walter Kazmierczak

Because of Maine Township's prudent fiscal culture and adequate reserves, we were able to purchase a new facility for our highway department for a little over

\$200,000. We have purchased this property within the confines of our current budget. Maine Township has maintained the standard of zero debt. Unlike many forms of government we have no bonds, no loans, no mortgages and a fully funded employee pension.

In addition, some local municipalities have been unable to continue contributing to the funding of local social welfare agencies. Maine Township has made the funding of these agencies a central part of our mission. Because our government has limited its scope, we are able to grant approximately \$400,000 to slightly over 20 agencies that

serve Maine Township residents.

Holding down employee costs has been instrumental in allowing Maine Township to function well and prosper. The average full time Maine Township employee makes about \$51,000 a year. Surrounding municipalities average full time employee's salaries average from \$65,000 to \$80,000 a year.

The Town of Maine portion is approximately 1.1% of your total property tax bill, yet provides varied programs and assistance to all of Maine Township both in the unincorporated area as well as those areas within any of five municipalities.

Congratulations to Supervisor Carol Teschky on her recent election to the President of the Township Officials of Cook County. Carol is taking over an organization that must combat the uninformed and often politicized critics of township government.



Trustee Laura Morask, third from right holding the resource guide, led a panel of esteemed experts on hazing and related areas in a forum co-sponsored by the Journal & Topics Newspapers and Maine Township earlier this year. Morask also regularly gives seminars to law enforcement professionals, teachers and others on gang awareness and gang crimes.

Trustee Morask's Program Shows How to Stop Hazing and Bullying

Thanks to a free anti-hazing/bullying forum sponsored earlier this year by Maine Township and *Journal & Topics Newspapers*, citizens who attended are better equipped to deal with the challenges of hazing and bullying that young people face daily. To stop hazing, individuals must know what to do when they witness or learn of acts of hazing.

Even those not victimized should help put a stop to it. It seems easier to stand by or ignore incidents but mothers such as Pam Champion, a Georgia mother who lost her son in 2011 after being beaten in a hazing ritual, made the trip to Chicago to attend and speak. She emphasized the need for community involvement.

She said, "the moment you forget is the moment it reoccurs". Pam started HazingPrevention.org, a foundation to bring

awareness to this problem. Attendees also heard compelling accounts from victims and offenders of the isolation, shame and secrecy, and helplessness suffered which had usually been happening for months or longer.

Laura Morask, a Maine Township Trustee and retired prosecutor now in private practice, chaired the seminar, and collaborated with MaineStay Youth & Family Services to compile a Bullying and Hazing Resource Booklet that includes phone numbers for getting help. According to Trustee Morask, "this forum was a great first step towards hazing prevention through frank discussion and awareness. Kids need to know someone is always there to listen."

For more information about MaineStay seminars and services, call 847-297-2510.



National Night Out



Maine Township's National Night Out Against Crime (NNO), invited all residents and families to attend the event on Aug. 6. Designed to promote family fun and neighborhood unity, NNO also educates residents on crime prevention and safety.

Sponsored by Maine Township, Neighborhood Watch, Cook County Sheriff's Police, Golf Maine Park District, North Maine Fire District and other community businesses, the event was held in Dee Park in unincorporated Maine Township. The event featured a poster contest with the theme "Respect Yourself, Respect Your Community". Contest winners were given gift cards and other prizes.

Here, l to r in the front row, are contest winners Malika Merchant (2nd grade), Luis Antonio Diaz (1st grade), Mikkayla Mendricks (3rd grade), and Ariana Martinez (4th grade). L to r in the second row are winners Ella Kurutz (8th grade), Krystal Anderson (6th grade), Yesha Parikh (5th grade). Not shown is Dhara Patel (7th grade).

L to r in the back row, are Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Trustee Susan Moylan Krey, Trustee Peter Gialamas, Clerk Gary K. Warner, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky, Trustee Laura Morask, and Trustee Walter Kazmierczak.

For more photos and other information on NNO, visit www.maintownship.com.

Thank you to our NNO Volunteers

We express special thanks to our fabulous volunteers and elected officials for the hours of planning and hard work putting together the 2013 National Night Out Against Crime. Well done!

They include Co-Chairmen Trustees Susan Moylan Krey and Peter Gialamas, Trustees Walter Kazmierczak and Laura Morask. The citizen volunteers were Steve Meinecke, Louise Friedenson, Lila Gardner, Joy Levitt, Audrey Nankervis, David Cowin, Lynn Bingaman, Eileen Gustafson, Rebecca Tambowatzis, Ysouri and Narges Daoud, Rosalie Streng, Lori Engle and Doriene Prorak.

I-Cash Event Set for Oct. 16 and 17

A representative from State Treasurer Dan Rutherford's office will conduct I-Cash searches at Maine Township Town Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and on Thursday, Oct. 17 from 5 to 8 p.m.

There is no need to register. Just drop in and bring a photo ID and your Social Security card.

Maine Township Joins Life Saving Yellow Dot Program

Maine Township serves as a distribution center for a program designed to improve emergency care for people involved in vehicle crashes. Unveiled earlier this year by the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Yellow Dot Program provides information for first responders to make important decisions regarding emergency treatment and also better prepare emergency hospital staff to receive those who have been involved in traffic accidents.

The yellow folder contains the name of the driver and passenger, photo, emergency contact and physician information, as well as medical conditions, recent surgeries, allergies, and a list of medications. For more information, call 847-297-2510 or go to www.maintownship.com.



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

Assessor,
Tom Rueckert



Board of Review Appeals Now Accepting Pre-registration

The Board of Review is now accepting pre-registration for 2013 assessment complaints. Taxpayers may go to www.cookcountyboardofreview.com. The Board of Review will process any pre-registration complaint form for review once Maine Township opens for appeals.

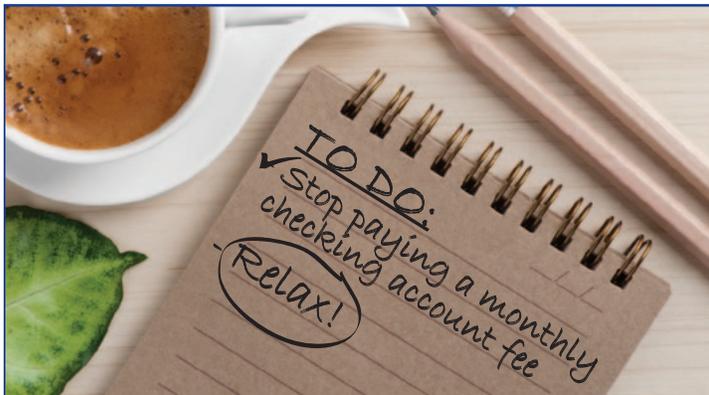
If a resident prefers, he/she can call The Board of Review directly and request that the necessary paperwork being mailed. The Board of Review may be reached at 312-603-5542. The Maine Township Assessor's office cannot accept pre-registration forms. Once the Board of Review officially opens for appeals, Maine Township will be able to assist our residents.

Additional Tax Relief for Homeowner and Senior Citizen Exemptions

For property tax year 2012 paid in 2013, residents in Cook County received an increase in the Homeowners Exemption from \$6,000 to \$7,000 of assessed value, which is an additional savings of approximately \$85.00. Senior citizens also benefited. The Senior Citizen Exemption was increased from \$4,000 to \$5,000 of assessed value.

Maine Township Assessor's Office Continues to Be Busy!

If you happened to visit the Maine Township Assessor's Office in April or May during the Triennial Reassessment, you witnessed the high volume of residents receiving assistance. During that period, this office serviced 2,942 taxpayers, on average 101 residents a day. Phone calls received and returned totaled 1,652. Over 2,100 appeals were processed and delivered to the Cook County Assessor's office. All this occurred in just about one month's time.



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HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Highway Commissioner, Robert Provenzano

We can all agree that 2013 was a bad year for flooding in Maine Township. The Federal

Emergency Management Agency reports that federal assistance in Illinois has reached more than \$139 million dollars, distributed among more than 57,000 individuals and households, since a major disaster was declared for storms and flooding that occurred April 16 through May 5. In June our area experienced yet another flood. Since the highway department was denied any reimbursement from FEMA and there were no funds available from the state or Cook County, money from our reserve was used to cover additional flood costs incurred for equipment, material and labor.

Residents can be reassured the highway department places the highest priority on handling flooding in Maine Township with our limited funds. We have a program in place to do regular maintenance, as well as clean and televise storm sewers. As Highway Commissioner, I attend and participate in every meeting given by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Upper Mississippi Fund Program, Cook County, as well as the State of Illinois, dealing with any and all flood issues. Many of our residents have purchased flood insurance and installed new flood control systems, as a defense mechanism against the terrestrial storms that continue to frequent our area.

Garbage Cans – According to Maine Township Ordinance, it shall be unlawful and declared to be a nuisance for any person to place their garbage and recycle containers in the street. **Both containers MUST** be placed in the parkway only, NOT the street.

Address Numbers Ordinance - State law requires that ALL residents and business owners display address numbers on residential, commercial and industrial structures that are visible from the roadway in order to facilitate adequate public safety and emergency response services.

Branch Pick-Up Schedule – Unincorporated Area ONLY - *LAST Tree Branch Pickup of the Season, Monday, September 16, 2013* All branches must be curbside no later than 7:00 am on the third Monday of each month (April through September). Call our office to request a flyer or for additional information on our program.



Maine Township and Cook County Working together. With the aid of a \$117,000 Community Development Block Grant provided by Cook County through the fine efforts of County Commissioners Elizabeth Doodly Gorman and Peter Silvestri, Noel Avenue and Margail Avenue, unincorporated area received upgraded storm sewers and resurfacing of the streets. Here, l to r, Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Resident Norm Grossman, County Commissioner Gorman and Supervisor Carol A. Teschky.

Building Permits – Unincorporated Area ONLY - Residents must obtain a Maine Township Highway Department Permit or Waiver Letter for any type of construction that may “affect the public right of way,” for example, new construction, substantial remodeling or additions, driveways, fences and sheds.

Street Light Outage, Damaged Signs or Abandoned Vehicles – Please report any street light outages, damaged signs or if you have an un-operable vehicle that needs removal. Please call the Highway Dept Office.

Recycling Used Tire Program – Used tires are a breeding source for mosquitoes carrying **West Nile Virus**. We offer a **FREE** pick up service to recycle used tires. Call our office to schedule a pickup appointment.

Should you have any questions, or for more information on the services we provide, please contact us by phone or email.

Regular Hours: Monday through Friday – 7 am to 3:30 p.m.

Phone: 847-297-5225

Email: MTHighway@aol.com



CLERK'S CORNER

Clerk, Gary K. Warner



The 2013-2014 Vehicle Stickers for the unincorporated Cook County area had to be displayed by July 1, 2013. As per Cook County regulations, if you fail to buy your sticker before July 1, a late penalty will be charged equal to the price of the sticker or \$25.00 whichever is greater. This year's stickers are available in the Clerk's Office during regular office hours, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Are you planning to travel outside of the United States? My staff can assist you with your first time passport application, passport card and your renewal form application. Routine passport processing takes approximately 4-6 weeks. Expedited service with two-way overnight delivery takes approximately 2-3 weeks. No appointment is needed for passport services in my office. Applications are accepted Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Taste of Park Ridge is always a highlight of the summertime days in Maine Township. The weather was beautiful and many families strolled past the Clerk's table to say "Hi"! We're always glad to answer your questions. We look forward to assisting you in the near future.

Additional Services available to Maine Township Residents include:

Voter registration, handicapped temporary parking placard, hunting and fishing licenses, Arc Republic Disposal and recycling refuse and yard waste stickers, free notary public services, seniors circuit free and senior reduced fare program, Illinois maps and Maine Township maps with street guide.

Visit our office at any time, or visit www.maintownship.com or call 847-297-2510 with questions.

MaineStreamers Are Looking for Baby Boomers!

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. All residents and property owners are invited to apply for membership. Membership is free and includes a subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter which showcases all of the interesting, educational, fun programs, classes and trips.

We have a growing membership which includes recently retired Baby Boomers so we want you to be aware of these wonderful and exciting social opportunities. Upon receiving your "free" monthly newsletter, you pick and choose what activities you would like to partake in and pay for them individually.

For more information contact the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 or visit us at www.maintownship.com.

AARP Tax Aide Volunteers Needed

Maine Township MaineStreamer Program is looking for volunteers to assist senior residents with simple Income Tax Forms. Training is provided and the taxes are done online.

You must be willing to donate 3-4 hours a week during tax season which is February through early April. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Debra O'Brien, Senior Associate, at 847-297-2510, ext. 241.

Find Your Opportunity at Maine Township's Community Garage Sale

**Want to sell your "treasures" and make money while supporting
MaineStay's "Adventure Summer Camp" & Maine Township's Food Pantry?**

Want to find a bargain or donate your stuff for us to sell?

The Maine Township Community Garage Sale is your answer

**Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
at Maine Township Town Hall**

1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge

Space reservations for Maine Township residents begin Monday, Aug. 5. All others begin Monday, Aug. 12
\$20 for an 8 x 16 foot space

For information or to make a donation, call 847-297-2510 ext. 270.



MaineStay Youth and Family Services Offers Fall Programs

Family Counseling – English and Spanish

Our licensed master's level professional counselors can help with many individual and family problems such as marital and family issues, depression, anxiety, anger and adjustment utilizing a generous sliding fee scale.

Couples Workshop –

Thursdays, Sept. 5 – Oct. 10, 7-8pm

Secrets of Relationship Success helps couples become more successful in their relationships, teaching them to communicate more effectively and connect emotionally.

Adolescent Anger Management Group –

Mondays, Oct. 21 – Dec. 16, 5-6pm

This group helps adolescents ages 13 to 18 recognize what makes them angry and teaches new skills to handle difficult situations with more success.

Parenting Skills –

Mondays, Sept. 9 – Oct. 21, 7-8:30pm

Parenting the Love and Logic Way is an interactive video-based class helping parents create responsible children while experiencing less stress.

Art in the Town –

Mondays, Sept. 9 – Nov. 25, 4-5:30pm

This is an after-school creative art program for qualified children ages 8-14. With an art therapist, these young people explore various art mediums while having fun. Children are referred to this program through their schools.

Looking for Ways to Volunteer?

FISH

FISH is a volunteer organization that provides transportation for residents of Maine Township to medical and dental appointments.

Mentoring

This program matches volunteer adult mentors with Township youth in need of positive adult role models. All mentors, children and staff meet twice monthly in a group setting with planned activities.

For more information or to sign up for our e-newsletter visit www.maintownship.com/mainestay.

MaineLines Celebrates 10 Years of Service with Special Offer

MaineLines, our subsidized taxicab program, will be 10 years old this coming fall. It was created to assist a disabled person pay for transportation costs to travel in and around the greater Maine Township area.

In order to qualify you must be a resident of Maine Township and disabled as certified by a doctor. Additionally there are financial guidelines which change annually and are designated by the State of Illinois. The 2013 annual income guidelines are \$27,610 for single persons and \$36,635 for a married couple. Applications may be requested by contacting Maine Township at 847-297-2510, Ext. 236.

In celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the MaineLines program, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky announces that anyone who purchases five vouchers during the month of September and October, (voucher costs are normally \$1 each and worth \$5 in services), will automatically be given an extra voucher at no charge. This Anniversary Special also includes all new registrants. Any person signing up for the MaineLines Program for the first time will also be entitled to this special offer.

MaineLines was established for those persons necessitating to go to medical appointments, shopping or just visiting friends but are unable to drive. Today seven taxicab companies provide this transportation service to our residents.

Don't spend the bleak winter months at home alone. All that you would need to do is just pick up the telephone and contact Maine Township 847-297-2510, Ext. 236 and become a member of MaineLines. Then each new day can be a wonderful adventure.



MAINE TOWNSHIP • 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068-1006
847-297-2510 • www.maintownship.com

Town Hall Hours

Mon - Fri : 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Evening *MaineStay* appointments are available by advanced request.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Sept. 24 – 7:30pm - Board Meeting
 - Sept. 28 – 9am-3pm - Garage Sale
 - Oct. 22 – 7:30pm - Board Meeting
 - Nov. 11 – Closed for Veterans Day
 - Nov. 26 – 7:30pm - Board Meeting
 - Nov. 28-29 – Closed for Thanksgiving
- For other meetings, please call 847-297-2510 or visit www.maintownship.com

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HOW TO CONTACT OUR DEPARTMENTS

Main Phone 847-297-2510

Departments/Extension Numbers

- Assessor's Office, Ext. 227
- Clerk's Office, Ext. 222
- Code Enforcement Officer, Ext. 259
- General Assistance, Ext. 236
- MaineStreamers, Ext. 240
- Veteran's Assistance, Ext. 236
- MaineStay Youth & Family Services
847-297-2510
- Office of Emergency Management
847-297-5911
- Highway Department 847-297-5225

You may also e-mail any department by accessing the Township Web site: www.maintownship.com.

MAINE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS



Carol A. Teschky
Supervisor



Walter Kazmierczak
Trustee



Laura J. Morask
Trustee



Susan Moylan Krey
Trustee



Peter Gialamas
Trustee



Gary K. Warner
Clerk



Tom Rueckert
Assessor



Mary E. Rohde
Collector



Robert Provenzano
Highway Commissioner