

Mainely NEWS

CAROL A. TESCHKY, SUPERVISOR



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850

Spring 2013



Carol's Corner

Supervisor,
Carol A. Teschky

With the completion of the Township's fiscal year, I am proud of all that we have accomplished.

We did a revamp of all lighting at Town Hall including installation of the high efficiency light bulbs. As a result, Maine Township will save \$6,000 every year. Two grants, one from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and the other from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation covered most of the initial cost of the project and represented our continued efforts to search for cost savings with the taxpayers in mind.

We are partnering with the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce for an electronics recycling event on Saturday, April 20, at the Park Ridge Public Works garage.

A free document shredding event will be back due to popular demand on Saturday, June 1, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Town Hall parking lot. Residents will again be able to bring up to three grocery bags full for safe destruction.

We continue to assist both individuals and families through our General Assistance program which includes our Food Pantry. Maine Township also remains an intake site for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

You do not have to live in the unincorporated area to use any of these services which benefit all citizens of Maine Township.

All this could not have been accomplished without the co-operation and assistance of our Board of Trustees. Their unique perspectives and individual talents make for a good, cost effective local government. I am proud to serve with each one of them.



SENIOR EXPO 2013

Maine Township MaineStreamers Expo is popular with seniors and product/service providers alike. Here, l to r, at last year's Expo are Trustee Peter Gialamas, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky, Trustee Walter Kazmierczak, State Representative Marty Moylan, Clerk Gary K. Warner, and Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano. For more information on this year's event, visit www.maintownship.com/newsletter

Get Nostalgic with Denny Diamond & the Family Jewels at 2013 Senior Expo

Denny Diamond & the Family Jewels, a family trio that performs the music of Neil Diamond—as well as other famous artists—including Johnny Cash, Roger Miller, Dean Martin, and Ricky Nelson, will be showcased at the seventh annual MaineStreamers “Swing into Spring” Senior Expo scheduled for Friday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Designed to link seniors who need services with vendors who provide them, the event will be held at Golf Mill Shopping Center. *Swing into Spring* is projected to attract approximately 1,600 visitors 55 years old and up who are interested in a wide variety of products and services.

Other entertainment that joins the expanded variety of exhibits, programming, and entertainment that will be part of the event includes Norm and Heidi Lucky, award winning Ballroom Dance entertainers, who have appeared in more than 200 shows in the Chicagoland area as well as the Lawrence Welk Resort in Branson, Missouri. Product demonstrations, raffles, giveaways, and contests will also be part of the day. The popular Early Bird Bingo hosted by Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano will start at 9 a.m.

“Each year, our Senior Expo becomes more successful,” said Carol A. Teschky, Supervisor of Maine Township. “We are thrilled that MaineStreamers continue to

We need your feedback to help serve you better. Enter for a chance to win a \$100, \$50, or \$25 gift card by completing a brief *MaineStay* survey at www.maintownship.com/survey. See page 3 for more details.

continued on page 2



Senior Expo

Continued from page 1

offer this valuable community event and we greatly appreciate the cooperation of the fine folks at Golf Mill." According to Teschky, the MaineStreamers staff is preparing to host an enthusiastic and record crowd of area seniors and their families.

Potential exhibitors may sign up for remaining spots on a first come, first served basis by calling the Expo Office at 847-720-4495. Sign-up forms are also available on the Township website.

For more information about this signature event, please call 847-297-2510 or visit the Maine Township website at www.maintownship.com.



Supervisor Teschky greets MaineStreamer Jacqueline Fenlon of Des Plaines at the Township information table.

TRUSTEE'S CORNER

By Laura Morask, Walter Kazmierczak, Susan Moylan Krey and Peter Gialamas

As winter ends and we enter into spring, it's a great opportunity to review some of the township board's recent efforts to improve Maine Township's fiscal picture and strengthen its programs and services for our residents in 2013. At many levels of government from local school districts to municipalities to county and state government, the fiscal picture for 2013 looks bleak, but not in Maine Township. As a result of our rigorous fiscal policies, the outlook for 2013 looks very good for Maine Township.

As board trustees, we wanted to provide residents with tax relief this year and we achieved this by cutting the township's 2013 tax levy by 25% over 2012's tax levy rate. We were able to accomplish this 25% levy reduction through sound management, a focus on cost containment and a review of vendor costs.

For example, our township's determined pursuit of grant funds for our programs and services has helped ease the burden on local taxpayers. Also, the average township salary is nearly \$30,000 a year less than neighboring municipalities. In addition, the 2013 budget is once again balanced, our obligations are fully funded, and the township entered 2013 with no debt.

In 2013, Maine Township will continue to expand its efforts in the area of public safety with its successful Neighborhood Watch program and annual Gang Crime Seminar which brings together law enforcement leaders and residents. Along with our MaineStreamers program for seniors and social service assistance programs, Maine Township is well-positioned to continue to provide our residents with high-quality services in a fiscally responsible manner.



Several classes at Mark Twain School (East Maine School Dist. 63) stepped up during December by conducting a school food drive to help needy families this holiday season. Here, l to r standing in the back row, representing Maine Township are Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Clerk Gary K. Warner, and Supervisor Carol A. Teschky accompanied by Mark Twain Teacher Cathy Garbosa (Grades 5 and 6) and Teacher Teresa Simpson (Grades 1 and 2).



Following the presentation of the food and remarks by the teachers, Township officials took questions from the students about Township government.

The food went to the Township's Emergency Food Pantry which helps hundreds of families every month. For more information or to donate, please call 847-297-2510.



MAINESTAY YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES BEGINS STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

As part of our ongoing commitment to provide high-quality services to the residents of Maine Township, MaineStay has begun a strategic planning effort within our department in order to obtain an accurate picture of our strengths as well as what changes we need to make in order to better serve our community. By accurately identifying resident needs, we will be better equipped to provide the most appropriate and cost-effective services we can.

Hearing from residents is a crucial part of this process, so we need your help! Please take a few minutes to complete a survey at www.maintownship.com/survey and let us know what you think about our services and what improvements we can make to serve you better. Everyone who participates in the survey will be entered into a drawing to win one of three prizes—a \$100, \$50, or \$25 gift card. Your input counts and we would be grateful to hear from you. If you need a paper survey or have questions, please call 847-297-2510, ext. 272.

As part of this process, we conducted a series of focus groups in February to give schools, parents, and community members a forum for sharing their ideas and perspectives with us. We gained some valuable insights, so thanks to everyone who participated!

For more details about MaineStay programs, including affordable counseling offered in English and Spanish and our next Beautiful Me girls group which starts on March 7, visit www.maintownship.com/mainestay or call 847-297-2510.

**MaineStay hours are Monday – Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Evening appointments are
available with advance request. For more
information and registration, go to:
www.maintownship.com/mainestay.**

**For a chance to win a \$100, \$50, or \$25 gift
card please complete a brief MaineStay
survey at www.maintownship.com/survey.**

Free Document Shredding Event Announced

On Saturday, June 1, 2013, from 9 am to 12 noon, Maine Township will be sponsoring a Document Shredding Event in the Township Town Hall parking lot located at 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge.

Opportunity Secure Data Destruction Co., a division of Glenkirk Enterprises, will perform the document shredding. You will be able to view the shredding via a monitor, which is located on the outside of the truck.

Shredding is limited to three small grocery-type bags so as to allow all the residents the opportunity to participate in this event.

MaineStreamers Offer Seniors Fun and Education

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 includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details all activities for the upcoming month. Most activities take place at Maine Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge. Members pay individually for the activities in which they choose to participate. For more information contact the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 or visit us at www.maintownship.com.

Maine Township Residents 90 Years and Older Wanted

Each year Maine Township and the Elected Officials invite residents who have celebrated 90 years of life or more to a “birthday” luncheon during the spring. If you are one of these special people or if you know of someone please contact the MaineStreamer Staff at 847-297-2510 and submit your information. Invitations will be mailed out during the month of May.

Spelling Bee

The Association of Illinois Senior Centers invites you to participate in a local spelling bee held at Maine Township on Friday, April 5 at 10 a.m. The top two winners at the local event will compete at regional event also held at Maine Township on Friday, June 28. The top two winners of this event will then travel to Springfield at the 2013 Illinois State Fair on Senior Day, Monday, Aug. 12, to compete in the State Spelling Bee. Trophies and prizes will be award at each level of the competition. If you are age 50 or older and would like to be part of this competition, contact the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 to register and get more information.



Award Winning Trio

Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky and Clerk Gary K. Warner were on hand for the 2013 Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner and Community Star Awards in January. All three are former Community Star Award winners. Trustee Laura Morask was honored with the award this year.



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

Assessor, Tom Rueckert



Township Assessor Issues an Alert

2013 Triennial

All property assessments are done by The Cook County Assessor. Although the Maine Township Assessor's office does not assess any property, we are here to help you understand your property assessment and answer your concerns pertaining to your property.

Maine Township Assessor Tom Rueckert is alerting residents that 2013 is a triennial reassessment year. At this time, the Cook County Assessor has not yet released a time schedule as to when the reassessment notices will be mailed to township residents. Once you receive your notice you will have 30 days to file an appeal. You can view the mailing dates on www.cookcountyassessor.com.

2012 Second Installment Tax Bill

The 2012 Second Installment Real Estate tax bill is estimated to mail in July, with a due date of August.

Sgt. Lader Award Nominees Sought

In 2011, Maine Township proudly instituted the Sergeant Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen Award. Lader was a resident of Des Plaines and a 15-year veteran of the Cook County Sheriff's Police who lost her battle with cancer in 2010. Deeply involved with Maine Township residents especially in the Neighborhood Watch Program, she was also active in the successful National Night Out Against Crime event held each August.

We are looking forward to recognizing another recipient this year at our Annual Town Meeting in April. The winner will be honored with a plaque and a monetary award.

We need your help to find a Maine Township resident who has demonstrated strong support and dedication to his or her community, especially one who has gone above and beyond in service to others that deserves this recognition.

The nomination form is available for download on the Maine Township website www.maintownship.com. Nomination forms are also available at the front desk of Maine Township Town Hall.

Forms should be mailed to Maine Township Trustee Susan Moylan Krey, at Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, IL 60068. They may also be faxed to her at 847-297-1335. The deadline to submit nominations is March 29, 2013.

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HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Highway Commissioner, Robert Provenzano

Now that 2012 has come to a close, I wanted to highlight some of the highway department's achievements and lay out our goals and initiatives of 2013.

2012 in Review

It has been a very difficult year in Maine Township. The challenge to maintain services our residents are accustomed to receiving, when the State of Illinois and Cook County governments are in a continued budget crisis, resulting in billions of dollars in debt and billions of dollars in unpaid bills. The dysfunctional management of these government entities forced Maine Township to step up and fill the gap in order to continue providing these services.

Unlike the State and the County, Maine Township continues to place a priority on maintaining its fiscally responsible record. We remain under budget, have money in reserve and carry ZERO debt.

Looking Ahead to 2013

As federal grant funds continue to be cut, we have stepped up our efforts to obtain these cost saving dollars for our township residents before they are gone. We have received over \$2 million in grants for road projects alone.

- We have continued to upgrade our antiquated storm sewer systems.
- It has been costly and challenging to keep up with ADA requirements, we continued to upgrade our sidewalks program.



Left to right, Commissioner Provenzano and Commander Anthony Brzezniak, Cook County Sheriff's Department, work together in a cooperative intergovernmental effort to crack down on speeders around Maine Township. The speed monitor is rotated to various trouble spots to discourage abuse of the legal speed limit.



Robert Provenzano, Highway Commissioner, Trustees Susan Moylan Krey and Peter Gialamas attend a recent environmental seminar for township officials and work together to evaluate possible ways to improve environmental issues in Maine Township.

- Due to an increase in gang activities and burglaries we have been working closely with Cook County Sheriff's Office to brighten our street lights, which has caused a decrease in these negative activities and improved public safety.
- We have been very proactive working with the recycling programs of both Des Plaines and Park Ridge. Our newest service, "Free Tire Recycling Pick-up," is available for Maine Township residents.
- Our "Branch Pick-up Program," continues to be a popular service with unincorporated Maine Township residents.
- My award winning "Green Fleet Manual," has continued to save thousands of dollars in fuel costs.
- Our permit program which we implemented with Cook County Building and Zoning Department has now been adopted by other townships, and we will continue to improve procedures with the County.
- We have continued to be responsible for maintaining a comprehensive public parking program for approximately 30,000 residents of unincorporated areas.
- Dialogue has already started with our two newly elected state representatives regarding possible assistance with pending member initiative projects.

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: mainetownshipwy@sbcglobal.net



CLERK'S CORNER

Clerk, Gary K. Warner

Because he has allocated a portion of the yearly revenue derived from processing passport applications in the Clerk's Office to support local World War II Veterans, Clerk Gary K. Warner has been able to designate several contributions—\$1,000 in June 2011 and \$1,000 in June 2012—to the Honor Flight Chicago program. Clerk Warner wants to make sure that this process continues to fund trips to Washington DC for the World War II Veterans each year.

One of the greatest rights and most profound responsibilities we have as Americans is voting.

The Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 9. The Clerk's Office strives to register every eligible resident in Maine Township so they may participate in the democratic process.

You must be registered to cast a ballot in the Consolidated Election in April. If you have just moved into the Township, have moved to another residence, or changed your name, come to my office. We have deputy registrars on duty five days a week who will register any United States citizen who will be 18 years of age by the next election. Applicants must provide two forms of identification. One of must show your current address and the other must be a picture I.D.



The Clerk's Office is also there to help in many other areas. Here are some of the ways:

If you are applying for your First US Passport Book, Passport Card or just renewing your expired US Passport, stop in my office where my staff will assist you in processing your application. No appointment is necessary.

Seniors—65 and older—can apply for their Seniors Ride Free and Senior Reduced transit fare card.

Outdoorsmen can purchase their Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Licenses in the Clerk's Office along with Trout and Salmon Electronic Stamps, Habitat and Migratory Waterfowl Electronic Stamps and Deer Harvest Pins.

Neighbor to Neighbor Packets are available to new residents containing information on all of the services provided by Maine Township. They also include information about the Cook County Sheriff's Department, North Maine Fire Department, Maine Township public schools, area churches, hospitals and local Neighborhood Watch programs.

The Clerk's Office can also help you obtain your Cook County Vehicle Stickers, Handicapped Temporary Parking Cards, Arc-Republic Disposal and Recycling Stickers, Free Notary Public Services, Pace Bus Schedules and Maine Township Maps.

The Clerk's Office provides numerous services and information to Maine Township residents. Do not hesitate to call 847-297-2510 or visit my office at any time, Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or go to www.maintownship.com.

ELECTION INFORMATION

- First Day mail ballot application accepted was Thursday, Feb. 28, 2013
- Last Day to Register to Vote is Tuesday, March 12, 2013
- First Day of Early Voting is Monday, March 25, 2013
- Last Day of Early Voting is Saturday, April 6, 2013

If you need information regarding polling place locations, election times, dates or elected official names, addresses and phone numbers, we will gladly give it to you.



Jan Provenzano, Deputy Clerk Wiesia Tytko, and Clerk Warner take a look at the Fishing Guide Book. The Clerk provides a copy of the Guide with every new fishing license issued.



One of the greatest rights and most profound responsibilities we have as Americans is voting.

— Clerk Gary K. Warner





Energy Conversion Project Promises Savings for Maine Township

The conversion of lighting fixtures at Maine Township Town Hall is now complete. Funded mostly by grants, the project will save the Township roughly \$6000 each year on energy bills. Here, l to r, are Tim Snow, Supervisor Carol Teschky and Chris Skokna. Snow and Skokna are with Twin Supplies, Ltd. which is doing the project work. They are examining old and new energy-efficient components of the lighting system. For more information, visit www.maintownship.com.

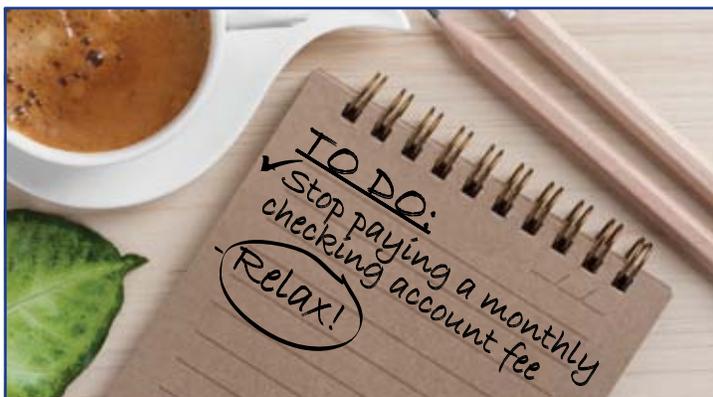
Maine Township expects to save about \$6,000 a year thanks to new high efficiency lighting that was installed at Maine Township Town Hall. The \$22,374 cost of the project will be mostly covered by two grants totaling \$18,816. The Township share will be recouped in less than a year due to lower energy bills.

"The project is just one of the many ways that Maine Township exercises fiscal responsibility and looks for ways to make the best use of taxpayer dollars," said Supervisor Carol A. Teschky, who noted that Maine Township receives just two percent the money homeowners pay in real estate taxes. "We are one of the few governmental bodies in the region with zero debt too."

The first grant in the amount of \$9,933 comes from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity under the

Illinois Energy Now program. Because the final application was submitted before Feb. 14, Maine will be eligible for an additional \$1,390. Illinois Energy Now is an energy efficiency program that provides millions of dollars in rebates to public facilities that make large-scale improvements to their electric or natural gas systems. Up to 75 percent of energy improvement costs may be reimbursed. Long term savings result from the reduced costs of future utility bills.

The second grant in the amount of \$7, 494 comes from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation which was established in 1999 as an independent foundation with a \$225 million endowment provided by Commonwealth Edison. More than 3,900 grants have been awarded to date providing \$191 million to Illinois nonprofit organizations, schools, municipalities and other local and state government agencies.



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Town Hall Hours

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Town Board Meetings – Wednesday, March 27 @ 7:30 p.m.,
Tuesday, April 23 @ 7:30 p.m., and Tuesday, May 28 @ 7:30 p.m.
Annual Town Meeting – Tuesday, April 16 @ 7 p.m.
Document Shredding – Saturday, June 1 @ 9 a.m. - 12 noon
Neighborhood Watch – First Wednesday of each month @ 7:30 p.m.
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
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Robert Provenzano
Highway Commissioner