

Mainely NEWS



CAROL A. TESCHKY, SUPERVISOR

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850

MAINE TOWNSHIP
1700 BALLARD ROAD
Winter 2012



Carol's Corner

Supervisor,
Carol A. Teschky

As we turn the calendar page to the last month of the year, I reflect on all that Maine Township has accomplished in its mission to help the less fortunate in our community.

With appreciation for all the donations from individuals, businesses, organizations and churches, we were able to distribute frozen turkeys along with food boxes containing all the trimmings for a Thanksgiving feast. Elected officials will also be out on two separate Saturdays accepting food and cash donations from shoppers at local food stores. Assisted by our Office of Emergency Management volunteers, we hope to replenish our food pantry shelves for the upcoming holiday season through these efforts. Many thanks go out to all donors in the Township. Thanks to all of you, no one in Maine Township goes hungry!

I would also like to acknowledge the Police Departments of Park Ridge, Des Plaines and Niles. They initiated a coat drive in their respective departments to assist the families of Maine Township. Dozens of coats and jackets were collected and dropped off at the Township for distribution. The Skokie Valley Rotary Club held a similar drive and dozens of cleaned coats and jackets were also donated. Many thanks are extended to all who donated coats and special thanks to the organizations who hosted the drop off boxes.

Maine Township once again partnered

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Once again Maine Township participated in the Annual Festival of Trees at Golf Mill Shopping Center, Niles. The township staff and volunteers made ornaments and decorated the tree. Shoppers "voted" for their favorite of 11 trees by donating cans of food to the Maine Township Food Pantry. Here, I to r, at the lighting ceremony Nov. 17 is Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Supervisor Carol Teschky, Clerk Gary K. Warner, Collector Mary Rohde and Trustee Peter Gialamas.



Here are Supervisor Carol Teschky and Trustee Walter Kazmierczak who will join other Township officials and volunteers on several Saturdays in December. They will be collecting food and financial donations for the Township's Food Pantry. For dates and times, call 847-297-2510.

TOY DRIVE AT MAINE TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL

The Township is collecting new, unwrapped toys for the annual Marine Corps Toys for Tots. A collection box is located in the foyer of Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge.

If anyone chooses to send a check it should be made out to: NWSMCL #80 and in the memo line put Toys for Tots. The last date to drop off for toys/check at the Township is December 14, 2012.



Carol's Corner

Continued from page 1

with Golf Mill Shopping Center in the Festival of Trees promotion. Maine Township, along with other local organizations, decorated holiday trees. People can vote for their favorite tree by bringing in a non-perishable food donation to the Customer Service area through December 16. Maine Township Food Pantry will once again be the recipient of all the donations.

What a wonderful, giving and generous community we all live in. I am overwhelmed by your generosity! Thank you to all and we wish you and your families a Happy Hanukkah and a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!



2013 "Swing into Spring" Senior Expo Brings Products, Services & Fun to Golf Mill

With about 1,600 high-spirited seniors 55 years old and up expected to attend the 2013 "Swing into Spring" Senior Expo plans are underway for the seventh annual MaineStreamers event scheduled for Friday, April 19, 2013. Held at Golf Mill Shopping Center where the vagaries of spring weather won't be an issue, seniors can stroll the aisles between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. while they peruse the wide variety of products and services that will be on display by an expanded slate of vendors who specialize in meeting the needs of seniors.



Denny Diamond & The Family Jewels

Just like a walk down the midway at an old fashioned state fair, there will be fun as well. For those who want to get a head start on the day's activities, the popular Early Bird Bingo hosted by Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano will start at 9 a.m. 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, joins the expanded variety of exhibits, programming, and entertainment that will round out the day's festivities. "Each year, our Senior Expo becomes more successful," said Carol A. Teschky, Supervisor of Maine Township. "We are thrilled that MaineStreamers continue to 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.

Sponsors to date include Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, The Journal & Topics newspapers, Chicagoland Senior News and Commissioner Provenzano.

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

TRUSTEE'S CORNER

*Trustee,
Laura Morask*

Parents, do you know where your kids are as you read this article? The Gang Awareness Seminar that I hosted Oct. 17 highlighted the first line of defense in fighting gangs in our neighborhoods—knowledge and awareness.

This seventh seminar brought together a panel of experts who underscored the importance of knowing your own teen. State's Attorney Anita Alvarez, Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski, Chicago Police Detective Greg Jacobson, Deputy Supervising Narcotics Prosecutor Kevin Hughes, Larry Bunyon, Township Code Enforcement Officer, Police Chief Dean Strzelecki of Niles and Commander Tony Brzezniak of the Cook County Sheriff's police, Maine Township High



School District 207 Board Member Donna Pellar, and Rich Lyon, Deputy Director of MaineStay Youth and Family Services, lent their expertise and provided some useful tools to help keep kids in our community safe.

My video highlighted information about gang colors, graffiti, girl gangs and gang activity as well as the use of the internet for recruitment and notoriety. The use of graffiti as the gang calling card and graffiti hotlines to help with identification, information about new laws enhancing the penalties for selling heroin—the new drug of choice for suburban high school students—and a Text to Tip hotline to anonymously report safety, gang, drug or alcohol concerns were also covered. We also covered an exhibit by MCYAF—"Stay Out of My Room"—which showed items in a typical teen bedroom that may be gang or drug related.

For a video of the entire event and/or a gang awareness handbook, call me at 847-297-2510. By arming yourself with this knowledge, you can help Maine Township keep gang crimes on the decline.



MAINESTAY YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES WISHES EVERYONE A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

If closer family relationships are a New Year's Resolution...

MaineStay's professional counselors can help with many individual and family problems. We provide marital and family counseling, parent coaching as well as help in dealing with depression, anxiety, anger, and adjustment to many of life's stresses. We can provide this help in both English and Spanish on a generous sliding fee scale.

E.A.R.N. (Encourage Adolescent Responsibility Now)

Do you need help with snow shoveling or other household chores? MaineStay provides a service where we match township residents who need help with youth ages 12 to 19 who are willing to work for a fee that is mutually agreed upon.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Mentoring Program

MaineStay's Youth Mentoring Program matches adult mentors with township youth who need positive adult role models to provide guidance and support. This group meets twice monthly and each volunteer mentor will be paired with a child age 8 to 13. All the mentors and children, along with MaineStay staff, meet in a group setting with planned activities and time to share experiences.

FISH

FISH is a volunteer organization that provides transportation for residents of Maine Township to medical and dental appointments. Contact us if you are need a ride or if you are willing to volunteer your time to help a friend in need.

For further information about our 2013 classes on parenting, anger management, couples, teens: go to 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.

Maine Township MaineStreamers

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 located at 1700 Ballard Road in Park Ridge. Members pay individually for activities in which they participate. For more information, contact the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 or visit us at www.maintownship.com.



Past attendees at the 90+ Birthday Party and elected officials get ready to cut the big cake.

Celebrating Maine Township Residents 90 Years and Older

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 who has reached that milestone, please contact the MaineStreamer staff at 847-297-2510 and submit your information. Invitations will be mailed out in May.



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

Assessor, Tom Rueckert



Watch your mailbox for Senior and Senior Freeze Exemption Applications in December

Watch your mailboxes for Senior and Senior Freeze Exemption applications that may be mailed by the Cook County Assessor's Office in December. This would be about two months earlier than in the past. Once the applications are received, my office will be able to assist residents with completing and submitting the forms.

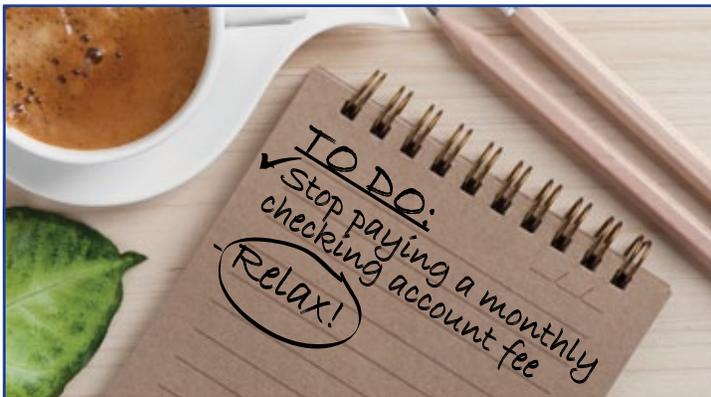
Triennial Property Reassessment in 2013

The Cook County Assessor has not yet notified my office as to when Maine Township will open for the 2013 Triennial Reassessment. Indications are that it could be as early as spring.

For more information residents can check the Cook County Assessor's website at www.cookcountyassessor.com. Once on the website, click on the tab Appeals and then Appeal and Closing Deadlines.



Over the past 14 years Highway Commissioner Provenzano has secured over \$2 million in funds awarded through the Community Development Block Grant Program in Cook County. Special thanks to Cook County Commissioners Elizabeth "Liz" Doody Gorman, 17th District, and Peter Silvestri, 9th District, for their support and assistance in obtaining the latest \$80,000 grant for road work. Here, Supervisor Carol Teschky, left, and Commissioner Provenzano, right, show Kanu Thakkar some of the work in progress.



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HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Highway Commissioner, Robert Provenzano

On behalf of Maine Township and the Maine Township Highway Department, I was pleased to be part of the effort on August 7, 2012 to dedicate the southwest corner of Dee Road and Emerson in Dee Park to the memory of Dr. Kalpana Chawla, an

Astronaut who died in the space shuttle Columbia disaster on February 1, 2003.

Dr. Kalpana Chawla is a hero to many of those in our local community. We at Maine Township and the Highway Department are pleased to help maintain her memory and honor her in this special way.

Dr. Chawla was the first Indian-born woman and only the second Indian person to fly in space.

Born in Karnal, Haryana, India in 1961, she was the youngest of four siblings. From her earliest childhood, she had an interest in flying. To pursue her dream of flying airplanes and becoming an Aerospace Engineer, she earned a college degree in 1982 and a Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 1984 from the University of Texas. She later married a freelance flying instructor. Later, with a PhD from the University of Colorado, she started working at the NASA Ames Research Center in San Francisco. She did research on spacecraft and,



in particular, how air flowed around such craft.

She was chosen for the astronaut program in December, 1994 and was selected for her first flight in 1996. At one point in time, she had flown 252 times around the earth. She met her untimely death as part of the crew flying the US space shuttle Columbia which blew apart upon earth re-entry in 2003.

Her memory will live on and be preserved by the local Indian Community and Maine Township.

Winter Snow Removal

Winter is upon us. We can hope for another mild season but no matter what the winter actually brings, the Highway Department is prepared and plows will be out whenever snow accumulation warrants removal or when icy conditions call for salting the streets. You can help too.

Please do:

- Observe Snow Route parking bans on all streets after two inches of snowfall. Your car may be ticketed and/or towed to allow us to properly clear the street. Please use off-street parking whenever possible to allow our plows to clear the streets as quickly as possible.
- Shovel your sidewalk for your mail carrier, school children, and all pedestrians especially seniors and the handicapped. Please make sure the fire hydrant nearest your house is clear of snow and is visible from the street.
- Please be patient and allow emergency vehicles and snowplows the right of way to do their job. Your property and possibly even lives depend on uninterrupted service.

Please don't:

- Shovel, plow, or blow snow on to the streets or sidewalk from private property. Not only is this dangerous, but it is against the law. You may be ticketed and fined.
- Park opposite another car on narrow streets; since snowplows need room to get through.

- Follow a snowplow or salt truck too closely, since it is very difficult for drivers to see you.

Street Light Outage, Damaged Signs or Abandoned Vehicles

Please report any street light outages or damaged signs. If you have an inoperable vehicle, please call the Highway Department Office to schedule removal.

Building Permits in the 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." Projects that require a permit or waiver letter include new construction, substantial remodeling or additions, driveways, fences and sheds.

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



An invigorating atmosphere filled the Clerk's office prior to the 2012 Presidential Election. Deputy registrars were on duty five days a week registering applicants to vote and verifying registration of others to assure them they would not be denied their voting privilege as an American Citizen. The numerous phone calls received were inquiries regarding mail-in ballot applications, verification of registration, polling place times and locations, early voting, and the last day of grace period registration locations. Averaging just over 10 people a day, 269 residents were registered to vote in just 25 days.

Other Services in Our Office

The Deputy Clerks in my office must be certified each year as an acceptance agent by the Chicago Passport Agency before assisting residents who are applying for their passports. As of Oct. 31, the Clerk's office has assisted in processing 801 passport applications this year.

A Neighbor to Neighbor welcome packet containing information regarding the Cook County's Sheriff Department, the North Maine Fire Protection District, Maine Township Public Schools, area churches, hospitals and libraries is available at no charge in the Clerk's office.

The Clerk's Township office also provides the following services:

- Cook County Vehicle Stickers
- Arc Disposal refuse and yard waste stickers
- Hunting and Fishing Licenses
- Temporary Handicapped Placards
- Senior reduced transportation cards
- Senior Low Income Circuit Breaker free ride cards, and
- Free Notary Public services.

My staff, Chief Deputy Clerk Wiesia Tytko, Deputy Clerks: Annette Galante, Rosalind Luburich and Jerry Jaworsky appreciated the opportunity to serve you this past year and are committed to assisting you in the future. Office hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We look forward to serving you in 2013 and wish you and your loved ones joy, peace and a healthy New Year.

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The collage shows several newspaper front pages with headlines like '500,000 and Set In', 'IDOT Says Road Improvements To Begin By April', and 'Telling Right Along'. Below the pages is a photograph of the Journal & Topics building, a two-story brick structure with a sign that reads 'JOURNAL & TOPICS'.

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Elected officials and key staff members from Maine Township attended the 2012 Township Officials of Illinois educational conference in November. The conference was held in Springfield, IL. It includes three days of classes, exhibits and networking.

Maine Township's entry into the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) Mighty Message contest was judged to be the best in Illinois. The photo was of the honorary street sign unveiling at Dee Park during National Night Out in August. Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Supervisor Carol Teschky and Dick Barton, the photographer, accepted the award on Nov. 13 at the TOI Annual Conference. Volunteer Bob Neal and MaineStay Youth and Family Services were also recognized at the conference for achievements serving the residents of Maine Township.



Maine Township helped coordinate the Cops for Coats drive in cooperation with the Police Departments of Park Ridge, Des Plaines and Niles. Township residents in need were given clean, slightly used coats to help them through the winter. Here, l to r, on distribution day Nov. 17 at Maine Township Town Hall are Officer Colin Johnson, Des Plaines; Officer Mike Heidkamp, Des Plaines, Sgt. Robert Tornabene, Niles; Township Supervisor Carol Teschky, Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Clerk Gary K. Warner, and Officer Julie Genauldi, Park Ridge.

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

Town Board Meeting – Thursday, December 27 @ 7:30 p.m.

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
Assessor



Mary E. Rohde
Collector



Robert Provenzano
Highway Commissioner