

2015 Best Newsletter Award
-Township Officials of Illinois

Mainely NEWS



CAROL A. TESCHKY, SUPERVISOR

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850

Winter 2016



Carol's Corner

Supervisor,
Carol A. Teschky

A happy, healthy 2016 to all! It is my pleasure to report to you the activities of the past few months

that took place in Maine Township for the benefit of its residents.

The Thanksgiving and Christmas food and cash donations were so amazing and gratifying. Thanks are extended to the many businesses, chambers of commerce, schools, churches and individuals who helped us meet the demand. It is so heartwarming to see that our residents care so much about their neighbors. Remember, all donations to the food pantry stay here in Maine Township.

Last November the township was also pleased to partner with the Police Departments of Park Ridge, Niles and Des Plaines to be the distribution center for donated winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves that were collected by those departments. The items were distributed to keep local children and adults warm during our winter months. Again, I want to thank all who donated to this worthy endeavor.

Back by popular demand, we are again sponsoring a document shredding event at Town Hall on Saturday, June 4 from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Opportunity Secure Data Destruction (a division of Glenkirk Enterprises) will once again perform the document destruction. Please remember to remove all paper clips, binder clips and rubber bands for materials brought for shredding. Mark your calendars!

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2016 Senior Expo Celebrates Decade of Sharing on April 29



The 10th annual *Swing into Spring* Senior Expo will be held on Friday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles. Randy Walker will perform hits from one of Rock 'n' Roll's greatest vocalists at 1 p.m. with *A Tribute to Roy Orbison*.

The day kicks off at 9 a.m. with Early Bird Bingo hosted by Supervisor Carol A. Teschky. After a welcome by Teschky and other Maine Township Elected Officials at 10 a.m., the Skokie Valley Trio, led by Valerie Simosko, on flute, will perform all three Haydn "London Trios" at 10:30 a.m. Two raffles—the first at 11:15 a.m. and the second at 12:15 p.m.—are also on the agenda. A variety of other entertaining activities include free caricatures drawn by Mark Schultz from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. as well as product demonstrations, giveaways, and contests by over 75 vendors.

The Illinois Secretary of State Mobile Driver Services Facility will be on hand for renewal, replacement and corrections to Driver's License/State ID Cards, vision screening with

a Driver's License renewal, Vehicle Sticker sales, Motor Voter registration and Organ/Tissue Donor information and registration.

"We are pleased with the steady growth and popularity of our MaineStreamers Senior Expo," said Teschky. "When we started in 2006 we welcomed about 1,000 visitors. This year, we expect to approach the 2,000 mark." Potential exhibitors may contact the Expo Sales Office at 847-720-4495.

For more information about Maine Township and its MaineStreamers department, call 847-297-2510 or visit the Maine Township website at www.maintownship.com.



Left to right, Congressman Robert Dold, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky, Clerk Gary K. Warner and Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano were on hand last year to assist with Early Bird Bingo and some raffle drawings.



Carol's Corner

Continued from page 1

As the state of Illinois continues in its budget crisis, we at the township are open and ready to assist our residents. When you hear talk of consolidation of townships in order to save the taxpayer money, the realization is that townships provide services at a most effective and efficient cost. No other government is prepared to take on the myriad of services at the same cost effective manner.

We urge everyone to take advantage of all that Maine Township has to offer. We are here for you, be it help with property taxes, registering to vote, passport applications/renewals, energy assistance, public aid or joining our ever-popular MaineStreamers senior program. We are at your service.

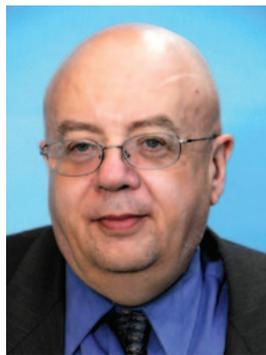
*Carol A. Teschky
Supervisor*

LIHEAP Funded by State of Illinois

The General Assembly recently overwhelmingly passed an amendment to fully fund the Illinois Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This is a program for individuals and families where heating bill payments are made on behalf of households.

Maine Township is the only local site for processing applications. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis until funds are depleted. This is an income verification program and all original documentation must be submitted when applying.

Please call the Township at 847-297-2510, Ext. 236 for further information and to make an appointment.



TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Trustee, Walter Kazmierczak

As of the time this was written, Illinois had not passed a budget for fiscal year

2015-2016. The State is dealing with a five to six billion dollar deficit. Some social services have been cared for by court mandates and governmental actions, yet many social service agencies are in dire shape.

At one point, 3.1 billion dollars was being held back because of the budget impasse and one in five agencies said their cash reserves would not last to the end of the month. This forces them to borrow money in anticipation of State funding. Any interest paid on borrowed money comes at the expense of delivering services.

No matter what happens with this year's state budget, Illinois' social service network has been damaged. Maine Township has done something to combat these problems. We have raised the grant amount given to 23 social service agencies that involve, among others, homelessness, child care, substance abuse and mental health to \$402,000 for our next fiscal year. This is an increase of 4.9% over last year.

This can be done because Maine Township operates under good fiscal management and adequate cash reserves. As I have written in the past, not all governmental taxing bodies are the same in terms of fiscal management and effectiveness.



Cops for Coats Drive Successful

Maine Township partnered with the Police Departments of Park Ridge, Niles and Des Plaines to be the distribution center for donated winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves that were collected by those departments. The items were distributed to help local children and adults in need of winter clothing. Here, l to r, Officer Julie Genauldi of Park Ridge and Supervisor Carol Teschky were on hand to help on distribution day at Town Hall.



Maine Township Brings Home Four Awards from State Conference



Maine Township Elected Officials show off some of the recent awards from the Township Officials of Illinois. Left to right, Trustee Peter Gialamas, Clerk Gary K. Warner, Assessor Susan Moylan Krey, Trustee Laura Morask, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky, Trustee Walter Kazmierczak, and Trustee Kimberly Jones.

In November, Maine Township brought home four awards from the annual conference of Township Officials of Illinois (TOI), held in Springfield. They were for Innovative Senior Program, Best Photo of the Year, Best Township Newsletter, and Senior Staff Member of the Year.

"Thanks in great part to the dedication of our elected officials and township staff our work is regularly recognized by our peers around the state for being innovative and of high quality," Teschky added. "We are very proud of the work we do for our residents and the community."

Singled out for recognition from among more than 1,400 Townships across Illinois, Monika Jaroszewicz, Program Coordinator for MaineStreamers, was named Senior Staff Member of the Year by the Illinois Township Association

of Senior Centers Services Committee (ITASCSC) during the same ceremonies.

ITASCSC also named the Township's Annual Senior Expo as its Innovative Program of the Year.

The Mighty Message Awards given by TOI reflect quality in communications done by Townships. For the third time, a photo taken by Dick Barton who handles public information duties was named Best Photo of the Year. The Township's newsletter, *Mainly News*, won for Best Newsletter of the Year.

The Best Photo was an image of a private vendor displaying his wares at the Township's Annual Garage Sale. The judges felt the photo truly showed the scope and vitality of the event, according to Bryan Smith, TOI's Executive Director.

MaineStay Youth & Family Services Director Named



Richard Lyon is preparing for his first full year as the new Director of Maine Township's MaineStay Youth & Family Services department. He was most recently Assistant Director under the now-retired Evelyn Fennell.

Prior to that, Lyon was a Family Therapist having started as an Intern Therapist in 2004. Born in Boston, MA, Lyon now lives in Hoffman

Estates with his wife, Michelle, and their two daughters.

Lyon is a licensed clinical professional counselor and certified alcohol and other drug abuse counselor. He has over 10 years' experience in the mental health field and expertise in working

with a variety of age groups and clinical issues including family therapy, couples, adolescents, anxiety, depression, anger management and substance abuse. He has a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature from Wheaton College and a Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from the Wheaton College Graduate School. He recently earned a certificate of achievement from the NIU Civic Leadership Academy.

Lyon has also been very involved with the community in various roles including as a member of the Advocate Lutheran General Community Health Council, the Des Plaines Ministerial Association, the District 63 East Maine Community Committee, the Oakton Area Planning Council, the Maine West High School Counseling Advisory Council, and the District 207 School-based Health Center Advisory Board. Lyon also serves as the Treasurer of the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth, a statewide youth advocacy organization.



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

Assessor,
Susan Moylan Krey



Three Cheers for...Changes to the Disabled Veterans' Exemption for 2015 Property Tax Bill

Finally, a new law will provide veterans with a service connected disability, as certified by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, with a greater tax savings. The revised law provides that for taxable years 2015 and thereafter: veterans with 30% - 49% service connected disability are eligible for a \$2,500 annual exemption in equalized assessed value (EAV), veterans with 50% - 69% disability are eligible for a \$5,000 annual exemption in EAV, and veterans with 70% or more disability are completely exempt from property

taxation. This year, the property market value cannot exceed more than \$917,330 (based on an EAV of \$250,000.)

Applications should be available at the Maine Township Assessor's office after February 15, 2016.

Were You Born in 1950?

If yes, this is the first time you are eligible to apply for the Senior and/or Senior Freeze. The applications will be available at Maine Township. To apply for the Senior Exemption you will need to bring your driver's license or State ID and your last real estate tax bill. In addition, if your household income is less than \$55,000 you may be eligible to apply for the Senior Freeze. You will need to bring your 2014 Federal Income Tax Return. Our office will assist in completing the applications.

We are here to serve our residents

Visit our offices 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday except holidays. Or, call 847-297-2510

For more information: www.maintownship.com

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HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Highway Commissioner, Robert Provenzano

The Highway Department maintains the residential streets and public right of way in **unincorporated Maine Township only**. This includes repair and construction of streets, storm sewers, sidewalks,

curbs and street signs. We are also responsible for snow removal, street sweeping and street lighting. Additionally, we work closely with residents, Homeowners Associations, the Township Code Enforcement Officer, Cook County Sheriff's Police and the Neighborhood Watch Program to eliminate graffiti, garbage, and abandoned cars from our streets and sidewalks. Listed below are guidelines for services we provide, as well as, programs currently in place. On behalf of my staff and myself, we wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy 2016.

Taking Advantage of Your Highway Department's Services

Tree Branch Pick up Program:

The Highway Department offers free tree branch pick up six months out of the year for residents of the unincorporated area. This service operates on the third Monday of each month from April through September. In addition to the tree branch pick up service, the Highway Department crew also trim trees on public right of ways in the unincorporated area.

Snow Removal:

The Highway Department is responsible for snow removal on all unincorporated side streets. Our plows go out as soon as snow accumulation warrants removal and when icy conditions call for salting the streets. Please remember to adhere to the snow ban parking signs in your neighborhood. With your cooperation, our streets will be cleared in the least amount of time possible. REMINDER - it is against Township Ordinance to push snow from your property into the street and anyone doing so, may be issued a penalty fine.

Your garbage cans **MUST BE PLACED** at the end of your driveway or the right-of-way and **MAY NOT BE PLACED IN THE STREET**, as this interferes with snow plowing. Also, any vehicles parked in the street **WILL BE TOWED AT YOUR EXPENSE**, according to posted signs.

Garbage and Other Refuse:

It shall be unlawful and declared to be a nuisance for any person to deposit refuse, garbage, litter or any can, container or other receptacle prior to 7 p.m. the day before collection of garbage by refuse vehicles. Garbage cans are to be placed at the end of your driveway or on the right-of-way and **NEVER TO BE**



Commissioner Provenzano surveys the salt supply that is ready for use this winter.

PLACED DIRECTLY ON THE STREET. Any person violating provisions of our Ordinance is guilty of a petty offense and shall be subject to a fine which shall not exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and no less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) plus court costs of enforcement.

Permits for Right-of-Way Construction:

In order to promote quality work and to protect Township residents from liability for damage to Township property, a Maine Township Road District Permit is needed for any construction that might affect the public right of way in the unincorporated area. The Township requires a bond and certificate of insurance from the contractor. Applications for permits may be picked up at the Highway Department and must be approved by the Highway Commissioner before any work begins. All residents residing in unincorporated Maine Township are required to contact the Highway Department, as well as, Cook County Building and Zoning (312) 603-0500 regarding permit requirements for any and all improvements to their property. Failure to obtain appropriate Permit or Waiver Letter, is against Township Ordinance, and may result in a penalty fine. Anyone doing work without the proper documentation may be reported to the Maine Township Code Enforcement Officer 847-297-2510 extension 259.

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 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Phone: 847-297-5225

Email: MTHighway@aol.com



CLERK'S CORNER

Clerk, Gary K. Warner



We appreciated the opportunity to serve you this past year. We have assisted in processing 2,892 passport applications, sold 11,797 Cook County vehicle stickers, 323 seniors applied for the transportation Ventra card, registered 26 citizens to vote, and issued 142 fishing and hunting licenses.

The Presidential Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016. You must be registered to vote in order to cast a ballot. If you haven't moved recently or changed your name there is no need to re-register. The last day to register to vote is Tuesday, February 16. Deputy registrars are on duty five days a week in the Maine Township Clerk's office. All you need are two forms of identification including one with a picture and current address, be a citizen of the United States, and a resident at your current

address for 30 days. Seventeen year olds can register as long as they will be 18 years old by the general election. The last day of Grace Period registration and voting at designated sites will be Monday, March 14.

One of the many Early Voting sites will be at Maine Township Town Hall. The first date of early voting will be on Monday, February 29 and the last day will be Saturday, March 12. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you are interested in working at the election polls, bilingual judges and equipment managers are always needed. Apply at: cookcountyclerk.com/judges.

For complete information on all Clerk's services visit: www.maintownship.com or stop by our office Monday-Friday 9-5 or call 847-297-2510.

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The collage shows several newspaper front pages with headlines such as '500,000 and Set In', 'IDOT Says Road Improvements To Begin By April', 'BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE', and 'SPORTS'. Below the collage is a photograph of the Journal & Topics building, a two-story brick structure with a sign above the entrance that reads 'JOURNAL & TOPICS'.

BENEFIT ACCESS

*YOU MUST BE over 65 or Disabled,
and your 2015 income was less than:*

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MaineStay Develops Partnerships to Expand Services

MaineStay Youth & Family Services is pleased to announce the addition of two new services made possible through community partnerships.

Mentoring

Our mentoring program for students in grades 4-6, offered in partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, will begin on February 23 and will be held twice a month on Tuesday evenings. Meetings will be led by an experienced facilitator in a group setting with 20 matched pairs of mentors and youth of the same gender and will focus on the social and emotional development of youth. By developing a positive one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, students will enhance their social skills, confidence, and ability to avoid risky behavior, while enjoying fun and engaging activities. If you are interested in volunteering to be a mentor or if you would like your child to participate, please contact Anne at 847-297-2510 or acamarano@mainetown.com.

Professional Development Workshops

Thanks to the generous support and partnership of Chicago Behavioral Hospital, we will be offering free trainings and CEUs for professionals such as social workers, counselors, family therapists, psychologists, and nurses in addition to our ongoing free community education events. To help us plan these events, we are conducting a brief online survey that will take less than one minute to complete. Visit mainetownship.com/survey to take the survey and enter to win one of three \$25 gift cards.

Groups

See our website for more information about upcoming groups, including our six-week parenting class which starts on February 22 where you will learn fun and practical ways to parent with more energy and less stress.

Visit mainetownship.com/mainestay or call 847-297-2510 to learn more.

Take our brief survey at mainetownship.com/survey and win a \$25 gift card.

MaineStreamers are Looking for Baby Boomers!

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. All residents are invited to join. 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.mainetownship.com.

Wanted: MaineStreamers 90 years of age and older...
If you are a Maine Township resident 90 years of age and older, the Mainstreamer's would like to add you to the list of invitees to attend a special event in May! Last year over 90 residents were honored at this wonderful event which included a nice lunch and special recognition from the Maine Township Elected Officials. So if you know of someone who is 90 years of age contact a MaineStreamers staff member at 847-297-2510 so we can add them to the list.

Public Transportation Forum

Maine Township MaineStreamers Program is hosting a panel discussion to address and answer your questions about Public Transportation on Tuesday, March 29 at 10 a.m. at Maine Township Town Hall.

The panel will consist of a PACE representative, RTA Travel Coordinator, Mobility Management Outreach Coordinator and a representative from Metra. Issues to be addressed include transportation services, how to utilize them and Paratransit services for residents who need door to door services.

Residents are welcome to attend but must register at 847-297-2510 and ask for a MaineStreamer staff member. Information will also be available regarding our FISH volunteer transportation program and the MaineLines voucher program for disabled older adults.



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.

POSTAL CUSTOMER

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Feb. 15 – Closed for President’s Day
 - Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. – Board Meeting
 - Mar. 22 at 7:30 p.m. – Board Meeting
 - Apr. 12 at 7 p.m. – Annual Town Meeting
 - Apr 26 at 7:30 p.m. – Board Meeting
 - May 24 at 7:30 p.m. – Board Meeting
 - May 30 – Closed for Memorial Day
- 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. 255
- 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



Peter Gialamas
Trustee



Kimberly Jones
Trustee



Gary K. Warner
Clerk



Susan Moylan Krey
Assessor



Robert Provenzano
Highway Commissioner