

Wheeling Township Report, Inc.

1616 N. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
847-259-7730

www.wheelingtowship.com



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

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

ECRWSS
NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PALATINE P&DC IL
PERMIT NO 2597

ECRWSS

Residential Postal Customer

Funding for These Agencies Provided by Wheeling Township

Wheeling Township funds a variety of important human care services for residents of all ages. Almost half of the Township's general budget funds 25 social service programs. Because of Township funding, services provided by these agencies are available to residents on a sliding-scale basis.

- @Home Matters
- Alexian Center for Mental Health
- Avenues to Independence
- CEDA (emergency shelter, child care, Head Start)
- Catholic Charities (housing, senior services)
- Center for Enriched Living
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Clearbrook Center
- Countryside
- Faith Community Homes
- Greater Wheeling Youth Outreach
- The Harbour
- Journeys from PADS to HOPE
- Life Span
- Lutheran Services of Illinois Behavioral Health Services Program
- Midwest Council for Children with Disabilities
- Omni Youth Services
- P.H.D.
- Salvation Army
- Shelter, Inc.
- Suburban Primary HealthCare/ Access to Care
- WINGS

For additional information, please contact Jo Stellato at 847-259-7730.

Wheeling Township Elected Officials



Michael Schroeder, DDS
Supervisor



Paula Ulreich
Town Clerk



Dan Patlak
Assessor



Scott Saewert
Highway Commissioner



Mike Domrzalski
Trustee



Ruth O'Connell
Trustee



Kathy Penner
Trustee



JoAnne Schultz
Trustee



Ken Jochum
Collector

Wheeling TOWNSHIP

summer 2010

News from Supervisor Mike Schroeder



Our dedicated staff pictured in front of the new Township vehicle are:
(L to R) Duane Rakestraw, Charlene Jones, Michael Welch; Joe, John & Tony Messina, Margaret Peshek, Fred Gablenz, Robert Lange, Jeff Dillon, Lenny Benedict. Not pictured: Lou Brand.

Let us do the Driving, We're here to help!

Wheeling Township is proud to highlight in this newsletter the amazing array of quality services we provide to our residents. One of the most valuable services is transportation in the form of dial-a-ride, medical van and route bus service for senior citizens and those with disabilities. We see the greatest increase in requests for rides to life sustaining medical treatments such as dialysis, chemotherapy and radiation. To service the greatest number of people with the fewest dollars, we partner with organizations and municipalities and constantly work together to reduce costs. Operating a transportation program is certainly costly but partnerships with PACE and the Village of Arlington Heights help us to keep costs manageable so that we can continue this vital service. We're here if you need us.

Unable to drive? Looking for safe and affordable transportation? If you are age 60 and over, or age 18 and over with a permanent disability, the Wheeling Township Transportation service may be an answer for you. Our service hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Rides are available within the Wheeling Township boundaries, however some exceptions for medical services can be made.

All rides within the Township are \$2 each way and limited rides outside of the Township for medical appointments are \$8 each way. Our drivers are all trained, experienced, caring and concerned for your safety. All riders must be pre-registered with the Township's Transportation Department and call **847-259-7743 in advance** for reservations.

What's Inside

- From the Clerks Office
- From the Highway Commissioner
- From the Assessor
- Illinois State Treasurer's CASH DASH
- Thank you Riley School
- Employment Opportunities
- Back-to-School Drive
- Senior & Disability News
- Senior Scene Programs
- Notes from the Nurse
- Medical Services Offered
- Driving Skills
- Mega Thanks to Our Volunteers
- FOOD Pantry News
- Thanks for Your Support
- Make a Difference Day
- Wheeling Township Funding
- Wheeling Township Elected Officials

From the Clerks Office... Paula Ulreich

VEHICLE STICKERS For residents of **UNINCORPORATED** Wheeling Township, who own a vehicle – this important message is for you! You must have a 2010-2011 Cook County vehicle sticker on your windshield. If you do not have a sticker, you may get a ticket which includes a large fine. The new stickers are available for purchase at the Wheeling Township Clerk's Office, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights or by mail. Pertinent information includes:

- Current vehicle stickers are valid from July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011.
- The vehicle has to be registered to the applicant purchasing the sticker.
- The entire vehicle sticker application must be completed before you can purchase a sticker.
- If you purchase a sticker after July 1, you will incur a late penalty which is double the vehicle sticker price amount.

- Seniors (over 65) are entitled to **TWO NO FEE** stickers.
- Physically handicapped and disabled veterans are entitled to a **NO FEE** sticker.
- Sticker costs are printed on the back of the application.

VOTER REGISTRATION

In order for you to cast your ballot in November for your favorite candidates, you must be registered to vote. Once you are registered, you don't have to do it again unless you move to another residence or change your name. To register, you need two forms of identification, one showing your current address, be a citizen of the United States, and be 18 years of age or older by November 2, 2010. You can register here at the Wheeling Township Clerk's Office, at 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Second Floor, Monday – Friday, 9:00-4:30.

EARLY VOTING

If you like to plan ahead, keep in mind that you can vote early in the General Election in November. The early voting dates are October 11 – October 22, 2010. The hours will be from 9:00 – 5:00 Monday – Saturday, and 9:00 – 3:00 Sundays. Any registered suburban Cook County resident may vote here at the Wheeling Township site.

JUDGES OF ELECTION

If you would like to serve as an election judge for the November 2, 2010 General Election, please contact either your Republican headquarters at 847-632-1774 or Democratic headquarters at 847-253-9032. To qualify, you must be a registered voter and live in Cook County.

FOR TECHIES

Did you know that the Cook County Clerk's Office now has a website which provides election information? On the new, updated

website you can find out about election dates, candidates, early voting information, election results, your voting status, and much, more. The site is: cookcountyclerk.com.

HISTORICAL TIDBIT A meeting of the board of auditors was held on February 22, 1863, with George Strong, Supervisor, J. W. Walton and A. W. Peet, Justices, and William H. Dunton, Town Clerk present for the audit of bills. The first bill was for \$7.00 for a desk for the clerk. The second bill was presented by the Highway Commissioner for the amount of \$37.50, which was not audited at the last meeting. The board decided that the amount was expended without authority and refused to audit it. The lesson learned was "get board approval before spending township funds."



From the Highway Commissioner... Scott Saewert

Senate Bill May Help Off-Set Need for Increasing Road District Tax Revenues...

The continued difficult economic climate has caused decreases in home values in Wheeling Township, which can affect the property tax revenues collected for our Road District operations. While I continue to do whatever is possible to fulfill our State mandated duties within the current means of the Township taxpayers, such decreases in revenue would normally necessitate an increase in the Road District tax levy. However, a recent bill passed by both the Illinois Senate and House may help off-set this.

Under current law, motor fuel tax (MFT) receipts are distributed to each county for distribution to the township road districts in that county. Each County's share of MFT dollars is based on its percentage of total road miles in the state. Once the county has received its share, it then allocates the MFT Funds to its township road districts on a similar proportionate basis, BUT only those road districts with a property tax rate of .08%. In the past, I fulfilled my obligations with a much lower tax rate and therefore the Road District never qualified for MFT funds.

For years, the Township Officials of Illinois and the Township Officials of Cook County have pushed for a change to this law to provide for a proportional allotment of motor fuel tax receipts to ALL townships. Senate Bill 3462 was recently introduced and passed by both houses to effect this change. This legislation provides that if a township road district levies a tax for road purposes at less than .08%, it would still get a proportional share of MFT funds based on its actual rate compared to .08%. Therefore, if a road district levy was .04%, it would get half of a full share of MFT funds. If signed by the Governor, these additional funds, along with other grants recently obtained, should off-set any need to raise the Road District tax levy next year.

Thank you for the pleasure of serving you! If you have any questions or if we can be of service, please call our office at 847-259-7730.



From the Assessor... Dan Patlak

Your Taxpayer Advocate...

In 2009, the County Assessor took the unprecedented step of making a downward assessment adjustment on all residential property in suburban Cook County. The adjustments were applied uniformly by township. The largest assessment reduction for a township was 14%. The smallest reduction was 4%. The reduction in Wheeling Township was 7%. That assessment adjustment will be reflected on the 2009 second installment tax bill we will be receiving later this year.

The Cook County Assessor is currently reassessing all property in the northern suburbs as part of their customary triennial reassessment process. This 2010 reassessment will be reflected on the second installment 2010 tax bill you receive in late 2011. Your reassessment notice that you receive from the Cook County Assessor will contain a deadline date for appealing that new assessment to the

County Assessor. The Cook County Board of Review will subsequently provide an opportunity to file an assessment appeal with their office as well. Appeals to the County Assessor can be made on-line at www.cookcountyassessor.com. Please contact our township office at 847-259-1515 if you have any questions regarding your right to appeal.

Please join us on Tuesday, September 21st from 10-11:30 a.m. for an Understanding your Tax Bill seminar for any senior citizen (60 and over). The seminar will be held at the Wheeling Township Service Center, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road in Arlington Heights. Please confirm your reservation by calling 847-259-7730.



Illinois State Treasurer's CASH DASH

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office is currently holding over \$1.5 billion in Unclaimed Property, \$900 million belonging to Cook County residents alone. Come to the Wheeling Township Community Center on August 10, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. to see if your lost property is being held by the State Treasurer's Office. **CASH DASH** representatives will be available on site to check the database for you. Representatives will also start the claims process or answer questions about existing claims.



Back row (Standing)- Left to right: Sarah Chaplick, Jenny Dolas, Saru Garg, Dasha Ignatova, Sarah Katz, Laval Carter, Shannon Johnson-Cadle, Andrew Ney, Cody Beeber, Shayna Reznikov
Bottom row- Left to right: Tommy Konwent, Caleb Mayhorn, Rui Luken, Gracie Vietzen, Jessica Bjornson, Vinny Berrios, Greg Schnieder, Samantha Sewell, Noah Wasserman Not shown: Katie Stejskal

Thank you Riley School...

Riley School SPIN (Supporting People in Need) 4th and 5th grade students share their time and talents by making special projects for our Meals on Wheels homebound clients. It is one generation helping another! SPIN students received certificates of appreciation from the Township.

Employment Opportunities

Are you 50 or better and seeking employment opportunities? Make an appointment with Val Profit, Director of Employment, for a one-on-one interview. She maintains an extensive database of part-time and full-time positions – entry level to professional – and will make contact with employers to arrange interviews.

Or attend the multi-township JOB CLUB on the fourth Tuesday of August and October at Schaumburg Township, One Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates. The JOB CLUB begins promptly at 1:00 p.m. and is a wonderful networking opportunity for serious job seekers. After the meeting, the JOB BANK, a listing of over 100 open positions in the northwest suburban area, is distributed. Val is at the Wheeling Township office every Thursday. Call her at 847-259-7730 to make an appointment.

Back-to-School Drive

Sometimes the only difference between an A+ student and a failing student is having the basic supplies to do homework and participate in class. In this economic climate, many families will not be able to afford these supplies for their children. Each year with the help of our community, we are able to prepare over 300 students for the new school year with backpacks and school supplies. We would appreciate your support in donating the following items:

- Back Packs
- Highlighters
- Glue
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- Sharpies
- Index Cards
- File Folders
- Sharpeners
- Note Book Paper
- Pens-Red, Blue, Black
- Rulers
- Book Covers
- Spiral Notebooks
- Pencil Pouches
- Composition Books

Please drop off your donations at the Township office Monday through Friday, 9 a.m to 4:30 p.m. Many thanks.



Senior & Disability News

Call 847-259-7730 to register for the following programs

SENIOR SCENE programs are hosted by the Wheeling Township Senior Advisory & Action Council.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Wheeling Township Senior & Advisory Council is committed to empowering older adults to lead fulfilling lives through educational programs, health services and social activities.

Join us for the educational opportunities for all seniors. The timely topics and lively discussion offer older adults a chance to expand their knowledge and share fellowship.

Just call to register for the upcoming free programs offered from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Wheeling Township Center on the following dates:

Safe and Sound In Your Home & Community

Tuesday, August 10 - 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Police officers from our local communities will share their experiences and suggestions on how to stay safe in your home. What can you do? What should you “look out” for? What latest scams are being used to take advantage of seniors? Come...ask questions and take part in this interactive experience and meet the officers who help keep you safe!



National Kidney Mobile

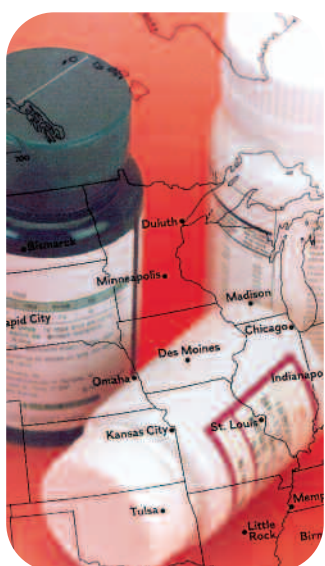
Tuesday, September 14 - 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

The National Kidney Foundation of Illinois will be at the Wheeling Township Community Center to offer **FREE** prevention education and health screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes and chronic kidney disease (CKD) to Wheeling Township residents. (See Notes from the Nurse for further details.) Please call to schedule an appointment time.

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Tuesday, September 21

Township Assessor Dan Patlak will offer an informative presentation on “understanding” your local property tax bill. Learn what the figures and numbers represent and what they mean to you as a local homeowner. This workshop is offered in collaboration with the Arlington Heights Senior Center. See the Assessor’s article on reverse side for more details.



**Evaluate your Medicare Part D Plan...
Learn about Health Care Reform...
How will it affect you?**

Tuesday, October 12

Please join Age Options and Catholic Charities for a timely presentation on how using the internet to evaluate your current Medicare Part D coverage plan. Learn how to select a drug plan that is best for you. The complexities of the new Health Care Reform Bill and its impact on seniors will also be discussed.

Notes from the Nurse

We all have two kidneys, but why? What is their purpose? How do we keep them healthy? How do we know if they are working properly? Did you know that two main causes of chronic kidney disease are diabetes and high blood pressure? Are you sure you don't have either of these? Do you know the early symptoms of these two conditions?



On Tuesday, September 14, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. the Wheeling Township offices will host the Kidney Mobile. The Kidney Mobile is an actual mobile exhibit sponsored by the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois. The exhibit offers free health screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes, and chronic kidney disease. Educational materials will also be available. There will be stations offering screenings for elevated blood pressure, urinalysis, body mass index, and glucose testing. All of these tests can help discover if

you have kidney disease and what you can do to prevent it. Everyone who is screened on September 14th will have a free consultation with a professional from the National Kidney Foundation.

Please call the township offices for your appointment today. The actual screening takes only a few minutes of your time but just think of the years you can be adding to your life. Call 847-259-7730 to schedule your appointment.

Karen McNeir, R.N., B.S.N.

Medical Services Offered... Call 847-259-7730 to register

Wheeling Township recognizes the importance of older adults living independently in their homes and their communities. The following health services, administered by the Township nurse, are available by appointment, for residents 60 years and over.

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAY –
9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Blood Pressure (no charge)
Blood Sugar Screening (\$1 charge)
PRO Time – Anticoagulation
Therapy Testing (\$6 charge)**

**2ND & 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.**

**Cholesterol Screening:
(Available to residents 18 years & older)**

Eight hour fasting (water only) lipid profile including total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and blood sugar (\$15.00 charge)

Cholesterol screenings require drawing of a blood sample from the fingertip.

FLU SHOT CLINIC:

In partnership with Northwest Community Hospital, Wheeling Township will be hosting our annual Flu Shot clinic on Thursday, October 21 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Wheeling Township Community Center.

Help you and your family stay healthy this season... **Please call beginning Monday, October 4** to schedule your appointment.

The flu shot is free, for those who have Medicare B coverage or Rail Road Retirement Insurance and can present their card of coverage. For all others, a flu shot will cost \$20 per person.

SENIOR HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM – SHIP

State & Federal Programs guidelines can be complicated...

If you are a senior with health insurance questions, our SHIP volunteers may be able to help you.

SHIP counselors are trained by the Illinois Division of Insurance to assist Medicare and Medicaid participants with understanding their benefit coverage, helping with filing their medical bills and claims, explaining Medicare Supplemental and Long Term Care Policies, and providing resolution support. The counselors are not affiliated with any insurance companies and are not licensed insurance brokers, so there is no pressure to purchase any products.



Stop in to Improve Your Driving Skills...

Secretary of State Rules of the Road Review Course

The one-session Secretary of State Refresher Course will help prepare you for your driving test and soothe those road test jitters! This class is designed to give drivers – especially senior citizens and persons with disabilities, the knowledge and confidence needed to renew or obtain a driver's license. The review course, taught by knowledgeable volunteers, combines an explanation of the driving examination with a practice written examination.



If you are interested in this course, offered from **9:30 a.m. – noon** on the following Thursdays, please call our office to register for one of the classes:

Thursday, July 8 • Thursday, September 9 • Thursday, November 11

AARP – SAFE DRIVING PROGRAM

Tune up Your Driving Skills

In cooperation with AARP, Wheeling Township offers the AARP Safe Driving Program, designed to help you **tune** up your driving skills, **learn** about normal age-related physical changes, **adjust** your driving to allow for the changes and **reduce** your traffic violations.

Call our office to register for one of the following two day sessions. A \$12.00 charge for AARP members and \$14.00 for non-members applies for the two session class. Checks should be made payable to AARP and mailed or dropped off at the Township Office prior to your first class.

Class time is 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- **Monday, August 2 & Wednesday, August 4**
- **Monday, September 13 & Wednesday, September 15**
- **Monday, October 4 & Wednesday, October 6**

Upon the completion of the two-session class, you will be issued a certificate, which may be submitted to your insurance company for a possible discount.

Secretary of State – Driver's License Renewal

Renew your driver's license at Wheeling Township!

When: Tuesday, October 5

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

By appointment ONLY 847-259-7730

Services Available: Vision screening, duplicate license, corrected license, Driver's license renewal, State I.D. card. There are NO road tests available!

Jesse White, Secretary of State - Department of Drivers Service

MEGA THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS...



Wheeling Township recognized over 200 of our volunteers on April 30 at our annual luncheon. This year's Leading the Way awards were presented by Supervisor Mike Schroeder (from L) to: Guy & Joan Welch, Bruce Bohrer, Helen Jensen, Dee Schillington, Anita Novak and Tony Serigos.

Interested in joining the Wheeling Township Volunteer Team? Call Chris Guth to learn more about the many opportunities available!

FOOD Pantry News

Neighbors helping neighbors...

At Wheeling Township, no one will ever be denied food. Please consider helping stock our food pantry shelves with these most needed items: Pancake mix/Syrup, Sugar, Flour, Dried Beans, Juice, Coffee, Tea, Powdered Milk, Cooking Oil, Jam/Jelly, Rice, Tomato Products, Paper Products, Cleaning Products, Diapers.

Donations can be dropped off at the Township Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. For large deliveries requiring assistance, please drop off between 9 a.m. and 11:00, or 12:30 to 2 p.m. when help is available.

All non-perishable food items are welcomed. Gift cards are also accepted.

Sharing Your Home Harvest with the Needy...

Many of you grow beautiful and plentiful vegetables and fruits. We would like to suggest that you keep the needy families of Wheeling Township in mind when you have a surplus harvest. We thank all gardeners who have donated in past years, and look forward to meeting new gardeners as well. Your donations make a difference for those families unable to afford fresh produce.

If you would like to share your bounty, please bring your donation to the Township office, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We would appreciate if you would bring your donations to us earlier in the week, and early in the day, so that we can distribute it fresh to families.

Have an enjoyable gardening season!



DONATE YOUR TIME & RESOURCES...



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

As simple as it sounds, making a difference in your community can change lives. Through volunteering and donating to the Township's Halloween Fun Fair for children with disabilities, you can improve their lives and bring smiles to their faces.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

DONATE The following new items:

(Sorry, we are not able to accept used items.)

- Wrapped candy
- Children's toys, books, stuffed animals
- Halloween decorations
- Paper plates and napkins
- Canned pop and juices • Cookies

Too busy to shop? Cash donations are always welcome to help defray our costs.

VOLUNTEER as a service group to sponsor a booth. (Call us for more details.)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Bring Your Child With Special Needs to the Wheeling Township Halloween Fun Fair

Celebrate Halloween with games, prizes and food at this safe and accessible free event for special needs children (ages 2-12 years) and their families. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes, so dress up and celebrate together!

When: Saturday, October 23

Where: Riley Elementary School (Northgate Subdivision) 1209 E. Burr Oak Dr., Arlington Heights

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Lots of prizes and a free pizza lunch!

Admission: A Happy Heart! Please call to reserve your space no later than October 18th!

Let us know if you may need special accommodations.

Thank you for your support...

We offer our sincere thanks to all who have been so generous this year in helping to make the Wheeling Township Food Pantry available for all who are in need. Special thanks to the following recent donors for their generous contributions:

On Wednesday, May 5, 2010, following a recommendation from Kevin Christensen, manager of Grainger's branch in Wheeling, IL, the **Grainger Foundation** presented a donation of \$5,000 to the Wheeling Township Emergency Fund. This donation will support the Food Pantry.

Grainger, a distributor of maintenance, repair and operating supplies serving businesses and institutions, is committed to helping the communities in which its employees live and work. For information about Grainger's community involvement please go to www.grainger.com/community.

The awesome students and staff at **Windsor Elementary School** participated in the **"Empty Bowl Project"** and raised over \$1,000 for the Wheeling Township Emergency Fund. Special thanks also goes to Gonnella Baking Company and Eros Restaurant of Arlington Heights for supplying bread and soup to fill the student's handmade bowls. The proceeds of their efforts will help the Food Pantry and provide the basic necessities of life to those in need.

Thomas Middle School again conducted a food drive and on May 27, 2010 delivered those items to the Food Pantry.

Girl Scout Troop #1282 donated \$1,000 to the Food Pantry, which was 1/3 of the cookie sale proceeds.