

SPRING 2014



REPORT

From the Supervisor... Michael B. Schroeder

Paula L. Ulreich, Wheeling Township Clerk for 28 years, passed away in February after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. A recent recipient of the 2013 Elected Official of the Year from Township Officials of Illinois, and the 2014 Pam Stocking Heart of Gold from the Village of Arlington Heights, Paula had an extensive history of community involvement. With a perpetual smile and great sense of humor, Paula concentrated on faith, country, family, and friends. The Township's large meeting room, now known as the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, was officially dedicated to her on April 8, 2014, with family, many friends, and dignitaries in attendance. I am privileged to have known and worked with her and it is my honor to have made this dedication.



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.

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FUNDING FOR THESE AGENCIES PROVIDED BY WHEELING TOWNSHIP

Wheeling Township funds a variety of important human care services for residents of all ages. Because of Township funding, services provided by these agencies are available to residents on a sliding-scale basis.

- ☐ Alexian Center for Mental Health
- ☐ Avenues to Independence
- ☐ CEDA (emergency shelter, child care, Head Start)
- ☐ Lutheran Services of Illinois Behavioral Health Services Program
- ☐ Health Services Program
- ☐ Midwest Council for Children with Disabilities
- ☐ Omni Youth Services
- ☐ R.H.D.
- ☐ Salvation Army
- ☐ Shelter, Inc.
- ☐ Suburban Primary HealthCare
- ☐ Access to Care
- ☐ WINGS
- ☐ The Harbour
- ☐ Hands On Suburban Chicago
- ☐ GERO Solutions
- ☐ Faith Community Homes
- ☐ Escorted Transportation Services
- ☐ Countryside
- ☐ Clearbrook Center
- ☐ Children's Advocacy Center
- ☐ Center for Enriched Living
- ☐ Catholic Charities (housing, senior services)
- ☐ JourneyCare
- ☐ Journeys - The Road Home
- ☐ Life Span



We're Proud to Serve You...

(left to right) **Michael B. Schroeder**, Supervisor, **Joanna Gauza**, Township Clerk, **Robert Hoban**, Trustee, **Ruth O'Connell**, Trustee, **Mike Domzalski**, Trustee, **Kathy Penner**, Trustee, **Scott Sawert**, Highway Commissioner, and **Jerry Sadler**, Assessor

SENIOR AND DISABILITY NEWS

CALL 847-259-7730 to register for any of the programs & services offered through Wheeling Township.

SENIOR SCENE PROGRAMS

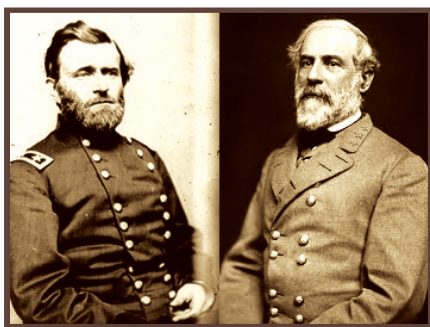
SENIOR SCENE programs, hosted by the Wheeling Township Senior Advisory & Action Council provide educational opportunities for all seniors. The timely topics and lively discussion offer older adults a chance to expand their knowledge and share fellowship.

Just call our office to register for the upcoming free programs offered at the Wheeling Township Center on the following dates. **Registration is limited, so call now to reserve your place!**

KILDEER On-the-Road WHOLE FOODS MARKET Cooking Class

Tuesday, June 10
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Kick-off the summer with the Experts from Whole Foods Market Kildeer at the Township Center to discuss healthy eating and cooking tips, while enjoying nutritious samples for a season of culinary delights and new portion strategies.



“100 Days of Battle – Ulysses S. Grant Challenges Robert E. Lee”

Tuesday, August 12
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

During the spring and summer of 1864 Grant's Army of the Potomac

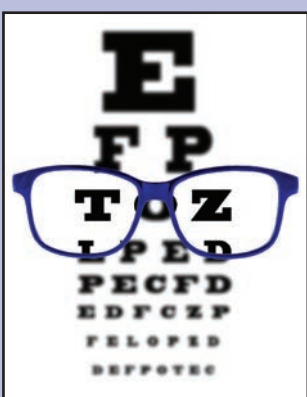
and Lee's Army of Northern Virginia slammed into each other over and over again, beginning at Wilderness and ending in trenches outside of Petersburg. Grant attacked over and over again, refusing to accept defeat. Lee fought and shifted his forces with tactical brilliance, but could not gain a victory. After 100 days, it was clear that the Union had taken a position that would guarantee victory. Join Professor Gary Midkiff as he examines not only the military movements, but also profiles the protagonists of this extended conflict.

Understanding Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage



Open Enrollment for Medicare Part D – October 15 through December 7
Tuesday, September 30 • 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Seniors have many choices when it comes to Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage. Understanding those choices can insure that you receive the prescription drugs you require at the most beneficial cost to you. Join the SHIP counselors from Wheeling Township Senior Services as they explain how Medicare Part D works for you and how they can help you make the best choices when it comes to your prescription needs. The session will include a live internet demonstration of the tools you can use to personalize your Part D drug coverage, information on how and when to enroll in or change plans, and explanations of various programs that may allow you to save money on your prescription drugs. Whether you are able to attend the presentation or not, you can call the township at 847-259-7300 to schedule a one-on-one appointment with a SHIP counselor to review your Part D drug coverage during the annual enrollment period. SHIP counselors are not affiliated with any insurance company.



Township VIP – Low Vision Support Group

“We may lose our sight, but not our vision.”

As we age, vision problems can make living independently more challenging. The Wheeling Township VIP, Low Vision Support Group, meets the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 2:30 pm. If you are experiencing vision loss, or have been diagnosed with an eye condition, this support group offers socialization, educational

workshops, a book club, recreational outings and a chance to find out how others with vision loss are coping and living full and independent lives. Join us, call the Township Senior and Disability Department to learn more.

MEDICAL SERVICES

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

Wheeling Township recognizes the importance of older adults to remain 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. – 1:00 p.m.

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

Cholesterol Screening:
2nd & 4th Thursday of Each Month

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (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.

At-home hemocult screening tests available for \$4.00



New Service offered at the Township Center...

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

It is estimated that as many as 5.1 million Americans may have Alzheimer's disease. The incidence of the disease is rising with the aging of America. Providing care for someone with memory loss can be a labor of love, but it can also be exhausting and stressful.



Wheeling Township has partnered with the Alzheimer's Association-Greater Illinois Chapter to offer a monthly support group for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease. The support group is designed to provide emotional, educational and social support for caregivers through monthly scheduled meetings.

Karen McNeir, R.N., B.S.N. and Kris Freeman, M.A. will be Co-Facilitators of this group, offering help to participants in developing coping methods and encouraging caregivers to maintain their personal, physical and emotional health, as well as providing optimal care for the person with dementia.

The Caregiver Support Group meets the **3rd Tuesday of every month at the Township Center from 1:00-2:30 pm.** Please contact Karen or Kris to learn more.

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.

This course runs from 9:30 a.m. – noon • Please call the Township to register.
■ Thursday, July 10 ■ Thursday, September 11

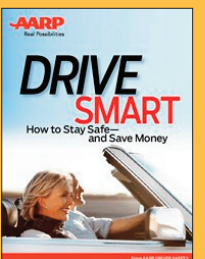
AARP – SMART DRIVER COURSE

Tune Up Your Driving Skills...

In cooperation with AARP, Wheeling Township offers the AARP Smart Driver Course, designed to help you: **tune up** your driving skills, **learn** about normal age-related physical changes and how to adjust your driving to compensate and **reduce** your chances of receiving a traffic violation or getting into an accident. Call our office to register for one of the following two day sessions. A \$15.00 charge for AARP members and \$20.00 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, June 2 & Wednesday, June 4
- Monday, July 7 & Wednesday, July 9
- Monday, August 4 & Wednesday, August 6
- Monday, September 8 & Wednesday, September 10

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





THE COMMUNITY PAINT-A-THON

Paint Date • September 13

Paint-A-Thon is a unique community partnership designed to paint the exterior of homes owned and occupied by persons with limited financial resources, who are a least 60 years of age or have a permanent disability, making them unable to do the work themselves.

Call the Wheeling Township Senior & Disability Department for an application for the program or to find out how you might be able to volunteer. The 2014 Paint Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 13.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

More Than Just a Ride!

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 services may be an answer for your transportation needs. Our service hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday within the Wheeling Township boundaries, with some exceptions for medical services. If you are in need of our transportation services, please call the Wheeling Township Transportation Department at (847) 259-7743 for program services and eligibility.



MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC



The Mobile Dental Clinic is a partnership with Northwest Community Hospital and Elk Grove, Palatine, Schaumburg and Wheeling Townships. It provides necessary dental care to residents who do not have resources to go to a general dentist. Residents must meet financial guidelines and there is a cost of \$30 per visit.

Services are by appointment only. Call us to see if you qualify.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

How Can We Help You?

Are you facing a difficult financial situation? Struggling to make ends meet? Wheeling Township General Assistance Office is here to help you.

The General Assistance staff can assess your situation and determine if you qualify for one of our many programs. We can also screen you for DHS programs such as SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) or Medicaid.

Emergency Assistance is a one time financial grant open to any resident facing a life-threatening circumstance, such as eviction or utility disconnection. Residents must complete an application, provide verifications and qualify based on financial and non-financial factors.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

We are Neighbors helping Neighbors. We partner with individuals, organizations, schools, churches and corporations that afford Wheeling Township the opportunity to provide low-cost or no-cost services to residents while holding down spending—thus saving taxpayers dollars.

Volunteers are the life-line of some of the many programs we offer and we are fortunate to have selfless, caring individuals who regularly volunteer their time and talents to assist their neighbors in need.



All volunteers are trained by our professional staff. If you are interested in any of the following volunteer opportunities, please call 847-259-7730 for more information.

Meals on Wheels - Deliver prepared meals to homebound senior citizens and disabled residents on a regular, once or twice a month schedule, or serve as a substitute on an as needed basis. Each route takes approximately one and one-half hour to complete. Must have an automobile and valid drivers license.

ABOUT OUR FOOD PANTRY

Hunger knows no season! With summer fast approaching, decreased donations and food drives, combined with increased demand, make a perfect storm for empty shelves. **Please remember to pick up a few food items and/or personnel essentials on your next trip to the store.** Each and every donation makes a difference to someone in need!



Wheeling High School Boys Basketball Program hosted their 3rd Annual "Shoot Hoops for Change" fundraiser event. A check for \$1,000 was presented to the Food Pantry by Alex Karras, Ola Arogundade, Patrick Szpir and Robert Webber.



Vicki Jagielski of Protective Asset Protection in Bannockburn rallied with her company to host a large food drive to benefit the Wheeling Township Food Pantry in March.

To meet the growing need we can always use the following items:

Most Needed Items:

- Meat Products such as Chicken, Hash, Ham- Canned
- Syrup
- Pancake Mix
- Dry Beans (1 lb bag)
- Bottled Juice (small sizes)
- Cake Mix
- Coffee or Tea - Small
- Dry Milk
- Tomato Sauce
- Vegetable Oil and Olive Oil
- Dry Rice (1 lb bag)
- Mayonnaise, Ketchup, and Mustard
- Canned Fruit - All Varieties
- Pasta and Sauce
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Soup
- Ramen Noodles

Paper and Cleaning Products:

- Paper Products: Towels, Kleenex, Napkins, Toilet Paper (2 or 4 roll packages)
- Diapers - Sizes: 4,5 and 6
- Detergent

Toiletries:

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Toothpaste

FROM THE GIVING GARDEN...

Last year, gardeners from our community brought in hundreds of pounds of vegetables to help supplement our food pantry. Recipients were thankful for the fresh, home-grown treats of tomatoes, zucchini, eggplant, cucumbers and so much more. We truly appreciated you putting your green thumbs to work for our needy residents.

This year, we are asking that you grow an extra row or two. As you gather your home grown veggies, please consider bringing a few in to share with the food pantry!

The Giving Garden accepts home grown vegetables & fruit deliveries on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Friendly Visitor Program - Duties vary according to the senior or disabled individuals needs and the volunteers time constraints. The volunteer may open mail and read to a visually impaired person, pick up groceries or medication for a homebound individual, or take an individual to lunch or to the grocery store. The volunteer and client are screened and matched by staff.



Food Pantry Assistant - We are in need of assistants who can commit to on-going weekly or bi-monthly help. Spend time accepting and inspecting donations, stocking shelves and bagging food in the Wheeling Township's food pantry.

Seasonal Giving Program Assistant - Help Wheeling Township staff coordinate the needy student school supplies/backpack programs, as well as the holiday food and gift distribution programs through the Wheeling Township Community Center.



From the Assessor – Jerry Sadler

2013 2ND INSTALLMENT PROPERTY TAX BILLS

The 2013 2nd Installment property tax bills are scheduled to be mailed on July 1, 2014, with a due date the first part of August 1, 2014. We recommend that you check the entire bill carefully and note bill has a brief summary of the tax bill calculation and any relevant exemptions. If an exemption is missing from the bill, you will need to complete a Certificate of Error form and submit it along with a copy of the current property tax bill and a copy of a valid driver's license or Illinois ID card with the address of the subject property to the Cook County Assessor's office. The Certificate of Error forms are available on line at www.cookcountyassessor.com or at our office (847-259-1515), and all Cook County Assessor's offices. We can assist you with this process, but in order to serve you most efficiently please have a **recent property tax bill with your property index number (PIN) available**. The PIN is found at the top of the property tax bill. Although we can assist you with this process, only the Cook County Assessor can issue a corrected bill.

Property tax bills can be paid by mail, online or in person at any Chase Bank location or at the Cook County Treasurer's office in Chicago at the County Building at 118 N. Clark Street. If you need a duplicate bill, you will have to contact the Cook County Treasurer either online at www.cookcountytreasurer.com or by calling 312-443-5100. Check the back of the property tax bill for more details.

"If my property value has decreased, why is my property tax increasing?"

Property tax bills can increase even though market values and corresponding assessments are decreasing. This is because property tax is not solely dependent upon property values.

- The Illinois Department of Revenue sets the multiplier or equalizer annually, which is intended to ensure all properties are assessed at the same level of market value.
- The Cook County Clerk calculates the tax rates based on the total equalized assessed value (EAV) for all property in any given tax code area and the amount of money requested (levy) by each taxing body listed on the bill.
- The Cook County Treasurer then determines the individual bills and mails them.

This information is available on your 2nd installment tax bill.

2014 ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Cook County Assessor has set 2014 assessment appeal dates for July 2014. Please note that as property taxes in Cook County are paid one year in arrears, these assessment appeals, if successful, affect 2014 second installment property tax bills paid in July 2015. Wheeling Township's opening filing date is tentatively scheduled for July 11, 2014. During the 30-day window established by the Cook County Assessor, you can submit an appeal online at www.cookcountyassessor.com or with an appeal form available at that same site or from our office or any Cook County Assessor's office. Appeals are reviewed and decisions made by the Cook County Assessor's office. We are available to assist you by providing information and direction on filing your appeal. Again, you will need the permanent index number (PIN) when you visit or call our office. **Our phone number is 847-259-1515.**

The Cook County Assessor still maintains a branch office at both the Rolling Meadows and Skokie Circuit Courthouse buildings with staff to assist you as well.

From the Clerk — Joanna Gauza

ANNUAL MEETING:

Wheeling Township's annual Town Meeting was held on April 8, 2014. **St. James Boy Scout Troop 166** did an outstanding job starting the meeting by presenting the colors. This is not a regular board meeting; it is the one meeting that the Town Clerk conducts. The Clerk reads the financial statements, until a moderator is elected by the registered voters (electors) attending the meeting.



Arlington Heights resident, and former Township Collector, Ken Jochum was elected moderator. Resolutions to authorize the Board to purchase loss and liability insurance, fund social service agencies, and set the date and time of the next meeting were voted upon and passed by the majority of the electors present. Mr. Jochum introduced the elected officials and those presenting reports. Supervisor Schroeder presented awards to volunteers and donors and made a formal dedication of the meeting room to Paula Ulreich, former Clerk.

VEHICLE STICKERS:

For those living in unincorporated Wheeling Township – don't get a ticket, buy a vehicle sticker. They are available for purchase at Wheeling Township and will be valid until June 30, 2015. The cost for stickers varies, but generally an automobile is \$80, a small truck is \$100 and senior citizens (65 years and older) can receive up to two stickers free of charge. If you have purchased a vehicle within the last 30 days and you live in unincorporated Cook County, - you will not be charged a late fee. Please be aware that the Cook County Sheriff's Police will ticket vehicles registered in unincorporated Cook County that do not display a current sticker.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me anytime at 847-259-7730 or by e-mail at jgauza@wheelingtowship.com. I am pleased to have the opportunity to serve you!

From Highway Commissioner – Scott Saewart

SPRING RAINS AND YOUR FLOOD DISASTER PLAN...

Although living near the Des Plaines River may provide beautiful scenery and ample wildlife, it also brings high humidity, pesky insects, unpredictable weather patterns and the ever-present fear of flooding. While not much can be done to keep Mother Nature at bay, we can take a few precautions to help protect our families and property from rising waters.

In the event flood waters do reach your home and property, it is wise to have a few items on hand to help minimize the damage and help you clean up after the flooding recedes.

The following is a list of items and suggestions to consider for emergency preparedness:

- Keep a good selection of hand tools accessible: shovel, rake, axe, hammer and nails, pry bar, sledge hammer, basic electrical tools, wrenches, screwdriver, staple gun, and staples.
- A stash of construction materials so you can temporarily repair damage to your home and keep it habitable: 2x4s, plywood, tarps, rolled plastic, and duct tape.
- A chain saw for clearing debris, generator and fuel as an alternate power supply, and sand bags to help divert the flow of water.
- A source of clean drinking water available, a minimum of 3 gallons per person per day for cooking and sanitation needs.
- Stock your pantry with a variety of easy-to-prepare nutritious foods: canned, dried, and dehydrated foodstuffs.
- Alternate lighting sources, such as lanterns, candles, and flashlights. Be sure to include a supply of fuel and extra batteries for each device.
- If your local sanitary systems is compromised, an improvised toilet can be made using a five gallon bucket, plastic garbage bag, and a spare toilet seat. After each use, pour a little chlorine bleach in the bag and dispose by either burning or bury deeply away from the home and drinking water sources.

At some point, you may have to evacuate you home. That decision should be made well before there is any real life threatening danger. Always have at least two ways to access and exit your property to ensure you can get out. The largest vehicle you own should be used for the evacuation because you may be living out of it for awhile. Get in the habit of always maintaining a minimum of a half tank of fuel in that vehicle. When leaving, bring along 10 gallons of water, additional food, medical kit, hygiene kit, \$1,000 cash in mixed bills, and copies of any important documentation such as insurance policies, property deeds, birth certificates, social security cards, passports, and bank account information.

Prior to leaving the home, close the valves on all gas supply lines and flip the main circuit breaker in your electrical panel to reduce the risk of fire. Close all exterior windows and doors, but leave them unlocked to allow access by emergency personnel. Place a note with your contact information on the front door and kitchen counter. Head for safety at a relative's home or hotel not affected by the flood. Monitor radio and television reports for updates on the flood levels and the all clear from emergency services.

We certainly do not want a repeat of last year's record flood, but since we have no control over these occurrences, it is important that each homeowner that may be affected have a flood disaster plan and kit to prepare for such an event. If you have any questions or if we can be of service, please call our office at 847-259-7730.

WITH OUR GRATITUDE...

For the second time in as many years, Cleats Manufacturing, a family-owned business located in Chicago, has donated \$2,000 in gift cards to the Township's Adopt a Family Program at Christmas. This most generous donation helped us provide some holiday joy to 684 children and their most grateful families. Thank you for helping us put smiles on their faces.



Cleats Manufacturing – accepting is Steve Passannante and Dianna Ehrenfried



Arlington Heights Sunset Rotary – accepting is Diana and Larry Koss

The Arlington Heights Sunset Rotary has done much to make our expanded food pantry a great success. They donate food and volunteer on the second Wednesday evening of every month to sort food and stock shelves. They most recently gifted the pantry with a new commercial glass front refrigerator and regularly fill it with eggs, cheese and lunch meats. Thank you for helping us make a difference.

School District 25 had a total of 36 food drives for the Wheeling Township Food Pantry. All schools participated. Olive Mary Stitt School delivered more than 300 bags, South Middle School collected more than 8,000 items, and Thomas Middle School had a whopping 12 drives for the pantry. Many organizations such as Scout Troops, PTA's, Clubs, PAWS for the Cause, Empty Bowls, etc. have been loyal donors and with all the worthwhile charities out there, we are extremely grateful they chose us.



Arlington Heights School District 25, accepting is Eric Larson, Assistant Principle at South Middle School