

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

We're Proud to Serve You..



- Alexian Center for Mental Health
- Avenues to Independence
- Catholic Charities (housing, senior services)
- Center for Enriched Living
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Clearbrook Center
- Countryside
- Escorted Transportation Services
- Faith Community Homes
- Hands On Suburban Chicago
- The Harbour
- JourneyCare
- Journeys - The Road Home
- Life Span
- Lutheran Services of Illinois Behavioral Health Services Program
- Midwest Council for Children with Disabilities
- NCH Foundation Mental Health Navigator Program
- Northwest Compass (childcare, headstart, housing)
- Omni Youth Services
- P.H.D.
- Salvation Army
- Shelter, Inc.
- St. Mary's Services
- Suburban Primary HealthCare / Access to Care
- WINGS

Because of Township funding, services provided by these agencies are available to residents on a sliding-scale basis.

FUNDING FOR THESE AGENCIES PROVIDED BY WHEELING TOWNSHIP

Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays
Township Board Meetings: 8:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

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



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SUMMER 2015



REPORT

From the Supervisor...
Michael B. Schroeder

OUR BEST WISHES AND GRATITUDE TO CHRIS GUTH...



Chris Guth

After serving 13 years as Wheeling Township's Assistant Director of Senior and Disability Services, **Chris Guth** retired to devote more time to family. She wholeheartedly embraced her responsibilities with the **Meals on Wheels, Friendly Visitor and Caring Caller programs**, and the annual **Volunteer & Donor Appreciation luncheon** and the **Make-A-Difference Fun Fair** for Children with Disabilities. She was a dedicated member of our team and one of the Township's valued community Ambassadors. Although we will miss working with Chris on a day to day basis, we will see her often - she volunteers for our programs and will work on special projects.

We interviewed many applicants for the open position and hired **Aileen Zei**, a compassionate and experienced individual with an impressive background in volunteer coordination and human services. Please call Aileen at 847-259-7730 if you are homebound and could use a little support and assistance with your daily life. She's anxious to share her knowledge and expertise to help those in need.



Aileen Zei, Assistant Director of Senior & Disability Services

WE WELCOME AILEEN ZEI

The Township's **Meals On Wheels** program provides nutritious food for the body and a friendly face of a volunteer, who shares their compassion and concern, bringing the outside world to our homebound neighbors.

The Township's **Friendly Visitor** program matches a volunteer to a homebound senior or a person with permanent disabilities, offering conversation, friendship, support and assistance picking up groceries and prescriptions. The volunteer provides the human connection to enhance the lives of older adults, helping them to age in place. **Thank you for being a friend, thank you for being a good neighbor and thank you for sharing your time and compassion!**

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 from **10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** at the Wheeling Township Center on the following dates. **Registration is limited, so call now to reserve your place!**

UNDERSTANDING MEDICARE PART D

Prescription Drug Coverage

Open Enrollment for Medicare Part D
October 15 through December 7

Tuesday, September 8 • 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 847-259-7730 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.



If you are a member of a local civic group, faith community or an organization that would like to learn more about Medicare and how recent changes might affect you, our SHIP volunteers are available to come and speak to your group.

HOW TO BE A FRIEND TO SOMEONE WITH A SERIOUS ILLNESS...

Tuesday, October 13
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



JourneyLife
PROGRAMS by **journeycare**

Often times when close friends or family members are seriously ill, we do not know what to do or say to bring comfort to them. Come explore creative ways to provide support, love and joy to those we care about.

Mary Helen Ekstam, Life Learning Advocate and board certified music therapist for JourneyCare, brings over twenty years of experience in healthcare administration and outreach.

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. In 2014, over 24,500 rides were provided to our residents. Service hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday within the Wheeling Township boundaries.



For those needing to travel outside Wheeling Township boundaries for medical appointments, TRIP may be the answer. This long standing collaboration between PACE, and Elk Grove, Hanover, Palatine, Schaumburg, and Wheeling Townships, uses State grants to subsidize riders fares. The one-way cost is \$5.00 for every township line crossed during a single trip, not to exceed \$10.00. TRIP's service hours are Mon. thru Fri. 5AM-9PM & Sat. 7AM-4PM. Destinations include VA medical facilities in Maywood, Elgin, & North Chicago and Stroger Hospital, Rush University Hospital, University of Illinois Hospitals, Loyola Medical Center, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Good Shepard Hospital, ARA So. Barrington Dialysis Center and specified Social Security Offices. Call our Transportation Department at 847-259-7743 for program services and eligibility.



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 & Thursdays • 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)

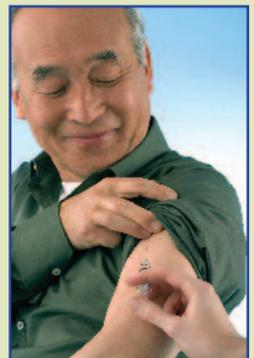
Eight hour fasting (water only) lipid profile including total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and blood sugar (\$15.00 charge) Cholesterol screenings require drawing of a blood sample from the fingertip.

At-home hemocult screening tests available for \$4.00

Concerned About the flu? What to do?

This year, the Township nurse will have a limited supply of the flu shots for homebound patients over the age of eighteen, who are unable to get a flu shot from their physician. Please call **Karen McNeir, R.N., B.S.N.** to schedule a home visit. **The flu shot is covered by Medicare Part B.**

If you do not have Medicare coverage, the cost is \$25.00



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 partners 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. co-facilitate 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.

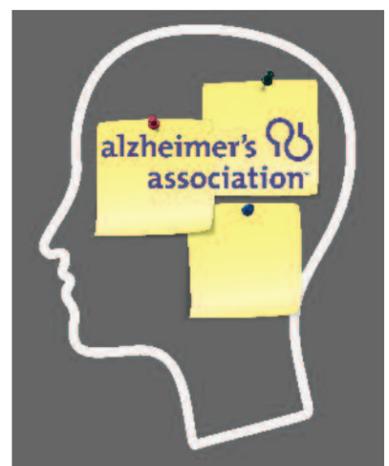
The Caregiver Support Group meets the third Tuesday of every month at the **Township Center from 1:00-2:30 pm.** Please contact Karen or Kris to learn more about this service.

27th ANNUAL SENIOR CELEBRATION DAY

Save the date and mark your calendars!

September 24, 2015 –
Arlington International
Racecourse

The 27th Annual Senior Celebration Day will now be held on Thursday, September 24 from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm. The same FREE event with health screenings, exhibitors, discounted lunch, entertainment, raffle prizes, free parking & shuttle, and so much more! Join us for an afternoon of fun and celebration!





YOU CAN Make A Difference...

Can you help share your time and resources?

October 24

Wheeling Township Make A Difference Day

Make a Difference Day is the largest national day of community service and is a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors.

This annual Halloween Fun Fair for children with disabilities and their families needs the support of volunteers and donors to make the event a success.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You can volunteer to help the day of the event...

WHEN Saturday, October 24

WHERE Riley Elementary School from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Or even better, organize your friends, neighbors, family, or service group to volunteer or sponsor a booth.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Here is our "WISH LIST"...

- Children's toys, books, stuffed animals
- Wrapped Candy
- Canned pop and juices
- Halloween decorations

(Sorry, we are unable to accept used items.)

TOO BUSY TO SHOP?

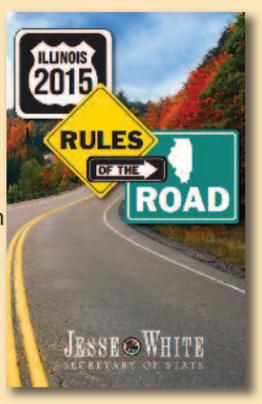
Cash donations are always welcome to help defray our costs.
 Call the Township at 847-259-7730 to find out how you can **Make A Difference!**



STOP IN TO IMPROVE YOUR DRIVING SKILLS...

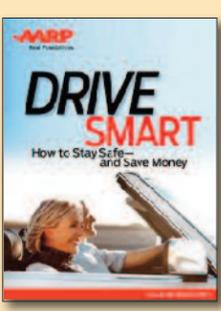
Secretary of State RULES OF THE ROAD Review Course

The one-session Secretary of State Refresher Course will help prepare you for your driving test and soothe those road test jitters! 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. until noon on the following Thursdays, please call our office to register:

- Thursday, September 10
- Thursday, November 12



AARP – SMART DRIVER COURSE 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 \$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 is 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Monday, August 3 and Wednesday, August 5
- Monday, September 14 and Wednesday, September 16
- Monday, October 5 and Wednesday, October 7
- Monday, November 2 and Wednesday, November 4

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

Secretary of State, Department of Drivers Service

Riley School Supports Wheeling Township...



Riley Elementary School SPIN (Supporting People in Need) fourth and fifth grade members were honored with certificates from the Wheeling Township Senior & Disability Services for their participation in supporting their homebound neighbors with seasonal craft items. Special thanks to Riley Principal, Carrie McCulley and to Melisa Zawadzki, SPIN Coordinator.

MAKING THE PANTRY PERSONAL

Do you ever wonder what makes the Wheeling Township Food Pantry so successful? Although most published information is on the statistical data of the recipients, here is a glimpse into what actually makes the cogs of the pantry machine work: Donors and Voluntary Crew Members.



Lorelle Silverman has been growing and donating fresh produce to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry for the last three years. Originally she began working the garden at the Clerics of St. Viator in Arlington Heights and now Lorelle has expanded her efforts with a 400 square feet garden at her home.

Lorelle sites her commitment as a way to honor her mother's memory. During the Depression, her mother was separated from her family and they were often hungry. Once she got through the hard times, she always made it a point to donate to local food pantries. Lorelle remembers her mother often saying "hunger happens every day" and having a special worry for children who go without.

Lorelle continues the tradition of donating that her mother began and has combined it with her love of gardening. In addition to all of the gardening for the food pantry, Lorelle also volunteers at the Chicago Botanical Gardens weekly. Lorelle has found a wonderful way to combine her love for getting her hands dirty with helping others in our community!

Barbara Stoga is one of the 44 member Wheeling Township Food Pantry Crew who make the pantry work on a day to day basis. Crew members sort and shelve donated food as well as assist recipients directly by answering questions, "cashiering" and providing bagging services.

Barb Stoga has volunteered in the Wheeling Township Food Pantry since November of 2008. Her dedication and commitment earned her the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2014. Barb has continued her efforts and in May of this year she was recognized by Hands On Suburban Chicago's RSVP program with the winning of The Presidential Volunteer Service Award.



Barb Stoga, 2014 Volunteer of the Year

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award is given locally, regionally and nationally to those who have committed more than 100 hours of their time in a year to a worthy cause. Its purpose is "to encourage a sustained commitment to civic participation, and inspire others to make service a central part of their lives."

Barb has shown her commitment to the food pantry during these last seven years. In fact, she often acts as a substitute to cover someone else's shift so that the pantry can remain open. Barb believes that the best way to help someone is to make sure they have enough to eat and a safe place to live, so she also volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. Her service has definitely made a difference in our community!

YOU CAN PERSONALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOO...

Hunger knows no season! The Wheeling Township Food Pantry shelves are bare! It happens every summer: decreased donations and food drives, combined with increased demand make a perfect storm of empty shelves. The Pantry is in need of **soup, tuna, canned fruit & tomato products and paper goods**. 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! For more information or to organize a food drive with your business or organization, please call Julie Villarreal at 847-259-7730 or email jvillarreal@wheelingtowship.com.

Highway Commissioner – Scott Saewart

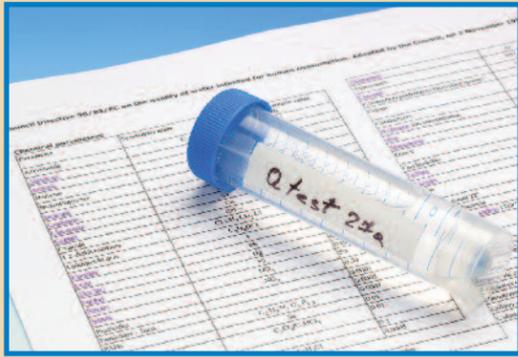
TESTING PRIVATE WELL WATER...

Most of the unincorporated Cook County residents in Wheeling Township have private wells to provide their water service. A frequent question asked "is my well water safe to drink"? Properly constructed and maintained, private wells and water treatment systems can provide many years of trouble free service. However, well pumps and filters can deteriorate allowing surface

contaminants to enter the water. Groundwater may contain bacteria or chemical substances at levels above health standards. Contaminates can often not be detected by sight, taste or smell. Many of the most serious problems can only be detected through laboratory testing of the water. While public water systems are regularly tested for a variety of contaminants, private well water testing is the responsibility of the homeowner.

Coliform bacteria and nitrates are the most common well water contaminants and should be tested on a yearly basis. Certified labs test well water, such as McHenry Analytical Water Laboratory, Inc. They are willing to deliver water testing kits to the Wheeling Township Hall for resident pick-up and drop-off of water samples, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. The results are normally available within 24 hours after the samples are tested. Typical test costs are \$25.00 for bacteria and \$10.00 for nitrates. For more information, contact Lisa Christy at 815-344-4044 ex 19, or email her at lisa@mchenrylab.com. A list of other certified labs and recommendations on treating contaminated well water are available at www.epa.state.il.us/well-water/.

For more information about water quality testing for private wells, contact the Illinois Department of Public Health at 217-782-5830 or DPH.MAILUS@illinois.gov, or the Illinois EPA, 217-557-6474, epa.safewater@illinois.gov.



From the Clerk – Joanna Gauza



VEHICLE STICKERS FOR UNINCORPORATED COOK COUNTY

For residents of unincorporated Wheeling Township only – **don't get a ticket** – your new vehicle sticker should have been purchased by July 1, 2015! Cook County vehicle stickers are valid from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. If you just moved into the unincorporated area or just bought a new vehicle, your fee is the normal rate. Proof of new residency or purchase of a car must be shown at the time you buy your sticker to receive the normal rate. If you forgot to purchase your 2015-2016 sticker, you will be charged a **late penalty** equal to the price of the sticker. However, if the police pull you over, you will receive a ticket and also have to pay for the sticker and an equal amount as a late penalty. Therefore, it is substantially less expensive to buy your vehicle sticker and pay a late penalty. Vehicle stickers are available for purchase at the Wheeling Township Clerk's Office Monday – Friday, between 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The sticker fees are as the following rates: smaller passenger vehicles - \$80, larger passenger vehicles of at least 4500 pounds - \$100, physically handicapped vehicles – no fee, disabled veterans – no fee, senior citizen – no fee (two car maximum), motorcycles - \$25.

VOTER REGISTRATION

The primary elections for United States President, Senate, Congress, and many Illinois offices will be held on March 15, 2016 and the general elections for these offices on November 8, 2016. If you have just moved into the Township, have moved to another residence in the Township, or changed your name, you need to register to be able to vote in these future elections.

Avoid the election season rush and come to the Clerk's Office, Monday- Friday, between 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and we will be pleased to register you to vote. All you need are two forms of identification (one showing your current address), be a citizen of the United States, be 18 years of age or older (you can be 17 years of age when registering as long as you are 18 years of age on election day), and live in the Township for at least 30 days before the election. For naturalized citizens, you must provide the date of your naturalization (the date is on your naturalization certificate).

Remember – once you have registered, you do not need to re-register unless you move or change your name.



From the Assessor – Jerry Sadler

2014 2ND INSTALLMENT PROPERTY TAX BILLS

By now you should have received the 2014 2nd Installment property tax bill. If you did not receive the tax bill, you can request a duplicate bill online at the Treasurer's website at www.cookcountytreasurer.com or by calling the Cook County Treasurer's office at 312-443-5100.

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. To pay at a Chase Bank location, you will need an original or duplicate tax bill. You can pay online at the Treasurer's website www.cookcountytreasurer.com without a tax bill, but you will need your property index number and bank account and routing numbers. There is a small processing fee charged for this method of payment.

In reviewing your 2nd installment property tax bill, please note that any and all Homestead exemptions are permitted on one property only and that must be the owner's principal residence. Any exemptions taken on properties other than the owner's principal residence could be deemed "erroneous" and, therefore, subject to repayment with interest and possibly penalties.

Please review your bill carefully, and contact us with any questions. **Our phone number is 847-259-1515.**

IN ORDER TO ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR QUESTIONS REGARDING ANY PROPERTY, PLEASE HAVE THE 14-DIGIT PROPERTY INDEX NUMBER (PIN) AVAILABLE FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY. THE NUMBER CAN BE FOUND AT THE TOP OF YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILL. THANK YOU!

2015 ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Cook County Assessor scheduled the 2015 appeal period for Wheeling Township property owners for July and August of this year. The appeal period is open for approximately 30 days each year. Any 2015 appeal, if successful, will **affect 2015 2nd Installment property tax bills paid in July 2016**. During the 30-day window established by the Cook County Assessor, you can file an appeal online at www.cookcountyassessor.com or submit an appeal form. All appeals are filed with the Cook County Assessor, but we are available to assist you by providing information and direction on filing your appeal. Again, you will need the property index number (PIN) when you visit or call our office.

2015 is **not** a reassessment year for Wheeling Township. In 2016, the Cook County Assessor's office will mail new assessment notices to all property owners in Northern Cook County including Wheeling Township. There is no schedule for 2016 reassessments at this time. All assessments are published in the local newspaper in a triennial reassessment year. Only changes are published in the other two years.



Back-to-School Supplies Needed...

With August just around the corner, Wheeling Township is collecting new school supplies for children of low income families. Every donation can make a difference in helping a family that is already struggling to provide basics like rent and food. Every child should start the school year prepared to maximize learning potential. When you are out shopping, please consider picking up some of the items listed below. **School supplies will be accepted between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30.p.m. until Friday, August 14th.**

- Backpacks
- Colored Pencils
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Folders
- Glue/Glue Sticks
- Highlighters
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Rulers
- Markers
- Pencils
- Pencil Pouches
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Pens
- Scissors
- Sharpies (black)
- Spiral Notebooks
- Binders

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Julie Villarreal at 847-259-7730 or email jvillarreal@wheelingtowship.com.

