



REPORT

From the Desk of the Supervisor – Maria Zeller Brauer



Dear Neighbors,

I'm honored to introduce myself as the newly elected Supervisor of Wheeling Township. On behalf of myself and the newly elected Wheeling Township Trustees, thank you for the trust and confidence you've placed in us. We are excited to begin this journey with you.

For more than a decade, my family and I have called Arlington Heights home. Like many of you, I chose to live here because of the strong sense of community and commitment to neighbors helping neighbors. I bring to this role over 25 years of experience in nonprofit leadership, primarily in health and human services. That background has shaped my belief that local government should be a force for equity, dignity, and practical support in people's lives.

I'm guided by a simple principle: local government should listen deeply and respond with integrity and care. Township government may not always make headlines, but it matters. It matters to the senior who needs a ride to the doctor, to the parent trying to put food on the table, and to the young adult seeking mental health support. It matters to all of us who want to live in a community where everyone is valued.

In my first weeks, I've been meeting with staff, reviewing operations, and identifying opportunities to strengthen services and communication. I'm also connecting with leaders from neighboring townships to build partnerships that can amplify our impact across communities.

Several key priorities are already underway:

- **Fully funding the Community Mental Health Board:** Mental health is essential to community health. Our board plays a vital role in supporting youth, families, and seniors. I am committed to ensuring it has the resources needed to fund high-impact programs.
- **Expanding food pantry hours:** No one should have to choose between putting food on the table and working a shift. We're working to extend hours and improve accessibility for families with varied schedules.
- **Livestreaming township Board meetings:** Transparency builds trust. Making our meetings accessible online removes barriers and helps residents stay informed and engaged.
- **Updating the township website:** Residents should be able to easily find the services they need. A more modern, user-friendly website will improve access and better connect people to township resources.
- **Enhancing transportation for seniors and residents with disabilities:** Mobility supports independence. We're working to improve transportation options so more people can access medical appointments, grocery stores, and community events.

These are just the first steps. I want to hear from you—your concerns, your ideas, and your hopes for what township government can be. My door is open, and I welcome every opportunity to connect.

To those who have long supported this work and to those just getting involved: thank you. Your engagement makes Wheeling Township stronger. I also want to express deep appreciation to our staff and volunteers. Their dedication is the foundation of all we do.

Public service is a responsibility I take seriously. I'm inspired by the words of Rupa Bhattacharyya, former Special Master of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund: "Be fair to the client, faithful to the statute, and accountable to the taxpayer." I carry that sentiment with me every day.

Together, let's continue building a compassionate and responsive township where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

With gratitude and commitment,

Maria Zeller Brauer

Supervisor, Wheeling Township

FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Ken Jochum

2025 TRIENNIAL REASSESSMENT

The Cook County Assessor will reassess all properties in Wheeling Township in 2025. Notices with the new assessed value are expected to be mailed in late July or August, at which time property owners will have the opportunity to appeal. Please check the Cook County Assessor website for the schedule.

If you would like to appeal in advance, we are now open for PRE-FILE. Forms are available in our office or send an email to taxinfo@wheelingtowship.com with the following information:

Subject line: Property Index Number

Body: Name and Address

I authorize Wheeling Township to submit an appeal on my behalf.

If lowered, the new assessed value will be reflected on the 2025 second installment tax bill payable in 2026.

FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

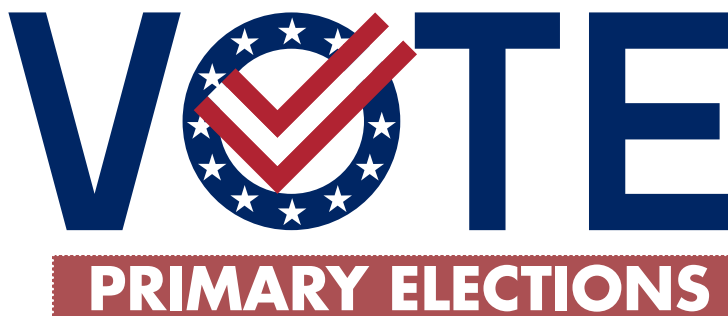
Joanna Gauza

2026 PRIMARY ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION

Primary Elections will be held on March 17, 2026 to determine party candidates. The party candidates that win will then run in the November 3, 2026 General Election. These elections will determine the Illinois Governor, U.S. Senator, U.S. Congressional Representatives, Illinois Legislative offices and other local governing officials. Now is a good time to make sure you are registered. If you are not registered, 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 this election. To register, come to the Township Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday, between 9:00-4:30. All you need are two forms of identification (one showing your current address), to be a citizen of the United States, be 18 years of age or older on the day of the General Election, and to have lived in the Township for at least 30 days before the election. If you have an Illinois driver's license or state ID, you may register online through the Illinois State Board of Elections website <https://ova.elections.il.gov/>.

If you don't have a driver's license or state ID, go to <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/register-vote>

and complete the form online, print, sign and mail it to the address on the application. If you register by mail, you must bring a valid state issued picture identification when you vote for the first time. As always, you can register to vote in-person during early voting or on Election Day. If you want to vote by mail, please contact Cook County at <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/vote-mail> to request a mail ballot.



PLAN AHEAD TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS... THE GIVING GARDEN

The Giving Garden program provides fresh produce to needy residents. Home grown vegetables are such a nutritious supplement to the non-perishables from the food pantry. Many pantry recipients are unable to make their own garden because of where they live. Having a locally grown, perfectly ripened tomato is a wonderful treat!

If you don't want to tackle a garden by yourself, consider helping at a community garden or talk to your neighbors and cooperate by having one together. Every extra seed planted helps to make the Giving Garden grow! Produce is best brought in on Monday or Tuesday 9:00- 4:30 so that it can be used fresh within the week.



READY FOR SUCCESS

Speaking of planning, it's not too early to think about back to school. The Ready 4 Success program provides new school supplies to children of low-income families who live in Wheeling Township.

Donors are asked to use the list below to purchase the supplies and fill the backpack. The approximate cost to fill a backpack with the contents is \$100. To be fair to all children participating in the program it is important that the contents of all backpacks be the same. Filled backpacks will be received until Friday, August 1st.

If you know of a family experiencing hardship, please have them call the General Assistance Office at 847-259-7730 to apply for assistance. All children need to concentrate on learning without the worry of missing needed supplies. Please help them start the school year off right.



READY FOR SUCCESS LIST ... BACK TO SCHOOL ESSENTIALS

Please bring filled backpacks to Wheeling Township by August 1st.

(Quantity is 1 unless otherwise noted)

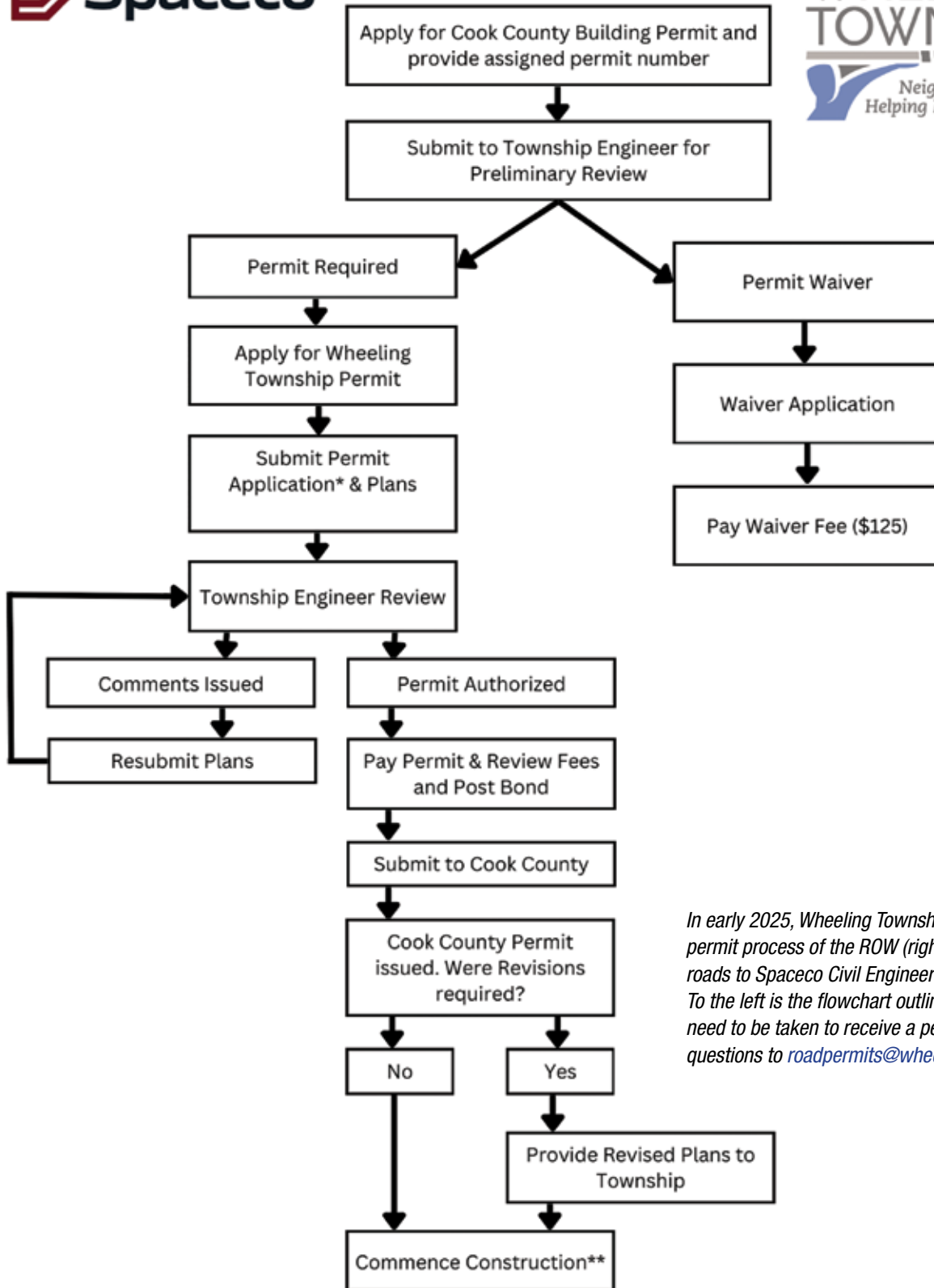
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack | <input type="checkbox"/> Folders -4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil case |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big eraser or 6 small erasers | <input type="checkbox"/> Glue bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils - 20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binder with 3 rings | <input type="checkbox"/> Highlighters -2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Red pen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black pens – 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Markers | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue pens -5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Glue sticks -3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colored pencils | <input type="checkbox"/> Highlighters -2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sharpie marker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crayons | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook paper | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiral notebooks – 4 |



TOWNSHIP ROAD & BRIDGE MANAGEMENT



PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESS UNINCORPORATED AREAS



In early 2025, Wheeling Township outsourced the permit process of the ROW (right-of-way) and roads to Spaceco Civil Engineering and Surveying. To the left is the flowchart outlining the steps that need to be taken to receive a permit. Send all questions to roadpermits@wheelingtowship.com

NOTES:

* Permit Application to include one electronic copy of the Engineering Plan and Plat of Survey. Topography shall be included on the Plat of Survey for all projects proposing grade changes and/or construction of new structures or additions

** For projects that required a topographic survey, As-Built plans shall be provided to the Township and Cook County for final approval.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD PRESIDENT SUSAN HAYES

In November 2022, by referendum, the citizens of Wheeling Township voted to establish a Community Mental Health Board, but what exactly did that entail? The Illinois legislature enacted a statute in 1967 that permitted local counties or townships the ability to create a special purpose unit of government, also known as a “708 Board” to levy an annual tax for the provision of mental health facilities and services, including facilities and services for the person with a developmental disability or substance use disorder. The voters of Jackson County were the first to create a 708 Board in Illinois and this board is still active, demonstrating the continued dedication to increasing and improving access to vital mental health, intellectual/developmental disability and substance use disorder services. The mission of the Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board (WTCMHB) states: to ensure that services related to mental illness, intellectual/developmental disability, and substance use disorder are available and known to the residents of Wheeling Township. Seven citizens were chosen, by the governing body from the submitted applications, and have been working diligently on serving our mission since February 2023.

It is now 2025, what has been accomplished? After presentations from interested firms, the township hired Dr. Sean Bailey and his team at Access to Growth Learning Solutions from Harper College to conduct, over a six-month period, a comprehensive community mental health needs assessment. The results were presented to the board and public in September 2024, to provide direction and insight for the board to address the needs of the community. The results of the assessment helped us better evaluate the funding requests we received from agencies who provide needed services. Those agencies who were requesting funds submitted written applications and made in-person presentations to the WTCMHB. The assessment and the agency grants have been funded to date by the Town Fund of Wheeling Township. The WTCMHB has formulated a one-three-year plan to organize our approach to meeting the needs of the community.

As we anticipate having a dedicated budget going forward, what's next on the horizon? Looking at the one-year plan things are moving. First and most exciting the WTCMHB has hired Karin Frisk as our first Mental Health Board Manager. Contracting procedures for funded agencies have been revised and agency hearings will begin in August (applications are available July 1st). New translation services are being used with positive feedback and site visits have been conducted to better understand the agency functions. Each step forward gives satisfaction and incentive to continue.

Finally, there are some thanks that must be shared. Jeanne Hamilton and Joanne Schultz have completed their time on the WTCMHB; their contributions have been greater than can be put into words and they will be missed. In addition to Karin Frisk, who was previously mentioned, we welcome Lorri Grainawi as a new member and we look forward to working with them both. One person who I cannot thank enough but who is shifting to a more advisory role is Regina Stapleton, Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration. Regina has kept us moving and on-task for the last 2 ½ years and I appreciate her hard work and friendship.

This has been a brief and general review of the last two years, if you have a specific question please contact me at shayes@wheelingtowship.com.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD FUNDED AGENCIES

- Ascension Center for Mental Health
- Avenues to Independence
- Center for Enriched Living
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Clearbrook
- Countryside/Little City Foundation
- Josselyn Center
- Journeys/The Road Home
- Kenneth Young Center
- Omni
- Search, Inc.

SENIOR AND DISABILITY NEWS

Call 847-259-7730 to register for any of the Programs & Services offered through Wheeling Township.

Upcoming Programs

Join us for Medicare Bingo!

...and learn how to protect yourself against Medicare fraud

Friday, July 18th

10 – 11am

**In-person program at
Wheeling Township**

Join **Jesus Enriquez**, the
Senior Medicare Patrol

Outreach Specialist from Age Options, as he teaches us about Medicare fraud and how to protect yourself...and Medicare! Always a fun event. Please register by calling 847-259-7730.



“All Things Medicare”

...An opportunity to ask ALL your Medicare questions

Friday, July 25th

10 – 11:30 am

**In-person program at
Wheeling Township**

Join **Kim Sauchgrow**, Wheeling

Township's Senior & Disability Services Resource Specialist, as she helps to unravel the Medicare maze! Whether you are already on Medicare or just want to prepare for the future, Kim will walk you through resources and tips on how best to understand Medicare and your many options. Learn about traditional Medicare, Medicare Advantage and Part D Drug Plans. Kim is a great speaker and incredibly well-versed on all things Medicare. *SHIP counselors are trained by the Illinois Department on Aging and are not affiliated with any insurance company.* To register, call 847-259-7730.



Functional Medicine: How might it help you?

Dr. Loreto Lo Bosco, DC

Wednesday, July 30th

10 – 11:30 am on Zoom

Functional medicine uses a natural approach that works with your body to build health and reverse disease. It seeks to find the underlying cause of your unique health problems so you can action toward feeling better. Join Functional Medicine Doctor, **Dr. Loreto Lo Bosco, DC**, as he explains why this approach to health just might be what you've been searching for! **Zoom program** - you must register: 847-259-7730.



A Beginner's Guide to Illinois Birding

River Trail Nature Center

Wednesday, August 13th

10 – 11:30 am on Zoom

Birds chirp all around us. Have you ever wondered what type of bird that is, or what their songs mean?

What type of nest do they build? What do they eat? Join **Brian Winter from River Trail Nature Center** as he walks us through a beginner's guide to our local birds. **Zoom program** – you must register: 847-259-7730.



How DNA Can Affect Your Health

Sarah Choi,

Research Genetic Counselor
The Neaman Center
for Personalized Medicine

Thursday, August 28th

10 – 11:30 am on Zoom

Our genes tell a unique story about our health! Join us as genetic counselors from Endeavor Health's Center for Personalized Medicine discuss how our genes can affect our health and what's on the horizon. Also learn facts vs. fiction with regard to genetic testing. **Zoom program** – you must register: 847-259-7730.



The Annual Medicare Open Enrollment Period

(October 15 – December 7) is just around the corner. **We'll start taking calls for Open Enrollment appointments on August 1st.**

Call the Township beginning August 1st at 847-259-7730 to set your Open Enrollment appointment up.



Medicare can be complicated...

SHIP Can Help!!

The Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

SHIP is a statewide Medicare counseling service that provides FREE and OBJECTIVE Medicare counseling to individuals and their families.

If you are new to Medicare, *currently have Medicare, or are planning to retire soon* and have questions, Wheeling Township's SHIP Counselors may be able to help you.

Our dedicated and knowledgeable SHIP Counselor volunteers are extensively trained by the Illinois Department on Aging. They can:

- Explain how Medicare works and when to sign up
- Answer your Medicare questions and explain your benefit coverage
- Apply for programs to lower your prescription costs and/or Medicare premiums
- Compare different Medigap/Medicare Supplement policies
- Review your prescription drug plan during Open Enrollment each year (Oct 15-Dec 7)
- Apply for Benefit Access

Call 847-259-7730 to make your appointment today!



Get a Free Amplified Phone

Try hard-of-hearing free phones at Wheeling Township

Friday, August 1st

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone (landline or cell)? Test the free ITAC amplified phones and amplified cell phone attachments at the Wheeling Township office on **Friday, August 1st from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**. Free amplified telephones and cellphone attachments are available to qualified Illinois residents with a hearing loss. **Participants MUST make appointments by calling Schaumburg Township at 847-285-4541 in advance.** Appointments are held at the Wheeling Township building. **NO walk-ins.**



HOME DELIVERED MEAL PROGRAM

If you have concerns about your ability to shop or cook for yourself (or know someone who might need help), consider Wheeling Township's Home Delivered Meal Program. The Township offers a reasonably priced home-delivered hot meal program for residents of the Township who meet eligibility requirements.



How does the program work?

A hot, freshly prepared meal is delivered at mid-day, Monday-Friday, right to the door of the recipient by a friendly volunteer. The Lutheran Home makes all our food.

Cost of the meals?

Wheeling Township's program is a **self-pay** program: The hot meal costs \$8.00 per day. A cold meal (which is delivered at the same time) is available for an additional \$5.75 per day. Bills are mailed monthly for the meals received. Applicants must agree to receive meals 5 days a week for a minimum of 30 days.

Who is eligible?

- Must be a resident over 60 or permanently disabled individual over 18
- Must reside within Wheeling Township
- Must be considered homebound and/or no longer driving
- Must not have a full-time caregiver
- There must be availability on a route

If you're interested in finding out more about the program, contact our Home Delivered Meal Program at 847-259-7730, ext. 19, or send an email to: HomeDeliveredMeals@WheelingTownship.com.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP TRANSPORTATION

Much more than just a ride!

Looking for safe and affordable transportation?

If you are over 60 (or 18+ and permanently disabled), Wheeling Township's outstanding transportation service may be the perfect solution for your needs.



When is service available? Rides are available for Township residents to a wide variety of locations within the Township, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Call as soon as possible to reserve your ride, as buses fill up quickly (you may call up to 30 days in advance for medical appointments).

How much? \$2 each way.

How do I sign up? Call the transportation department with questions – or for an application. Applications can also be found online at www.wheelingtownship.com under "services."

Call today for more information: 847-259-7743.



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: 7:00 p.m.
on the fourth Tuesday of each month

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WHEELING TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS



Maria Zeller Brauer
SUPERVISOR



Ken Jochum
ASSESSOR



Joanna Gauza
TOWN CLERK



John Geier
TRUSTEE



Lorri Grainawi
TRUSTEE



Austin Mejdrich
TRUSTEE



Sheri Williams
TRUSTEE

**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.

- Center of Concern
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Connections to Care
- Family Forward
- HandsOn Suburban Chicago
- The Harbour
- KAN-WIN
- Kindred Life Ministries
- Life Span
- NCH/Endeavor Mobile Dental Clinic
- Northwest Compass Housing
- Shelter, Inc.
- Suburban Primary HealthCare /Access to Care
- WINGS



FOOD PANTRY TOP 5

When shopping in July and August, please consider donating some of these Top 5 Most Needed Items to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry:

- 1. Beans:** Butter, Cannellini, Garbanzo, Kidney, Navy, Pinto, Refried, White
- 2. Meat:** Beef Stew, Chicken, Chili, Hash, Small Hams, Spam
- 3. Fruit:** Apple Sauce, Apricots, Fruit Cocktail, Mandarin Oranges, Peaches, Pears, Pineapple
- 4. Soup:** Cream of (Celery, Chicken, Mushroom, etc.), Lentil, Minestrone, Vegetable. No Tomato Soup, please.
- 5. Vegetables:** Beets, Carrots, Peas, Mixed Veggies, Potatoes, Spinach. No green beans please.

In May, the food pantry had 564 visits, which fed 1,218 people. Of those, 285 were children and 528 were senior citizens. We appreciate each and every donation!