

# The Town Crier

**TOWNSHIP OF  
SCHAUMBURG**

A HISTORY OF SERVICE ...  
A COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

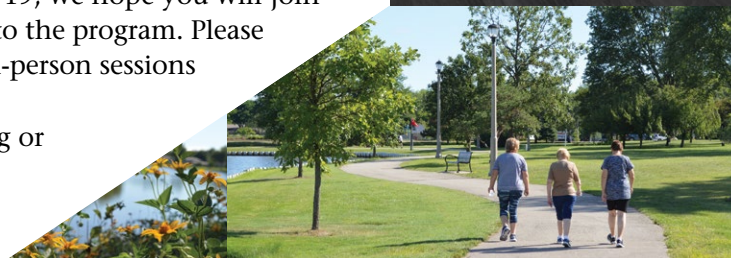
## COVID-19 Can't Stop Us!

This year has been an exercise in adaptability. At the Township we are keeping residents engaged with interesting and fun things to do while at home. The programs are mostly conducted via Zoom, but we are slowly and carefully bringing back in-person activities. Here is a run-down of how we've kept things fun and fresh at the Township!

- **Art** – The Township has a monthly art class called Art Expressions where participants can follow along with a local artist to create some beautiful pieces of art! There is a small fee for materials and RSVP is required so we can get you the supplies ahead of the session.
- **Education Sessions** – We've covered topics like Medicare, Social Security's Ticket to Work Program, your rights under the ADA, scams, tips on downsizing, utility savings and more!
- **Entertainment** – We offer weekly games like bingo, Scattergories and trivia. We also have hosted several virtual tours of extraordinary locations in Italy as well as local and national museums and attractions.
- **Exercise** – To keep our bodies healthy and strong, we have chair yoga and Tai Chi classes weekly. These activities are held over Zoom so participants can join in from their living room, outside patio, or wherever they are most comfortable.
- **Health Topics** – Nurse Janet leads a program every week on varying health topics and healthy eating!
- **Socialization** – We host a weekly coffee klatch session and monthly happy hours for folks to socialize. Invite old friends and make some new ones from the comfort of your couch.

As we continue to adapt to the changes following COVID-19, we hope you will join us. Zoom practice sessions are also available for those new to the program. Please check the Township website for updated information on in-person sessions and new programs.

If you have any questions, a suggestion for programming or want to volunteer, give us a call at (847) 285-4541!



## OCT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## NOV

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

## DEC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

## JAN 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### October

- 15- Medicare Open Enrollment p.3
- 23- Friday Movie - The Peanut Butter Falcon\*
- 27- Senior Breakfast- Checkers\*

### November

- 20- Friday Movie - The Art of Racing in the Rain\*
- 24- Senior Breakfast- Maxfields\*
- 25 (noon) -27- Township is closed

### December

- 24 (noon) -25- Township is closed
- 29- Senior Breakfast- Egg Harbour Cafe\*
- 31 (noon)- Township is closed

### January

- 1- Township is closed
- 22- Friday Movie - The Farewell\*
- 26- Senior Breakfast- Checkers\*

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

The Township is hosting FREE virtual programs every weekday! The schedule changes week-to-week and is meant to challenge mind, body and spirit. Join us! Details on page 1 and 3.

## RECURRING EVENTS

- 1st Tue- Mental Health Committee  
7 pm (Nov. Meeting on Nov. 10).
- 2nd Tue- Northwest Suburban  
Pregnancy/Infant  
Loss Support Group  
7 pm\*\*\*
- 2nd Tue- Senior Wills  
Appointment Only\*
- 2nd Tue- Committee for Persons with  
Disabilities  
7 pm
- 2nd/4th Wed- Diabetes Support Group  
10:30 am\*\*
- 3rd Mon- Senior Citizens Services  
Committee  
7 pm
- 4th Wed- Bridges to Memory  
2-3:30 pm\*
- 4th Wed- Board of Trustees Meeting  
7pm

\*RSVP required at (847) 285-4541

\*\*RSVP required at (847) 285-4551

\*\*\*Email [jkottmeier@nch.org](mailto:jkottmeier@nch.org) for details.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many events and programs are subject to change, check our website and social media pages or call (847) 884-0030 for updated information.

## TOWNSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

One Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169 | Mon-Fri 8:30-5 pm

Assessor's Office  
Clerk's Office  
Disability Services  
Senior Services  
Welfare Services

(847) 884-0030

Community Nurse: (847) 285-4551  
Deaf Services - Videophone: (224) 520-9763  
Highway Department: (847) 884-1727  
Kenneth Young Center: (847) 884-6212  
Passport Services: (847) 285-4561  
Transportation Dispatch: (847) 882-1929

 [schaumburgtownship.org](http://schaumburgtownship.org)

 @SchaumburgTownship

 @SchaumburgTwp



Please note: If you attend a Township function your image may be used for promotional purposes.



## Medicare Part C/D Annual Enrollment Period October 15<sup>th</sup> – December 7<sup>th</sup>

Medicare can be quite complicated. If you already have Medicare or are approaching 65, you may be inundated with mail advertising private companies' Medicare options.

We can help! The annual enrollment period for Medicare Part C ("Advantage") and Part D ("Prescription Drugs") occurs every year from October 15<sup>th</sup> – December 7<sup>th</sup>. The Township has several trained counselors in the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP). SHIP is a program from the Illinois Department on Aging, and designed to help older adults with their Medicare and other health insurance options. We provide free, unbiased information.

If you would like to meet with a counselor, please contact (847) 285-4541 for an appointment. Due to COVID-19, we are happy to conduct your appointment over the phone. Please call today as in-person appointments may fill quickly. You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE or the State of Illinois SHIP Hotline at (800) 252-8966 for assistance. We look forward to assisting you with the annual enrollment period, or other Medicare questions.

## AARP Income Tax Assistance Early February – April

Each year, the Township partners with AARP to provide FREE income tax assistance. AARP Tax Aide seeks to assist low- to moderate-income taxpayers file their state and federal returns at no cost. Appointments will be available from early February through April. Individuals are reminded to contact our office after January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, to schedule an appointment. Appointments will be scheduled in date order to ensure the most individuals can be assisted with this phenomenal program. Due to COVID-19, this program is subject to change. Up-to-date information will be available on our website at [schaumburgtownship.org](http://schaumburgtownship.org). If you are interested in volunteering for this program or have questions, please contact Senior Services at (847) 285-4541. An information checklist will also be available on our website at [schaumburgtownship.org/departments/senior-services](http://schaumburgtownship.org/departments/senior-services).

## FREE SENIOR SERVICES VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING EVERY MONDAY-FRIDAY

Engage your mind, body and spirit with our daily virtual programming schedule.

Sessions include:

- Bingo
- Tai Chi
- Trivia
- Coffee Klatch
- Benefit Info
- And More!



Join ONLINE

<https://zoom.us/j/4715872835>

Meeting ID: 471 587 2835



Dial by PHONE

1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 471 587 2835



Questions? Call (847) 285-4541

To better manage security of these events, please call (847) 285-4541 to register and get the event password.

For the current schedule and access to future events, check our website, sign up for the Senior eNewsletter or contact Senior Services at (847) 285-4541.

Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, all events are subject to change.



THURSDAY OCT 29 | 3-7PM

# Trick or Treat at the Township!

ALL DETAILS FOUND AT  
[SCHAUMBURGTOWNSHIP.ORG](http://SCHAUMBURGTOWNSHIP.ORG)





## Disability Services Annual Virtual Holiday Party December 12th

Disability Services is pleased to host our annual virtual Holiday Party for people with disabilities on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. This year's event will look a little different due to COVID-19 guidelines. Join us at 10 am to play Santa Bingo via Zoom for a chance to win a raffle prize. We will also have an Ugly Sweater contest – so put on your ugliest sweater! Registration required at (847) 285-4541 after November 1<sup>st</sup>. Due to COVID-19, this event is subject to change. Please check our website for updated event details!



Transportation Services has changed times for certain grocery trips beginning immediately. Trips to:

- Walmart and Target have changed to 12:30 PM drop-off and 2:30 PM return time on Monday/Friday.
- Valli Produce has changed to 10:30 AM drop-off and 12 PM return time on Tuesdays.

Older adults (55+) and adults with permanent disabilities (18+) can schedule low cost rides at (847) 882-1929. Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, services may change. Please visit our website for updated information.

## Pack the Bus Update

As Pack the Bus collections began, this year, we weren't sure what school would look like or what supply needs would arise for students. That's why this year's monetary donations are incredibly helpful for the success of our District 54 students in need.

Monetary donations for Pack the Bus more than doubled last year's monetary contributions and that's on top of generous in-kind donations. We raised over \$5,000! Thank you to all our donors and thoughtful residents who stepped up to help our community.

## Adopt-A-Family Donors Needed

For some the holidays can be stressful and this year is no exception. We humbly invite the generous community to donate to those in need through our Adopt-A-Family program. Each year the Township matches eligible low-income families, older adults and people with disabilities with caring residents and businesses. Donors are given wishlists to help guide gift-buying. Then donors shop, wrap and deliver gifts to the Township in early December. The Adopt-A-Family donor roster fills up quickly. If you would like more information, please contact Amy Fillmore at [afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org](mailto:afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org) or call (847) 884-0030 ext. 1010 by Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.



## Clerk's Corner Township Clerk W. Robert Vinnedge



### *Vote by Mail Options in Cook County*

As of August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Cook County Clerk's Office announced over 50 locations for mail ballot dropboxes. On October 19<sup>th</sup>, dropboxes will be available at many Early Voting locations from 8:30 – 7 PM Monday - Friday and 9 – 5 PM on weekends (depending on location). The nearest confirmed dropbox locations to the Township building are:

<b>Trickster Art Gallery</b>	<b>Hoffman Estates</b>
190 S Roselle Rd	<b>Village Hall</b>
Schaumburg, IL 60193	1900 Hassell Rd
	Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

These locations are subject to change. Please check the Cook County Clerk's Office for updates at [cookcountyclerk.com](http://cookcountyclerk.com).

According to the Cook County Clerk's Office, "mail ballots [dropped off at secure dropbox locations] will be collected on a daily basis and will be time stamped. Voters who applied for their mail ballot online will receive an email at the time their mail ballot is sent to them, as well as an email notifying them when the completed ballot has been received back from the voter." Vote by mail information can be found on the Cook County Clerk's office at [cookcountyclerk.com/agency/vote-mail](http://cookcountyclerk.com/agency/vote-mail).

### *Utility Assistance Available!*

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assists low-income residents with a one-time credit on their heating and electric bill. This year, the income standard has increased, allowing for more residents to qualify than in years past. In order to ensure all households have access to benefits sooner, there will be no priority periods this year. To receive additional information on needed documents or to schedule an appointment with Disability, Senior and Welfare Services call (847) 884-0030.

***Eligibility is based on household size and income.***

Household Size	Gross 30 Day Income
1	\$2,127
2	\$2,873
3	\$3,620
4	\$4,367

### *Food Pantry Hours*

The food pantry is open for township households in need on Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM and Tuesday, Thursday from 12 PM – 4 PM. Appointments are easy to make by calling (847) 884-0030 ext. 1013. Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, hours and operations may change. Please call us or check our website/social media pages for up-to-date information.



### *Problem Solving to Reduce Stress*

2020 has introduced uncertainties, changes and stressors into our daily lives. The effects of these are universal in many ways, but each of us also bears a unique personal burden. In some cases, a basic problem solving approach may help.

- 1) Identify the problem. What isn't working?
- 2) Analyze the problem. Why aren't things going well?
- 3) Make a plan and do something about the problem.
- 4) Evaluate your plan. Did it work?

Sometimes, problems are less manageable and we need help from our friends, our community or a professional. That is OK! If you or one of your family members has mental health and/or substance use challenges and would like to receive support by phone, call the Illinois Warm Line at (866) 359-7953.

### *KYC Celebrates 50 Years*

This November, Kenneth Young Center will celebrate 50 years of service to our communities. We are grateful for the Township's support in helping us achieve this milestone! Our long-standing partnership with Schaumburg Township has increased access to quality behavioral health services to thousands of Township residents of all ages, and we look forward to the next 50 years of building stronger, healthier communities together. Scan the QR code to read more about how the Township supports vital programs for its residents through Kenneth Young Center! For ongoing updates and to learn more about how you can join in the celebrations throughout our anniversary year, stay tuned at [kennethyoung.org](http://kennethyoung.org).



## From the Desk of the Highway Commissioner, Scott M. Kegarise



Shorter days and the chill in the air reminds us that snow and ice are not far away. While COVID-19 has made this a year unlike any other, some constants remain the same.

Please remember that when roadways become slick, drivers should allow for more time to stop, especially when snow plows are on the roads. Snow removal equipment require a wide berth when approaching or passing. Our crew takes extraordinary care to avoid plowing driveways shut but if this happens please contact us at (847) 884-1727 so that we can remedy this error.

Please be mindful of the environment when you apply salt to your sidewalks and driveways. Even in the winter, swales should be clear of debris and leaves to allow for proper drainage. Finally, remember to winterize your rain barrels. If you cannot store your barrel inside, be sure to drain it and turn it upside down, preferably covered with a tarp, to avoid water collecting and freezing over the winter months.



## A Message from the Assessor, John R. Lawson, M.S., C.I.A.O.

### Automatic Renewal of Three Property Tax Exemptions in 2021 due to COVID-19

As a reminder earlier this year, Governor Pritzker signed Senate Bill 685, which automatically renews three homestead exemptions for the next property tax year (2020). These exemptions are the Persons with Disabilities Exemption, the Veterans with Disabilities Exemption, and/or the Senior Freeze Exemption. Homeowners who are qualified to receive any of these three exemptions, but have not received them in the past will need to apply as new applicants. This renewal will be for one tax year only.

Lastly, Township seniors currently receiving a Senior Homestead Exemption will receive automatic renewals for this exemption until 2024.

### Cook County Board of Review Virtual Appeals

Cook County Board of Review appeals are typically available towards the end of the year. The Township can help residential property owners appeal if there are available comparable properties for a second review. Residents can appeal regardless of recent appeals with the Cook County Assessor's Office and/or the Cook County Board of Review. If your assessment was reduced during the last triennial reassessment (2019), and you have found no comparable properties, your assessment will remain the same until the next triennial reassessment (2022).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage residents to take advantage of our virtual appeal options. The most convenient and quickest way to appeal is via email to Victor Morales [vmorales@schuamburgtownship.org](mailto:vmorales@schuamburgtownship.org). You'll need to provide:

- Your name
- Home address
- Property index number
- Phone number
- Email address
- If you purchased your home on or after January 1, 2017, we need to know your purchase price.

We will continue to hold evening hours during the appeals period. Final appeals dates will be available here: [cookcountyboardofreview.com](http://cookcountyboardofreview.com).

Please note that successful appeals are not retroactive, thus they will reflect on your next **second installment** property tax bill in 2021. Unfortunately, we cannot appeal for residents who live in condominiums. If you live in a condo, please contact your association as they are able to appeal on your behalf.

Call the Township Assessor's Office with questions at (847) 884-0030 and check our website for updates on open appeal dates, ways to appeal and more at [schuamburgtownship.org](http://schuamburgtownship.org).





# The Trustee Take



By Trustee Diane Dunham

2020 is often described as unprecedented – for many reasons including COVID-19. As we reflect on 2020 and enter the holiday season and beyond, I would like to take the time to focus on gratitude. Gratitude for the many people and things that have made this year extraordinary in a positive way. When faced with adversity following the COVID-19 global crisis we have seen our friends and neighbors step up to help each other, share food, and check in on one another. First Responders and essential workers have worked endlessly in service of the community. Teachers, students, and parents are collaborating to make the best of virtual learning. As a community, we have come together in countless ways.

Within the Township of Schaumburg, neighbors have donated an incredible amount of money and in-kind donations to help the food-insecure families, older adults, and people with disabilities in our area. They have sent over 1,000 notes of hope and perseverance for our senior community during our Send a Smile campaign and we have already begun receiving calls from community members and businesses looking to donate gifts to our annual Adopt-A-Family program.

In all the uncertainty surrounding this year, I'm glad we will be able to look back at pockets of goodness and the bonds our community shares. We are so lucky to live in an area like the Township of Schaumburg and we are happy to express our gratitude.

# COVID-19 and the Flu

Influenza (flu) and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses. However, because some of the symptoms are similar, it may be hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. Flu and COVID-19 share many characteristics and both can have varying degrees of signs and symptoms, ranging from no symptoms (asymptomatic) to severe symptoms including:

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache

One of the commonly cited symptoms of COVID-19 that differs from the flu is the loss of sense of taste and smell. Both illnesses can result in severe complications. Those at highest risk are older adults, people with certain underlying medical conditions and pregnant women.

This year more than ever, please consult with your physician regarding the flu vaccine, and the pneumonia vaccine if you are 65+ or have a respiratory illness. You may also want to discuss the shingles vaccine with your physician, as all three can be given during this upcoming flu season. Please contact the Township nurse with any questions.



TOWNSHIP OF  
SCHAUMBURG  
**CAREER  
COACH**

[empservices@schaumburgtownship.org](mailto:empservices@schaumburgtownship.org)

# The Town Crier



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Schaumburg, IL

October 2020

The Town Crier, a report to the citizens of Schaumburg Township, is published by Township of Schaumburg  
One Illinois Boulevard  
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169-3314  
(847) 884-0030  
schaumburgtownship.org

**Timothy M. Heneghan, Supervisor**  
**Diane Dunham, Trustee**  
**Jeffrey S. Mytych, Trustee**  
**Nimish Jani, Trustee**  
**Charlotte Kegarise, Trustee**  
**W. Robert Vinnedge, Town Clerk**  
**John R. Lawson, C.I.A.O., Assessor**  
**Scott M. Kegarise, Highway Commissioner**

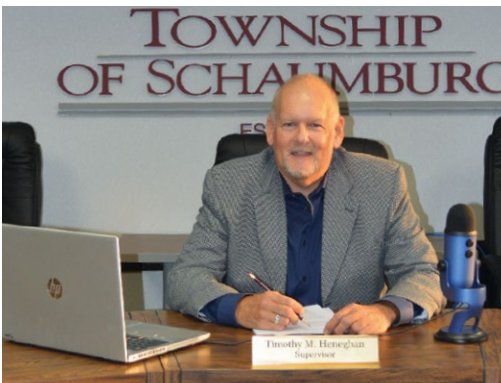
Schaumburg Township is in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Equal Opportunity Employer Male/Female/ Handicapped/Veterans. Schaumburg Township meets all ADA accessibility requirements.

## ECR-WSS

### Residential Postal Customer, Local Schaumburg Township Illinois

The Township of Schaumburg serves residents living in parts of the following communities: Elk Grove, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Rolling Meadows, Roselle, Schaumburg, Streamwood and unincorporated Schaumburg Township.

## A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR TIM HENEGHAN



When reflecting on the year, resilience is the word that stands out. At the Township, the staff continued to serve throughout the local and state-wide COVID-19 closings. We rolled up our sleeves and tackled issues for the community – most notably a sudden increase of food insecurity. We kept our busses running and implemented increased cleaning procedures to keep drivers and riders safe. Staff kept in touch with the community through wellness calls – just to check in and see if our neighbors needed anything. Each department did their part to serve the community and that is something to be very proud of!

In addition to all our work to combat the community effects of COVID-19, the Township revamped our Senior Services and Disability Services Department. This update has created more space and an open concept as well as a singular intake spot. We can't wait to fully utilize the space in the future. We've also begun the process for a food pantry renovation. This renovation will allow us to serve more residents and more effectively run the stocking and sorting of donations. Updates on this project to come in the next year.

I'd like to thank all the community and business donors, who helped us execute our mission. Our community is incredibly generous and your donations have made this year a banner year for donations.

Looking forward into 2021, we hope to continue expanding on our services, collaborating with community partners and bringing new programs to our area. The Township of Schaumburg has been a strong presence of stability in an unstable year and I'm incredibly proud to be part of this community.



## Food Donation Update

During our food pantry renovation, we will be severely limited on space. Thus we are asking for monetary donations only for the food pantry until the project is complete.

For updated information please check our website.

