# Town Crier



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



#### Coats for Kids October 25th - 29th

Winter can be especially tough for families experiencing financial difficulty. The Township is stepping up to help with a new program called Coats for Kids! We will be collecting new coats, snow pants, winter boots, hats and gloves for at-risk children (ages 5 – 14) in School District 54. Donations of new items can be collected at the following drop-off sites from October  $25^{th}$  –  $29^{th}$ . Thank you for bringing warmth and encouragement to vulnerable children in our community! For more information, contact Amy Fillmore at afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org or (847) 884-0030.

- Township of Schaumburg: One Illinois Blvd., Hoffman Estates; Monday-Friday, 8:30 5 PM
- Cook County Commissioner Kevin B. Morrison's Office: 1325
   Wiley Rd., Suite 141, Schaumburg; Monday Friday, 9 5 PM
- Schaumburg Township District Library Central Library\*: 130 South Roselle Road, Schaumburg
- Hanover Park Branch\*: 1266 Irving Park Road, Hanover Park
- Hoffman Estates Branch\*: 1550 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates



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LIHEAP	.3	Medicare Open Enrollment
Adopt-A-Family	.3	Fair Housing Seminar
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<sup>\*</sup>Library branch hours found at schaumburglibrary.org

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### October

19-Fair Housing Series p.5

20-MHC Speaker Series - Minds in

Motion p.7

25-29-Coats for Kids p.1

Fair Housing Series p.5 27-

28-Trunk or Treat p.1

29-Adopt-A-Family Deadline p.3

#### November

24 (noon)-26-Township is closed 28-Fair Housing Series p.5

#### December

Township is closed 31-Township is closed

#### January

24-AARP Opens for Appointments p.4

#### RECURRING EVENTS

1st Tue-Mental Health Committee

7 pm

2nd Tue-Northwest Suburban

> Pregnancy/Infant **Loss Support Group**

7pm\*\*\*

2nd Tue-**Senior Wills** 

Appointment Only\*

2nd Tue-Committee for Persons with

Disabilities

7 pm

2nd/4th Wed- Diabetes Support Group

10:30am\*\*

3rd Mon-**Caregiver Support Group** 

11am\*

3rd Mon-**Senior Citizens Services** 

Committee

7 pm

3rd Tue-Deaf Social/Support Group

10:30am\*\*\*\*

4th Tue-Fibromyalgia Support Group

4th Wed-**Bridges to Memory\*\*** 

2pm

4th Wed-**Board of Trustees Meeting** 

#### VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

The Township will continue to host FREE virtual programs every weekday! Check the Township website for more information.

\*RSVP required at (847) 285-4541

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

\*\*\*Email jkottmeier@nch.org for details.

\*\*\*\*RSVP required at (224) 520-9763 (VP)

#### 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

@SchaumburgTownship







# Help Our Community in Need with Our Adopt-A-Family Program

One of the best ways to end the year is to give back to your community and positively affect the lives of families around you. We are in need of donors to participate in our annual Adopt-A-Family Program. You can offer hope by "adopting" families experiencing hardships and by sharing the holiday spirit. Seniors and people with disabilities are also available for adoption.

The Township matches eligible residents in need with caring individuals and businesses. Once given their wish lists, donors shop, wrap and deliver gifts to the Township in early December. Here is how you can participate: To adopt a(n)

- Family with children, contact Amy Fillmore in Welfare Services at (847)884-0030 ext. 1010 or afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org
- Older adult, contact Anna Newell in the Senior Services Department at (847)884-0030 ext. 2011 or anewell@schaumburgtownship.org
- Person with a disability, contact Lauren Ewan in the Disability Services Department at (847) 884-0030 ext. 2025 or lewan@schaumburgtownship.org

The Adopt-A-Family Program fills up quickly. If you would like to participate, please let us know by October 29<sup>th</sup>. With community support, struggling households may have a brighter holiday season!



#### Get Utility Assistance with LIHEAP

Home energy costs can place stress on families. In some cases, households must make difficult decisions regarding which bills to pay each month. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps eligible low-income households with their heating and electric bills. Qualified residents receive a utility bill credit based on household size and income. This amount is applied directly to one or both of the household's energy bills. During the last program year, the Township assisted residents in obtaining \$515,289.00 in total customer benefits.

The current LIHEAP application period will end on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, or when funding is exhausted.

Income Guidelines for the 2022 Program Year		
Family Size	30 Day Gross Income (200% FPL)	
1	\$2,147	
2	\$2,903	
3	\$3,660	
4	\$4,417	
5	\$5,173	
6	\$5,930	

LIHEAP may also be able to help customers repair or replace their heating system, in order to return the system back to safe and effective operation. The **Furnace Assistance** program runs until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, or until funds exhaust. In addition to having an approved LIHEAP application for the current program year, there are additional eligibility components including:

- A household member must be the homeowner. Renters are not eligible.
- Condominium owners' unit must have a separate heating system from the other units in the building.
- The home heating system must be either non-operational or "red-tagged."

For more information, to schedule an appointment and for a complete list of needed documents please contact Disability Services, Senior Services or Welfare Services at (847)884-0030.





## **FREE Tax Preparation**

#### **AARP Income Tax Assistance**

Each year the Township partners with AARP to provide FREE income tax assistance. AARP Tax Aide seeks to help low- to moderate-income taxpayers file their state and federal returns at no cost. Appointments will likely be available from early February through April. Individuals are reminded to contact our office after January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 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. If you are interested in volunteering for this program or have questions, please contact Senior Services at (847) 285-4541.



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

Medicare can be very intimidating and many residents don't know where or how to get started. The Township 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 Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors who can provide free, unbiased information. SHIP is a program from the Illinois Department on Aging, and is designed to help older adults with their Medicare and other health insurance options.

If you would like to meet with a counselor, appointments are required. Please contact (847) 285-4541 — appointments are limited. We are happy to conduct your appointment over the phone if preferred. 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.



By Trustee Demetrius Gibson

Family, friends and neighbors, welcome to fall. I hope all of you were able to make some use of the wonderful outdoor spaces in the Township over the summer and enjoy the sunshine. As a newly elected Trustee, I encourage you to take part in our various activities and take advantage of the services offered at the Township.

This October we launched the Township's first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force. The group aims to accomplish the following:

- Conduct an organizational assessment of the Township at all levels with regard to diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Facilitate a greater understanding of relevant issues, barriers, disparities and recognition of diversity, equity and inclusion related to community engagement.
- Identify ongoing diversity, equity and inclusion educational and professional growth opportunities for staff and residents.

My hope for the Task Force is to take an honest look at the Township's operations and services. It is important that the Township reflects our diverse community, ensures access to all and fosters a sense of belonging. The DEI Task Force is truly a way for the Township to unlock community potential and ensure that everyone thrives.

As we push toward the end of this year and into 2022, remember as a Township constituent it is important to make your voice heard. If you have not attended a committee of the whole or a board meeting this year I invite you to join us every third and fourth Wednesday of the month, respectively, at 7 pm at the Township. Please continue to keep yourself and your family safe and I look forward to seeing you at a Township event soon.



#### Fair Housing Virtual Series

Disability Services and the Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance (CAFHA) are hosting a virtual series on fair housing and renters' rights in October and November. Each monthly session will be one hour long including a brief overview of housing protections, resources for assistance and Q&A.

Please register at (847) 285-4541 and note the different Zoom meeting IDs and passcodes for each session.

#### Session 1: Cook County Residential Tenant Landlord Ordinance

CAFHA will facilitate this session in partnership with North Suburban Legal Aid

October 19th from 3:30-4:30 PM via Zoom

Meeting ID: 828 1933 4162

Passcode: 015457

Phone in: (312) 626-6799

#### Session 2: Fair Housing Rights Part 1

CAFHA will facilitate this session in partnership with Progress Center for Independent Living October 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 4:30 PM via Zoom

Meeting ID: 815 2994 8762

Passcode: 579445

Phone in: (312) 626-6799

#### Session 3: Fair Housing Rights Part 2

CAFHA will facilitate this session in partnership

with the Latino Policy Forum

November 28th from 3:30 –4:30 PM via Zoom

Meeting ID: 823 7248 4204

Passcode: 675200

Phone in: (312) 626-6799

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



Specialist Terence M. Butz is honored at the July Township Board meeting.

On each Veterans Day we take a moment to honor those who served to protect our country's freedom. We celebrate the strength, courage and dedication of our veterans and the Township of Schaumburg thanks you for your service.

If you are a veteran and meet the requirements to participate in our Veterans' Honor Roll, we welcome you to fill out and submit an application to be recognized at an upcoming Board of Trustee Meeting. The application is available at the Township offices or on our website at schaumburgtownship.org. You'll need to include a copy of your DD-214, have served during a time of conflict, have an honorable discharge and be a resident of the Township. Please note a time of conflict includes veterans who served in World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War, War in Afghanistan and War in Iraq.

#### **Veterans' Honor Roll Recipients**

We are proud to have recently honored the following residents:

Specialist Terence M. Butz U.S. Army 1972 – 1975

Corporal Kenneth H. Couture U.S. Marine Corp. 1966 – 1968

Engine Man, Fireman Edward Salvadore U.S. Navy 1952 – 1954

> Specialist William Winkelhake U.S. Army 1969 – 1971



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



October, colorful leaves, slippery streets, cool nights and brisk mornings. Soon we will be scraping our windshields before heading to work.

Your road district has been busy with culvert maintenance and pavement renewal. This year we paved several streets in our system. Paving does not just end when the asphalt is applied. Stop lines need to be re-applied and signage is updated to meet new standards.

We are waiting for ComEd to install new overhead lighting on Crest, west of Spring south.

Please move rocks which are close to the roadway prior to our first hard freeze. These landscaping accessories can be deadly to a snowplow.

Have a safe fall and winter. Let us know of any issues where we might be helpful by calling (847) 884-1727.



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



## Automatic Renewal for Senior Freeze, Persons and Veterans with Disabilities Exemption

Cook County will automatically renew Senior Freeze, Persons with Disabilities and Veterans with Disabilities Exemptions for the 2021 tax year for homeowners who currently receive them. Please note, residents who are qualified to receive any of these exemptions, but did not receive them in 2020, will need to apply. In prior years, homeowners had to file annually to receive these exemptions. Don't hesitate to reach out to the Township Assessor's Office with questions at (847) 884-0030.

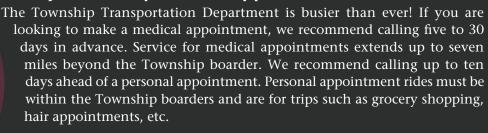
#### **Cook County Board of Review Appeals**

If the County Assessor did not reduce your assessed value or if you missed filing an appeal with the Cook County Assessor's Office, you will have an opportunity to appeal property taxes with the Cook County Board of Review later this year. Appeal dates will be released on the Township website and social media pages as well as cookcountyboardofreview.com when they are finalized.

Once the appeal period is open, the fastest and most convenient way to file your appeal will be via email to Deputy Assessor Victor Morales. To appeal email your name, home address, property index number (PIN #), phone number and email address to vmorales@schaumburgtownship.org.

If you'd prefer to appeal in person, the Township will be open during the appeals period Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 – 5 PM and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 – 6:30 PM.

### **Call Early For Transportation Appointments**



All rides are on a first come, first served basis but medical appointments take scheduling priority. Call to make an appointment, register or learn more at (847) 882-1929.



#### Diabetes Support at the Township

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. Did you know that diabetes rates are rising in the U.S.? The American Diabetes Association recommends adults screen for diabetes beginning at age 35. While the symptoms include excessive thirst, excessive urination and weight loss, many people are not aware they have it. The Township Nurse can screen for diabetes with a simple finger stick. She also can offer one-on-one diabetes education and runs a bi-monthly diabetes support group! Call for more information or an appointment at (847) 285-4551.



#### COVID-19 and Flu Season

Influenza (flu) and COVID-19 are both highly contagious respiratory illnesses that have similar symptoms. Most now know that some distinguishing COVID-19 symptoms that differ from the flu are the loss of taste and smell. Both the flu and COVID-19 have FDA-approved vaccines that are highly effective in battling the viruses that can make you very sick. Please consult your physician regarding the available flu and COVID-19 vaccines. If you are 65+ or have a respiratory illness, you may also discuss the pneumonia and shingles vaccines as they are given in conjunction with flu season. Contact the Township Nurse with any questions.

#### Mental Health During the Holiday Season

With the holiday season approaching, many will connect with friends and family to celebrate cherished traditions. While this is a special time of year, all this activity can bring feelings of stress, anxiety, and even isolation. This year, take time to care for your mental health with these three helpful practices!

- 1. Keep up your healthy habits. It can be easy to abandon our normal healthy habits during the holidays. Consider eating a healthy snack before your holiday meals to avoid overindulgence and include physical activity in your daily routine. Get regular amounts of sleep 7 to 9 hours are recommended for adults!
- 2. Offer thanks and gratitude. The holidays are an excellent opportunity to express love and gratitude to the special people in your life! Make a list of things you are thankful for and share it with others.
- 3. Reach out. If you begin feeling lonely or overwhelmed, reach out to family or friends with a call or text. Kenneth Young Center offers additional support through therapy, mentoring, prevention programs, and more.

To learn more about KYC's programs visit our website at kennethyoung.org.

## Final Mental Health Speaker in Months-long Speaker Series

The MHC's final speaker in the 2021 speaker series will be on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 12 PM both in-person, at the Township, and live on Facebook (facebook.com/SchaumburgTownshipMHC). Wanda Lee Farnell will present "Minds in Motion, Loving Kindness: You Matter, So Does Your Mental Health", which will incorporate mindfulness meditation, dance, music, movement, body awareness, rhythmic percussion instruments and visual arts. It will explore why it is important to be kind to yourself, for emotional, mental and physical health. To attend in-person, RSVP at (847) 285-4541.

If you missed any of the other presentations, you can watch them on the Mental Health Committee's Facebook page under videos.

# Town Crier



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October 2021

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 Robert N. Fiorio, Trustee Demetrius J. Gibson, Trustee Lauren Saternus, Trustee Matthew J. Steward, 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

Each October issue, we take the time to reflect on the year we've had and look forward to the year to come. This year, I'd like to acknowledge the incredible strength and resilience the community has shown over the past two years and look ahead to opportunities in the future. 2020 and 2021 will be referenced in history books for the changes we saw, hardships endured and loved ones lost. However insurmountable the challenges seemed, I always found it inspiring to look around and see the community coming together for those in need. How we rallied around our neighbors and became a true support system for each other. As we look to the future, it is easy to see the opportunities we have for growth. Not only by way of new and exciting programs and services but growing together, listening to each other more and finding the ways in which we are alike instead of focusing on points that divide us. I sincerely appreciate the hard work we've all done these past two years and am excited for what is ahead.



Left to right: Village of Schaumburg Police Chief Wolf, Schaumburg Township Supervisor Heneghan, Cook County Board of Commissioners President Preckwinkle, Village of Schaumburg Mayor Dailly, United States Congressman Krishnamoorthi, Illinois State Representative Mussman, Cook County Commissioner Morrison, Palatine Township Supervisor Kalkounos and Village of Schaumburg Fire Chief Walters attend a September 11th Memorial Service in Schaumburg.