

DECEMBER 2024



THE *TOWN CRIER*

A LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

After years of high prices, many families who typically have no issue paying their bills have found themselves in a tough spot. The Township has seen many such families in the last year. We've served over 700 new families at the pantry in this fiscal year. We've also heard from many in the community that their income is too high for assistance programs, but they still aren't making enough to manage their household bills. It is important for the community to know that many assistance programs have low-income thresholds. Some as low as 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and some require essentially no income nor assets to qualify. For reference, 100% of FPL in 2024 is \$15,060 for one person and \$31,200 for a family of 4 annually*. We also know that accepting help, be it food or financial assistance, can be hard for many to accept, especially in an affluent community like Schaumburg Township.

We want you to know that if you express a need and are at our doors asking for assistance – we will help. We do not want you to go hungry.



Trustee Steward and Supervisor Heneghan snap a photo with Illinois State Senator Murphy at the Lavelle Law Charities Food Drive donation drop off.

If it is between food and rent, let us help by getting some food in the fridge so you can stay housed. Visiting the pantry once or 20 times doesn't mean you'll need

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www.schaumburgtownship.org

AARP TAX-AIDE

AARP Tax-Aide seeks to help low- to moderate-income taxpayers file their state and federal returns at no cost. Each year, the Township partners with the AARP Foundation to provide free income tax assistance. Appointments will be available from February through early April and will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served, first available basis. To help as many people as possible, taxpayers must have all their tax documents collected before scheduling an appointment.

The Tax-Aide appointment line will be open Monday - Friday from 9 - 4 pm beginning January 22. Please call 847-285-4597 to schedule an appointment. Due to the large number of calls for this popular program, all appointments must be made through this call line and walk-ins will be directed to call the appointment line. No wait lists will be created. Residents who miss their appointment without cancelling at least 24 hours prior will be unable to schedule another appointment without approval from the Site Coordinator.

For up-to-date information, visit schaumburgtownship.org to subscribe to the Senior eNewsletter. Appointment availability and a list of required documents will be provided in each edition throughout all of tax season.



ALL ABOUT HEALTH 2025 SCHEDULE

Every first Wednesday of the month at 10 am, at the Township, Nurse Janet, RN, gives free health presentations to the community in her All About Health series! The 2025 topics are:

- January 8*: Anxiety/Stress and How to Manage It
- February 5: Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease
- March 5: Mental Illness in Seniors
- April 2: Sleep Disorders/How to Get a Good Night's Sleep
- May 7: Stroke
- June 4: CPR
- July 2: Food Safety
- August 6: Cholesterol/Triglycerides
- September 3: Chronic Pain
- October 1: Fibromyalgia
- November 5: Inflammation and Anti-inflammatory Diet
- December 3 : How to Survive the Holidays

* Second Wednesday of the month.

SAVANNAH BUS TOUR

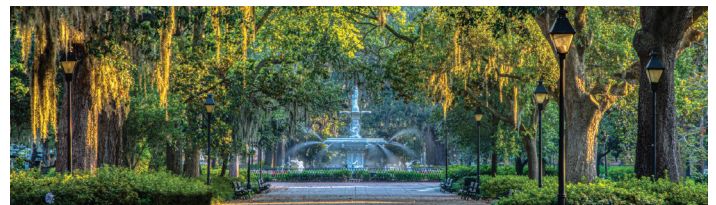
May 18 - 24, 2025

Double Occupancy: \$940/person

Single Occupancy: \$1,260

Registration: Open until full or March 1, 2025

Join us and Diamond Tours as we travel south to Savannah, Georgia, for a 7-day/6-night tour. During the trip you'll visit Victorian homes, the historic district, Jekyll and St. Simons islands and the Parris Island Marine base. Attendees will enjoy a show at the historic Savannah Theatre. A daily itinerary is available in Disability and Senior Services. Cost includes transportation, 6 nights of lodging, most breakfasts and dinners, tours, hotels, gratuity and taxes. A \$75 deposit is due at registration and final payment is due March 11, 2025. Payment can be split into 3 payments of \$288 for double occupancy or \$395 for single occupancy with installments due January 1, February 1 and March 1.





By Trustee Robert Fiorio

Last year, my Trustee Take article announced the Township Transportation Department's transition to a full electric fleet. The project is underway, and we anticipate electric buses to be transporting Township residents in 2025. There are many reasons the Township is making a turn to electric buses. For starters, electric buses have much less impact on the environment. They release lower emissions and thus decrease the Township's carbon footprint. They also often have a longer bus lifecycle and require less maintenance, which decreases costs over time and should decrease service disruption for our clients.

In order to operate the electric fleet, the Township is working closely with the Village of Hoffman Estates and ComEd to install charging stations in the south parking lot. The infrastructure improvement is an important step to realizing this transportation evolution. The move to electric buses is one part of the many green initiatives launched in the last several years, including the addition of solar panels and LED building lights. Making these adjustments decreases costs and energy consumption to the benefit of Township residents. The hope is to complete the electric bus transition in the next several years and I, for one, cannot wait to hop on one of the new buses as soon as they are available.



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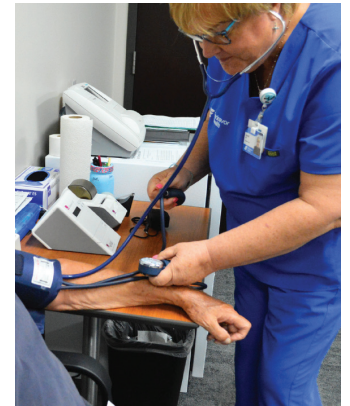
assistance forever. Truly, it takes as long as it takes and that is why the Township food pantry is here. At the Township we often say – no one will go hungry on our watch, and we mean it. We hope that if you are struggling, you'll call us at 847-285-4503.

– Supervisor Tim Heneghan and Director of Welfare Services Diana Nelson

*Source: tinyurl.com/4dv34xtc

FREE AND LOW-COST SCREENING SERVICES

Did you know that you can get free screenings for blood pressure, bone density and memory loss at the Township? You can also get low-cost screenings for A1C (\$12) and cholesterol (\$15). Regularly keeping an eye on your health is one of the best ways to prevent major health problems. To take advantage of these services simply make an appointment with Nurse Janet, RN, at 847-285-4551. She is at the Township (One Illinois Blvd., Hoffman Estates IL 60103) every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 4 pm.



MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC

Endeavor Health's Mobile Dental Clinic provides dental care for residents of the Township who do not have access to dental care due to financial barriers. To be eligible for services, patients must meet the following requirements:

- Be a Township of Schaumburg resident
- Have a household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level or be a General Assistance or Medicaid recipient
- Have NO private dental insurance

Residents must be screened by a Township caseworker before scheduling an appointment with the Mobile Dental Clinic. Please call 847-285-4503 to schedule a screening appointment.

www.schaumburgtownship.org

HOME DELIVERED MEALS PROGRAM: VOLUNTEER WITH KYC!

Volunteering just two hours a week provides nutritious meals and wellness checks to homebound seniors across the Township. Kenneth Young Center (KYC) is seeking volunteers to support their Home Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels) program. Your lunchtime service one day a week connects older adults with meals customized to fit their dietary needs and provides connection to caring social workers who can help them navigate additional care if needed.

As temperatures drop, the need for volunteer delivery drivers rises. Individuals can make a big impact through this volunteer role, or corporate teams can adopt a delivery route as a group. Contact KYC's Volunteer Manager today at 847-524-8800 ext. 182 or email volunteer@kennethyoung.org.

KYC also offers a variety of administrative, event-based, and skills-based volunteer opportunities for volunteers of all ages. Learn more at kennethyoung.org/volunteer.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION (DE&I) DISPATCH

The Township of Schaumburg DE&I Committee is focusing fiscal year 2025 on community discussions with local leaders, organizations and groups. Thus far, the conversations have garnered exciting ideas on expanding services, engaging Township residents and community education, specifically around STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). The Committee is actively planning future community events/activities. If you are interested in participating in the DE&I Committee, please attend a future meeting at One Illinois Blvd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169, every 1st Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Finally, if you haven't yet seen the Board of Trustee's discussion on why the Township has launched our DEIA (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility) Project Unify, please watch it on our website at tinyurl.com/yeyw7uet. We are stronger together!

WINTER LONELINESS RESOURCES



According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, 66% of people report feeling lonely during the holidays, with 64% of people with mental illness reporting their condition worsens during the holidays. It is important to acknowledge feelings of loneliness and seek help before loneliness severely impacts your daily life. A few coping strategies include avoiding isolation and staying socially connected, maintaining healthy habits and self-care, as well as managing holiday expectations. If you or someone you know needs support this holiday season don't hesitate to reach out to some of the Mental Health Board's (MHB) funded agencies: Schaumburg Area NAMI, Sanjeevani 4 U, Kenneth Young Center or The Bridge Youth and Family Services. You can find a full list of our funded providers on our website (schaumburgtownship.org/our-township/mental-health-board). If you need help finding support, you can contact the MHB at info@tosmhb.org or 847-285-4517. The MHB wishes everyone a holiday season filled with peace and joy!

Source: tinyurl.com/mtv7xn9u

CLERK'S CORNER: W. ROBERT VINNEDGE**NOW AVAILABLE: ONLINE PASSPORT RENEWAL**

Eligible U.S. passport holders can now renew online at travel.state.gov/renewonline. Applicants must meet the following requirements to apply online per the U.S. Department of State*:

- The passport you are renewing is or was valid for 10 years, and you are age 25 or older.
- The passport was issued between 2009 and 2015. The passport was issued over 9 years but less than 15 years from the date you plan to submit your application.
- You are not changing your name, gender, date of birth or place of birth.
- You are not traveling for at least 6 weeks from the date you will submit your application. Only routine service is available.
- You are applying for a regular (tourist) passport. You cannot renew a special issuance (diplomatic, official, service) passport online.
- You live in the United States (either state or territory). You do not qualify to renew online if you live in a foreign country or have an Army Post Office (APO), Fleet Post Office (FPO), or Diplomatic Post Office (DPO) address.
- You have your passport with you, and it is not damaged or mutilated, and you have not reported it as lost or stolen.
- You can pay for your passport using a credit or debit card.
- You can upload a digital passport photo.

Please note that once you apply online, your passport is invalid and cannot be used for international travel. Applicants will also need to have a current, digital photo available to upload to apply online. There are special requirements for passport photos. Find more information on digital photos here: tinyurl.com/47t4axmy.

Should an online renewal seem burdensome, please know that you can still apply through the mail. Township staff can assist with mail renewals Monday-Friday 9 – 4 pm. No appointment needed. Printed photos available, two for \$10.

*Requirements listed at time of printing. Source: tinyurl.com/85fnpjdw

**COMMUNITY FEEDBACK NEEDED**

The Township wants to hear from you! Join us in upcoming Project Unify focus group sessions. Sessions will last 30-60 minutes, and accommodations are available upon request. Sign up with the QR code to the right or at tinyurl.com/88y2vjzf.

**VETERANS HONOR ROLL RECIPIENT**

SGT Rudy Hecker was honored at the September Board Meeting. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 – 1970. The Township thanks you for your service.

FROM THE DESK OF THE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER: SCOTT M. KEGARISE

Reflecting on the past year, your road district has accomplished many things. We paved several streets, utilized new equipment and participated in area parades. We also held several events at the Road District including the annual Rabies and Microchipping event by Cook County and assisted in the monarch butterfly project. In addition, we have intergovernmental agreements in place with the Village of Schaumburg and the Townships of Palatine and Bloom, all which help us to reduce costs and improve efficiency. We have completed and submitted the decennial study as mandated by the state legislature. All in all, in addition to our normal duties, it has been a very active year. None of these improvements would have been possible without the dedication of Dave and Nick, our highly dedicated staff. Anyone with questions shouldn't hesitate to call the Road District at 847-884-1727. We look forward to another innovative and productive year in 2025.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSESSOR: JOHN R. LAWSON, M.S., C.I.A.O.****COOK COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX APPEALS**

The Cook County Board of Review residential property tax appeal period is projected to happen in December 2024 or early 2025. Exact dates will be posted on cookcountyboardofreview.com when available. Residents can appeal regardless of the outcome of a Cook County Assessor appeal. The Township's Assessor Office will accept appeals virtually and in-person during the open appeals period. E-mail appeals are the fastest and most convenient way to appeal. Simply email vmorales@schtwn.org your name, home address, property index number (PIN #), phone number and email address. Please do not send multiple appeal requests for one property.

FIRST INSTALLMENT COOK COUNTY PROPERTY TAX BILL

The first installment of the Cook County property tax bills is slated to be mailed in February 2025. Discover all the ways to pay and what is owed in the first installment on cookcountytreasurer.com. Click on the purple box titled "Your Property Tax Overview" and enter your property's unique property index number (PIN #). Please note that any successful appeals appear on the second installment tax bill, not the first.



TOWNSHIP CALENDAR



Please visit the township's website at www.schaumburgtownship.org for the most up-to-date event information.

RECURRING EVENTS

Every Tuesday	SENIOR WILLS* Appointment only
1 ST Tuesday	MENTAL HEALTH BOARD 7 pm
1 ST Wednesday	ALL ABOUT HEALTH** 10 am DE&I COMMITTEE 7 pm
2 ND Monday	CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP* 11 am
2 ND Tuesday	NORTHWEST SUBURBAN PREGNANCY/ INFANT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP*** 7 pm DISABILITY & SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE 7 pm

RECURRING EVENTS

2 ND & 4 TH Wednesday	DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP** 10:30 am
3 RD Wednesday	DEAF SOCIAL/SUPPORT GROUP **** 10 am BRIDGES TO MEMORY** 2 pm COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 7 pm Cancellation possible if no agenda items.
4 TH Tuesday	FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP 7 pm
4 TH Wednesday	BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 7 pm

* 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)



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

TOWNSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Main Number	847-884-0030
Assessor's Office	847-285-4567
Clerk's Office	847-285-4561
Disability & Senior Services	847-285-4541
Welfare Services	847-285-4503

Community Nurse:	847-285-4551
Deaf Services - Videophone:	224-520-9763
Food Pantry:	847-285-4503
Highway Department:	847-884-1727
Kenneth Young Center:	847-884-6212
Passport Services:	847-285-4561
Transportation Dispatch:	847-882-1929



The Town Crier, a report to the citizens of Schaumburg Township, is published by Township of Schaumburg
One Illinois Boulevard
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www.schaumburgtownship.org

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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.

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.

TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS



SUPERVISOR
Timothy M.
Heneghan



TRUSTEE
Robert N. Fiorio



TRUSTEE
Demetrius J.
Gibson



TRUSTEE
Lauren Saternus



TRUSTEE
Matthew J. Steward



CLERK
W. Robert
Vinnedge



ASSESSOR
John R.
Lawson, CIAO



HIGHWAY
COMMISSIONER
Scott M. Kegarise

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR TIM HENEGHAN

As 2024 comes to a close, I want to take the opportunity to thank our generous community donors. Without your assistance, we wouldn't have been able to help feed the record number of neighbors in Schaumburg Township this year. The Township assisted, on average, just under 1,200 households in the pantry or with emergency food each month this fiscal year. This equates to just under 3,500 household members served monthly. We also received a 37% increase in school supply donations for our Pack the Bus drive benefiting School District 54. And as this Town Crier issue goes to print, our signature holiday gift adoption programs are underway. Donations come in sizes big and small, and all are important to the people we serve. Individuals can find all the ways to donate at tinyurl.com/2z7u4jhc. Area organizations and businesses can also donate by starting a work food drive or by matching employee donations to the Foundation through third party organizations like Benevity. Please know that giving to your neighbor in need does not go unnoticed. It is a kindness that radiates and helps make Schaumburg Township a wonderful place to live.



Supervisor Heneghan accepts a \$2,155 food pantry donation from Raising Cane's and the Schaumburg Boomers.