



MAINELY NEWS



KAREN J. DIMOND
Supervisor

Spring 2024

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850



Karen's Column

CATALYTIC CONVERTER ETCHING, Thursday, April 25, 2024 from 3 pm to 6 pm

You have probably heard that thefts of vehicle catalytic converters have become a nationwide problem because there are precious metals found in these anti-pollution devices – namely, platinum, palladium, and rhodium. These metals are expensive because there is high demand and limited supply globally. Thieves can make anywhere from \$25 to \$300 for a standard catalytic converter, while ones from hybrid vehicles can sell for up to \$1,400.

You can deter thieves from stealing your catalytic converter by attending our event where employees of the Sheriff of Cook County will etch your Vehicle's Identification Number on your catalytic converter and also paint it red so as to alert potential thieves that your catalytic converter has been so marked. An etched catalytic converter enables law enforcement to track the converters, which in turn can lead police to the thieves.

Pre-registration for this event is required. Please register with the Sheriff's office by emailing Ccso.communityengagement@ccsheriff.org or by calling our office at 847-297-2510 ext. 251. In order to register, you will need to submit your Name, Zip Code, Vehicle Identification number, and the Make/Model/Year of your vehicle.

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Flood & Infrastructure Improvements

Both the Highway Department and Township are thrilled with the amount of flood improvement and infrastructure planned for the unincorporated area. (left to right:) Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Engineer Pedro Ortiz, MWRD Commissioner Marcelino Garcia, Congressman Mike Quigley, Park Ridge Mayor Marty Maloney, Supervisor Karen Dimond, and Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais visited one of the future improvement sites.



Honor Flight Chicago

Maine Township Elected Officials are pictured with Ron Wolflick from Honor Flight Chicago, who was presented a \$1,000 check from the Township, on behalf of the Clerk's Department. (The donation uses no taxpayer money.) The Honor Flight program is dedicated to transporting as many United States military veterans as possible to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials of the respective wars they fought in, at no cost to the veterans.

SPRING CLEANING

Once again, Maine Township will hold a trio of FREE spring events to help you clean your house of unwanted paper, electronics, and items too large to fit in your trash bins. All of these events are limited to Maine Township residents and will last until the time indicated or until capacity has been reached.

Electronics Recycling on Saturday, May 18, from 9 am to 12 pm

We will accept up to five electronic items from each residential address, including no more than one television. Please no commercial/business items – only residential electronics. This event will be held in the Maine Township parking lot at 1700 Ballard Road.

“Dumpster Days” on Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8

On Friday, June 7, a dumpster will be available on Emerson Street between Hamlin Avenue and Dee Road from 7 am and 7 pm. On Saturday June 8, a dumpster will be available in the Maine Township parking lot between 7 am and 7 pm. We can accept furniture, mattresses, and other large household items, but no electronics or hazardous wastes.

Paper Shredding on Saturday, June 15, 9 am to 12 pm

Clean out unneeded accumulated paper and bring it to be shredded in our parking lot at 1700 Ballard Road where your papers will be shredded on site. Please limit your paper materials to 3 plastic or paper grocery-type bags. Make sure to remove all paper clips, binder clips and rubber bands. Staples are acceptable, but spiral notebooks and plastic notebooks will not be accepted.

Other Recycling

In addition, we always have boxes in our Town Hall lobby where you can deposit unused prescriptions, unneeded eyeglasses, plastic bags, and small electronics such as cell phones.

Our goal is to help you dispose of all items responsibly and in an environmentally safe way. ●



TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Trustee, Kelly Horvath

As we embrace the warmer weather and blossoming flowers, Maine Township is gearing up for an array of exciting events and initiatives that showcase our

community spirit and dedication to serving our residents.

First on the calendar is our Annual Town Meeting, scheduled for April 9th at 7:00 pm. This tradition dates back to 1850 and the very beginnings of townships in Illinois. It is a chance for all residents to participate in shaping the direction of our township. Your input and engagement are highly valued, so mark your calendars and join us for this important gathering.

Our food pantry continues to be a beacon of support for those in need, and we are grateful for the ongoing generosity of our community. Recently, we received a brand new freezer, generously donated from the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which will enhance our ability to store perishable items and expand our services to better serve our neighbors. Donations to the food pantry are accepted year-round, ensuring that we can continue to make a positive impact on the lives of many.

Looking ahead, we have plans for a shredding event and electronics disposal day in the spring. These events provide an opportunity to safely dispose of sensitive documents and old electronics while promoting environmental responsibility.

Finally, April 22nd marks Earth Day, a global initiative to celebrate and protect our planet. We encourage all residents to join us in commemorating Earth Day and exploring ways to contribute to environmental stewardship in our community.

I am excited about the upcoming events and initiatives in Maine Township. Together, let's make this spring a season of positive impact and community engagement.

37th Annual Community Paint-A-Thon

The 37th Annual Community Paint-A-Thon will be held on Saturday, September 7, 2024. A rain date is scheduled for Saturday, September 14th. While the date is a long way off, applications are now available! To qualify, homes must be owned and occupied by adults ages 60 and older, those with a permanent disability, or a veteran of any age. There are income and asset limits, but all are encouraged to apply. Applications are due July 1st. Once a home is determined eligible, volunteer teams are matched to do the scraping, priming and painting of the outside of your home. There is no cost to the homeowner. Current Homeowners Insurance is required. For general information or to receive an application for the Paint-A-Thon, call Monika Jaroszewicz at 847-297-2510 ext. 252. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact HandsOn Suburban Chicago (Donnie) at 312-659-7574 or email her at donnie@handsonsuburbanchicago.org.



General Assistance Program

The General Assistance department would like to announce that those residents who are low income families and would like to apply for the **Reilly-Bialczak Scholarship Fund 2024 for Summer Day Camp** can start making appointments for the scholarship application interviews as of April 17, 2024. This program offers help with Summer Camp assistance through your local park district.

The **LIHEAP season** is still underway and continues to offer help with the LIHEAP program. Currently, the Furnace program through CEDA has ended as of March 8th, 2024 which was the last day for applications due to funds that have run out for this program. Please visit our website or give us a call at **847-297-2510 ext. 236** to check the income guidelines for the programs.

Neighborhood Watch

If you have concerns about your neighborhood and would you like to meet with law enforcement representatives in your community, join us for Neighborhood Watch meetings which meet the **first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm at Town Hall**. All Maine Township residents are welcome to attend, however most topics are geared towards the unincorporated area.

Neighborhood Watch brings residents together with local government and law enforcement to help build community awareness, boost safety, and resolve issues. Present at the meetings are representatives from Cook County Sheriff's Office, North Maine Fire Department, and representatives from your Maine Township Board.

Maine Township Neighborhood Watch works with the Cook County Sheriff's Police to sponsor "National Night Out Against Crime," which works to build the relationship between residents and local law enforcement. If you have questions or would like more information please call Maine Township at **847-297-2510**.

Code Enforcement

Flood Brothers Waste Management Company, who services the unincorporated area, will not accept electronics, such as TV's, computers, printers, and electric devices. Please contact their offices to request a special pick up and fee details. Flood Brothers is required to pick up one bulk item, however any extra items will need to be called in for a special pickup. Another option is to purchase stickers at Maine Township at 1700 Ballard Park Ridge.

Commercial vehicles such as limousines (LY plated), trucks, taxis, camping trailers, motor homes, RV, boats and miscellaneous trailers are illegal to park on any public road, alley, and right of way under the jurisdiction of the Maine Township Highway Commissioner. Any vehicle parked in violation of this ordinance may be towed to a safe storage place, until claimed by the owner.



VACCINE EVENT

April 18, 2024 • 10 AM – 1 PM

1700 W. Ballard Rd.
(in the Board Room)
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Providing the most current 2024 COVID-19 Vaccine given by Jewel-Osco Pharmacy

- **Flu Shots**
- Vaccines in addition to the COVID-19 Booster: **RSV, Pneumonia, and Shingles**
- **High Dose Flu Vaccine For 65+**

Please bring your medical and prescription insurance cards.
Walk-Ins Welcome. No Appointment Needed.



90+ Birthday Celebration

Residents in Maine Township who are 90 years and older in 2024 are invited to our 90+ Birthday Celebration. It will be held on **Thursday, May 16th** at Chateau Ritz.

If you would like to celebrate your 90+ Birthday with us, please call **847-297-2510 ext. 252** to register. A separate invitation will be mailed out to all registered!

Registration Deadline May 1st





CLERK'S CORNER

Clerk, Peter Gialamas

Hi All,

To the right is a picture of when my family came into the Clerk's office to renew my daughter's passport, so we could go on a spring break trip this year. In the photo is myself, my lovely wife Denise and daughter Gianna alongside my Chief Deputy Clerk, Eva Magnowski (right) and Deputy Clerk Jessica Guzman (left). I couldn't be prouder of the great service my staff provides on a daily basis.

I also wanted to let everyone know that I will once again be serving as the chairman of the Maine Township National Night Out Against Crime event that will be held on Tuesday, August 6th at Dee Park in Des Plaines. We are always looking for volunteers to serve on the committee or help out on the



night of the event. Please feel free to contact me at pgialamas@mainetown.com if you would like to help out. Have a great spring everyone!

Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM
For more information, call 847-297-2510, ext. 222,
email pgialamas@mainetown.com
or visit www.mainetown.com

MaineStay Youth & Family Services

MaineStay is an award-winning department that has been serving the mental health needs of our community for nearly 50 years by providing affordable strength-based counseling along with youth and community programs focused on prevention and education.

***NEW* Social Wellness Nights** – April 12, April 25, May 15, May 28 | grades K-5 | \$5

This program supports youth in socializing with peers, promotes positive mental health, and includes a pizza dinner and a variety of activities to help children connect, have fun, and learn important social skills.

***NEW* Seeds of Friendship: Fostering Healthy Relationships Among Girls** – June 24 | 5-5:50 pm | 10 weeks | girls in grades 2-5 | free

This group incorporates activities and discussions that promote positive social interactions, empathy, communication skills, and conflict resolution. It provides a safe and supportive environment where girls feel comfortable expressing themselves and building meaningful connections with their peers.

***NEW* Quest Seekers: An Impulse Control Journey** – July 22 | 6-7:15 pm | 4 weeks | grades 2-5 | free

Program participants embark on a quest-themed journey to understand impulses and develop self-control skills. By infusing creativity and adventure into each session, the program creates an engaging and empowering experience for youth to navigate the challenges of impulse control. This program will meet twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Summer Camp – July 8-18 | 9 am - 3 pm | 2 weeks | ages 8-13 | \$50

Our Adventure Maine Township summer camp program has limited openings remaining in our second session, and is open to children who qualify based on family income. This camp provides a supportive and structured environment where children can improve their social skills while being exposed to new activities they may not otherwise be able to experience.

Pride Program – 1st and 3rd Thursdays | 6-7 pm | ages 13-17 | free

This program provides a safe environment for young people who identify as LGBTQ+, who are questioning their affectional orientation or gender identity, or who are allies.

Youth Mentoring – every other Tuesday | 6-7:30 pm | ages 8-12 | free

Our award-winning Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program will help your child enhance their social skills, confidence, and ability to be successful in school and in the future. Carefully-selected matches meet in a structured group setting and participate in fun activities and field trips. To apply online or learn more visit mainetown.com/bbbs.

For more information on these and other MaineStay programs visit mainetown.com/mainestay, email mainestay@mainetown.com, or call 847-297-2510.



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Ed Beauvais, Highway Commissioner

Hello Maine Township! This past winter the Highway Department has taken full advantage of the waves of unseasonably

warm weather. We have seized the opportunity that we do not normally get to enhance safety measures and foster connectivity within the community.

With an eye on improving the appearance to our area along with maximizing visibility and safety for area children; my staff and I have embarked on a comprehensive review and replacement of signage, crosswalks, and other vital infrastructure near schools in unincorporated Maine Township. This is part of an effort to help make routes to and from school as safe as possible for children and their families. This project has involved engagement with area schools to ensure their input and first-hand knowledge of potential needs is part of the process. Updates to signs, stop walks, crosswalks, sidewalks, lighting, and other improvements will be worked on throughout the spring and summer.

The Highway Department is also working to connect a sidewalk and bike lane with the Village of Niles and City of Des Plaines through the unincorporated areas of Maine Township and the City of Park Ridge. This project will help enhance accessibility across the entire Township and will help create a safer road environment for cyclists, drivers, and pedestrians.



These priority projects are in addition to the routine maintenance work that the Highway Department performs, including filling potholes, planting/trimming trees, repairing/replacing sidewalks, clearing brush, and managing/improving stormwater drainage systems. We have also had

Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais and Township Trustee Asif Malik receiving recognition at 2024 Empowering Woman Gala.



Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais and Foreman Rich Brandes reviewing and improving signage near unincorporated school zones.



District 62 Foundation board members and Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais at Battle of the pizza event in Des Plaines. (l to r): Tracy Sommerfeldt, Jinette Gootee, Maxine Hubbard, Erin Doerr, Board President Betty Murphy, and Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais

the opportunity to move our flood mitigation projects forward alongside many local and federal leaders.

Please stay tuned for updates as these initiatives take shape and are completed. Also, make sure to keep an eye out for our springtime events on our website. I look forward to seeing all of you this summer!

Annual Tree Branch Pickup (Unincorporated Area ONLY)

3rd Monday of the month April through September – Please *do not* approach highway crew when they are picking up branches. They are wearing safety equipment and chips of branches can shoot out of chipper. If your branches were not picked up, call the office (847) 297-5225 and we will check why branches were left. Check mainetown.com website under highway department Tree Branch Pickup for what we can and cannot pickup and 2024 schedule for pickup dates.



IN MEMORIAM

Regrettably, Maine Township Highway Department long-time employee, Foreman **Pete Douvalakis** passed away on January 13, 2024. Pete was employed at the highway department for

nearly 30 years. He was loved and respected by his coworkers and the many elected officials and professionals he worked with over the years. Residents found Pete easy to deal with and he was active in the community. Pete will be sorely missed. Rest in peace our dear friend.

If we are currently on the other line or temporarily away from the phone, please leave VM with your name, address and phone number. Your call will normally be returned within 24 hours. For quickest response email us at highway@mainetown.com or if you prefer you may call (847) 297-5225 and request an appointment. To report an emergency, call 911.

Hours: Monday-Friday from 7 AM to 3:30 PM
***Appointment Required* Call 847-297-5225**



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

Assessor,
Susan Moylan Krey

2023 Exemption Update

I am pleased to announce that the Cook County Assessor released the 2023 Exemption Application earlier than expected. If you applied last year for the Low-Income Senior Freeze, you should have received the application by now. If you have not received the application or need assistance completing the form, call my office at 224-257-4830.

If you were born in or before 1958, and have not yet applied for your Senior Exemption, applications are available in my office or online at www.cookcountyassessor.com.

Cook County Clerk, Karen Yarbrough Offers Recording Legal Help

The County Clerk's Recording Division records, stores, and maintains land records, and other official documents. Cook County residents looking for assistance concerning their home, chain of title, or other land records, can now receive free legal

assistance through a new Legal Help Desk service provided by the Cook County Clerk's Recording Operations Division.

The Legal Help Desk will be staffed by legal aid attorneys from the Center for Disability and Elder Law (CDEL) who will provide pro bono legal advice for customers on matters such as:

- Deed Counseling
- Grantor/Grantee Affidavit
- Corrective Recording Affidavit
- Disclaimer of Interest Form
- Surviving Tenant Affidavit
- Transfer on Death Instrument (TODI)

The Legal Help Desk is available on the third Thursday of every month at the Clerk's office, 118 N. Clark Street in Chicago. Appointments are mandatory and can be scheduled by emailing recording.helpdesk@cookcountyil.gov OR calling them at 312-603-5050.

Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM
For more information, call 847-297-2510, ext. 255,
email smkrey@mainetown.com or visit www.mainetown.com

Meet Our New OEM Director

Maine Township would like to welcome Jack Wisniewski, who takes on the position of Maine Township OEM (Office of Emergency Management) Director. Jack has more than 28 years of experience in Public Safety and Emergency Management in the state of Illinois, including over five years dedicated to emergency response and management as a Hazardous Materials Special Agent / HAZMAT Tech, with Union Pacific Railroad assigned to the Chicago Division which operates several freight lines and three Union Pacific / Metra passenger lines including UP Northwest Line traversing through Maine Township. He served as a law enforcement officer and emergency responder with AG Valley Railroad Police Department as a Chief of Police and Explosives Detection Canine Team with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Jack's educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice Management from Calumet College of St. Joseph. He is also a graduate of Northwestern University's Staff



and Command School and Executive Management Course. He has completed numerous courses sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other government and private emergency management and response courses.

Jack has received numerous awards for excellence in service, including a Life Saving Award from the American Red Cross. He is a certified American Red Cross and Department of Defense Stop the Bleed Program instructor.

Jack strongly believes in community and personal emergency preparedness and encourages volunteering at the

Maine Township Office of Emergency Management to learn helpful skills and to help teach others, making Maine Township a well-prepared community.

For more information on volunteering or if you would like to join the Maine Township Office of Emergency Management, email Director Wisniewski at jwisniewski@mainetown.com

MaineStreamers, Enhancing Lives After 55+

Hop on our coach bus as we head out onto one of our exciting upcoming day trips or events.



Tour of the Milton House Museum & Lincoln Talman House, Janesville, WI

Tour the Milton House Museum, the last certified underground Railroad Station, and the Lincoln-Tallman House Museum, that once hosted overnight guest Abraham Lincoln before his presidency.



Outdoor Summer Concert Featuring: Wayne Messmer

Enjoy an evening with one of Chicago's most recognized voices, Wayne Messmer, performing some of your favorite classic tunes, as well as some selections from the Broadway stage, which have earned him rave reviews.

Members Enjoying Day Trips and Events



Chicago Blackhawks vs. Detroit Red Wings Game



Tony Ocean performing at the Club Arcada Speakeasy & Restaurant



Private event of "Art & Sip" at Uncork, Unwind, Des Plaines



Valentine's Day Luncheon, featuring, Simply Elton.



Valentine's Floral Design Class



Trustee Kimberly Jones enjoying the Valentine's Floral Design Class

Joining MaineStreamers

For more information on this FREE membership, contact the MaineStreamers department at 847-297-2510 or visit mainetown.com/mainestreamers.

Recovery Connection

Isolation is often a big part of addiction and alcoholism. The "Connection" in Recovery Connection is about bringing people out of isolation to connect with peers who help each other stay sober by sharing their support and common experiences. Besides our popular Friday night meeting, Maine Township sponsored a fun outing to a Chicago Wolves hockey game where our participants, many new to sobriety, learn from peers that they can navigate fun public events without using alcohol.



In March, Recovery Connection welcomed sober stand up comedian Sam Miller. Sam not only made us laugh, he shared his inspirational story of being homeless and addicted to drugs, to now a nationally known standup comedian.



Sam Miller is joined by Maine Township Trustee James Maher (r) along with staff Marty Cook and Nick Kanehl.



Standup comedian Sam Miller sharing his inspirational story.

If you or a loved one are struggling with alcohol or drug addiction or want to learn more how we support people in recovery, call Marty at Maine Township Recovery Connection 847-297-2510 ext. 233.



MAINE TOWNSHIP • 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068-1006
847-297-2510 • www.maintown.com

Town Hall Hours

Mon - Fri : 9 AM - 5 PM



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Subscribe to receive our email updates
(on our home page): www.maintown.com

*****ECRWSSDDM*****
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Upcoming Meetings & Building Closures

Board Meetings on April 30, May 28, and June 25 at 7 PM.

Annual Town Meeting on April 9 at 7 PM

Offices closed on May 27 for Memorial Day, June 19 for Juneteenth, and July 4 for Independence Day.

For other meetings, please call 847-297-2510
or visit www.maintown.com

How to Contact Our Departments

Main Phone 847-297-2510

Departments/Extension Numbers

Assessor's Office ext. 255

Clerk's Office ext. 222

Code Enforcement Officer . . ext. 259

General Assistance. ext. 236

MaineStreamers ext. 260

MaineStay Youth
& Family Services ext. 261

Recovery Connection ext. 233

Office of Emergency
Management ext. 232

Highway Department. . 847-297-5225

You may also e-mail any department
by accessing the Township website:
www.maintown.com

MAINE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS



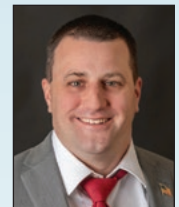
Karen J. Dimond
Supervisor



Peter Gialamas
Clerk



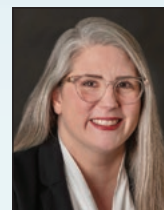
Susan Moylan Krey
Assessor



Ed Beauvais
Highway Commissioner



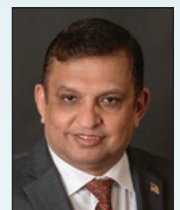
Kimberly Jones
Trustee



Kelly Horvath
Trustee



James Maher
Trustee



Asif Malik
Trustee