

MAINELY NEWS



KAREN J. DIMOND
Supervisor

Summer 2024

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850



Karen's Column

This month I would like to highlight our General Assistance Department. While this Department primarily serves low-income members of our community, it also provides an invaluable service to anyone who is on Medicare or who will soon sign up for Medicare.

Senior Health Insurance Program

The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP), is a free unbiased statewide health insurance counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers. SHIP certified counselors are people who have been trained to assist seniors to understand and choose the best Medicare plan for them. We are pleased to have a SHIP certified counselor on our staff who can help residents select the best Medicare option for them – be it a traditional Supplemental Plan or an Advantage Plan. If you are new to Medicare, you will want to make sure you understand the difference between these types of plans. If you have been on Medicare for a while, you probably know that every fall you have an opportunity to change Medicare plans. Our SHIP counselor can help you with that choice too.

General Assistance

Maine Township provides a variety of benefits to residents who have low income. Maine Township's General Assistance program was created to serve the needs of financially distressed residents and to prevent temporary financial difficulty from becoming a devastating life event. The Department strives to help Maine Township residents get back on their feet as quickly as possible by assisting those who are able to find meaningful employment. We simultaneously provide assistance in

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Community Garage Sale Set for Sept. 21

Maine Township's 18th Annual Community Garage Sale is scheduled rain or shine for Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge. Space reservations for Maine Township residents will be accepted beginning August 1 at 9 am and on August 8 at 9 am for all others.

Shoppers can browse among approximately 80 exhibitors and donuts and lunch items will be available to purchase. All proceeds from the event benefit the Adventure Maine Township Summer Camp. For more information, visit mainetown.com/garagesale or contact Emily Toomey at 847-297-2510 or etoomey@mainetown.com.

Memorial Day Events



Several of our township elected officials attended the Park Ridge Memorial Day parade (above) and the Des Plaines Memorial Ceremony (left) to honor our military who lost their lives while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Karen's Column *continued from page 1*

the form of financial subsidies to be used for personal essentials, rent, transportation, and utilities. Recipients must (1) be an adult with no minor children, (2) live within the boundaries of Maine Township, (3) have little to no income and depleted assets, and (4) be searching for work or have a pending disability case.

Emergency Rent Assistance

This program provides one-time financial assistance. In order to apply, a resident must provide proof of a five-day notice or letter from their landlord showing that the resident is behind on their rent, complete an application, and provide all other required documents.

Energy Assistance

Beginning in the fall of each year, our Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) can help low-income persons with a one-time credit toward their winter utility bills.

Prescription Discount Program

A free Coast2CoastRx Discount Prescription Card provides a discount on prescriptions. It covers drugs not covered in health plans along with many pet prescriptions.

Public Aid Advocacy for Medicaid and Food Stamps

If you want help filling out forms to apply for Public Aid or Medicaid, one of our experienced staffers will be happy to assist you.

Transportation

Maine Township sponsors a subsidized taxicab program entitled MaineLines. It helps low-income residents pay for transportation in and around Maine Township. Disabled persons and seniors may also qualify for a card entitling them to free RTA rides. In addition, we can also provide discounts on Secretary of State License Plate Stickers.

Summer Camp Scholarships

The Maine Township Reilly-Bialczak Scholarship Fund was created to provide an opportunity for the children of residents who are encountering financial hardship to participate in local park district summer camps. Children must be 18 years of age or younger to be eligible. Students over age 18 who are currently enrolled in high school as a full-time student are also eligible.

Senior and Disabled Services

Senior and disabled citizens are an integral and vital part of the Maine Township community. Maine Township has a Senior Disabled Advocate who acts as a clearing house for programs sponsored not only by the township, but also by the state, county, and local government. Any Maine Township resident who finds himself or herself in a difficult financial, medical, or personal situation may visit our office and speak to one of our trained staff to find out what kind of services may be available to them.

Please call us at 847-297-2510 x236 for more information! ●



TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Trustee, James Maher

The summer months bring many special events designed to serve our Maine Township constituents. From regular events such as motivational speakers presented by our Recovery Connection Department on Friday nights and police and fire safety speakers on the first Wednesday of every month presented at our Neighborhood Watch meetings to special events such as National Night Out on August 6, 2024, and our Indian and Pakistan cultural nights set for August 17th and 18th, 2024, our summer calendar is very full.

I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Maine Township paper shredding event that was held on June 15. It was a valuable opportunity for residents to safely dispose sensitive documents, and I was eager to participate and support the community initiative.

Due to the popularity of prior electronics recycling events such as dumpster days, I hope to see more such events in the future which serve the dual goals of protecting our citizens from the dangers of identity and other varieties of theft while also serving to protect our environment. Thank you to all the township employees whose hard work makes these many events possible.

The 4th of July parades are always a spectacular celebration, bringing together communities in a vibrant display of patriotism and unity in the various cities and Villages within our township. The sight of children eagerly collecting candy and waving flags adds to the festive spirit, making the 4th of July parades a truly great and cherished tradition.

Shredding Event



Pictured are Trustee Kimberly Jones (l) and Supervisor Dimond (r) at our Shredding Event that took place June 15th.

Catalytic Converter Etching

Maine Township and the Cook County Sheriff's Office sponsored a Catalytic Converter Etching Event at Town Hall. This provides better opportunity for law enforcement to track stolen

converters, providing a valuable tool in their efforts to solve these crimes. By effectively monitoring and tracing these stolen items, it enhances the ability of authorities to bring offenders to justice.



Taste of Des Plaines



Administrator Dayna Berman (r) and Deputy Administrator Vicki Rizzo (l) attend the Taste of Des Plaines to inform residents the wide range of services the Township offers.

HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

Ask | Learn | Share

FAMILY FRIENDLY!

Learn about all aspects of healthy aging and living. Informational booths, demos, giveaways, snacks, drinks, and more!

Saturday
July 27, 2024
10:00am - 1:00pm

Maine Township Town Hall
1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, IL

Register at:
bit.ly/Health-Wellness-2024



Dumpster Days



On June 7 and 8, dumpsters were made available on Emerson Street in unincorporated Des Plaines and in the Maine Township parking lot to allow residents to dispose of items such as furniture, mattresses, and other large household items.



CLERK'S CORNER

Clerk, Peter Gialamas

Hi All,

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone that this year's Maine Township National Night Out Against Crime will be held on Tuesday, August 6th at 6:30 pm at Dee Park in Des Plaines at 9229 W Emerson St, Des Plaines, IL 60016.

National Night Out is designed to heighten drug and crime prevention awareness and build a strong partnership between the police and the community. There will be games, raffle prizes, entertainment from JG's Reptile Show and several demonstrations and displays from the Cook County Sheriff's Police. This is my 12th year acting as committeeman for the event and it's truly one of my favorite nights of the year. Everyone is welcome, so I hope to see you all there.

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.



left: camp participants at Museum of Ice Cream, Chicago.



right: camp group on the Chicago River cruise.

Kids Summer Fest – July 25 | 1-4 pm | ages 6-12 | free

This event will feature fun activities where kids can try something different and make new friends during their summer break.

Cooking Class – September 12 | 4:30-6 pm | 5 weeks | ages 8-17 | \$12/week

This class, taught by an experienced chef, will teach different cooking techniques, knife safety, and culinary concepts, designed to encourage healthier lifestyle choices.

Shifting Sands: Sandtray Group – September 17 | 5:15-6 pm | 10 weeks | grades K-2 | \$20

This group aims to provide a safe, supportive, and engaging environment for youth facing behavioral challenges at home or school.

Inside Out Explorers: Emotion Regulation Group – September 17 | 4:15-5 pm | 10 weeks | grades 2-3 | free

This group provides a safe and supportive environment for children to explore their emotions, improve emotional intelligence, and learn healthy coping skills.

Art in the Town – September 23 | 4-4:50 pm (ages 6-8) | 5-6 pm (ages 9-12) | 12-weeks | free

This program helps participants enhance their artistic abilities while increasing confidence and social skills.

Tutoring – October 16 | 4:30-7:30 pm (1-hour sessions) | 10 weeks | grades 1-5 | \$50

Using a small-group format, our experienced tutors and certified teachers work with students to improve academic skills and self-confidence.

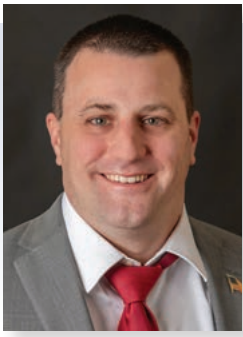
Pride Program – 1st and 3rd Thursdays | 6-7 pm | ages 13-17 | free

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.

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

Our award-winning Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program meets in a structured group setting and helps children enhance their social skills, confidence, and academic success.

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 everyone! We have had quite the busy spring and early part of summer here at the Highway Department. The

theme so far has been planning and planting.

Our summer project planning has been finalized and we are moving forward with paving and concrete contract work after bidding was completed. We continue to prioritize school zone safety. Part of this year's roadway maintenance project includes re-stripping of roadway, stop bars, dividing lines and crosswalks to increase pedestrian/child safety and visibility around Township area school zones.

We are very pleased to announce that the Highway Department will be bringing in an additional \$350,000 of funding from the State of Illinois after working alongside State leaders to make that a reality. Thank you to our area Senator Laura Murphy for helping to secure these funds for Maine Townships' unincorporated area residents and for helping to increase our productivity and output as a department!

We are also actively and aggressively pursuing County and Federal grant funding to help increase resident requested drainage and infrastructure growth in and around Township roadways. This has the potential to double the annual amount of monies we are able to dedicate to sidewalk, drainage, right of way and other roadway infrastructure improvements.

During the past few months, I have prioritized parkway tree restoration. Since April, our staff has planted close to 70 trees throughout the Township! Also, in our second year holding environmentally positive giveaway events; this year we partnered locally with Pesches and the Izaak Walton League of Des Plaines to hold a 'plant a pollinator' community giveaway event. This was done with the hopes of improving our surrounding local ecosystem. Over 100 area residents were able to



above: Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais and staff highlighting equipment at the Des Plaines Park District Touch a Truck.



left: Des Plaines Park District, Des Plaines Police Department and Highway Department participating in touch a truck.



left to right: Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais, Cindy Nielsen, Helmut Lackaj and Alderman Mike Charewicz at Pollinator Plant Giveaway event.

take home a 1-gallon perennial pollinator plant donated by Pesches.

We also made sure to set aside a time for reflection on Memorial Day to remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We were honored to take part in the wreath laying ceremony at the Des Plaines Park District Lake Park ceremony with the Des Plaines American Legion Post 36. Additionally, we took part in the City of Park Ridge Memorial Day Parade. It was great to see so many people out to join us in remembrance. Other notable events we took part in were the Taste of Des Plaines, Niles and Des Plaines 4th of July parades, Kiwanis cup and family day along with the Des Plaines Park District Touch a Truck.

As always, I look forward to seeing you all throughout the Township this summer and fall. There are many upcoming local area events to be excited about. Some of which are (but not limited to) Cruisin Park Ridge, Niles Cruise Nights, Market after Dark, Taste of Park Ridge, Des Plaines Fall Fest along with live concerts, National Night Out and local area farmers' markets. Please support locally when you can and thank you to all of our residents for your continued partnership and assistance to improve upon our area as a whole. There are so many good people and organizations working extremely hard and doing great work with little recognition. We are so lucky to have such good stewards to work with in our community.



right: Highway Commissioner and staff working to restore parkway trees.

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 Second Installment Property Tax Bills Should Be Mailed on Time for First Time Since 2019 Tax Year

The 2023 Second Installment Property Tax Bills are anticipated to be mailed on July 1, 2024. The tax bill will be due on August 1, 2024. This marks the first time since 2019 that the property tax bills will be sent out on time.

For the past few years, taxpayers have experienced delays in the mailing of property tax bills, causing confusion and inconvenience, especially for taxpayers with an escrow. The timely mailing of the property tax bills is crucial for the financial planning of both taxpayers and the county.

It is critical for all property owners to carefully review their 2023 Second Installment Property Tax Bills to ensure that all entitled exemptions appear correctly on their bills. Common exemptions include but are not limited to; the Homeowner, Senior, Low-Income Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze, Persons with Disabilities, and Veterans with Disabilities.

If you find that any of your entitled exemptions are missing from your property tax bill, contact the Maine Township Assessor's Office.

Be sure to make a timely payment by August 1, 2024 to avoid penalties. The bill can be paid at any Chase Bank, online at the Cook County Treasurer's website, or by mail to the Treasurer.

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

Recovery Connection

With summer upon us, the Recovery Connection, which aims to connect people in recovery from drugs and alcohol, is in full swing. For participants, we continue to have our Friday night speakers share amazing stories of overcoming addiction and mental health challenges. While our speakers are primarily local people, we have welcomed speakers from the world of entertainment and politics. This past June, we welcomed Benny Lee, a former Chicago street gang leader who dealt with addiction. After getting sober, he went on to become a college professor and nationwide speaker on addiction and mental health. He shared his story with close to 100 attendees. Besides our speaker meetings we provide fun social events and community education.



above: Township trustee's James Maher, Asif Malik, Kim Jones and Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais met with local mental health and substance abuse providers from Chicago Behavioral Hospital, Modern Med and Sanandam at the Park Ridge Health Fair.



l to r: Marty Cook, Nick Kanehl (Maine Township Recovery Connections Staff), Trustee James Maher, and speaker Benny Lee.



Benny Lee speaks at a Recovery Connection event.

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.

MaineStreamers, Enhancing Lives After 55+

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



Fall Shoreline Scenic Lake Delavan Tour, WI

Enjoy beautiful Delavan Lake aboard the 76-foot Lake Lawn Queen, lunch on the boat while viewing unique architecture of several Frank Lloyd Wright homes.



Chicago Pedway Tour & Klairmont Collections

Come tour Chicago's Pedway system and discover the fascinating "city below the city". Also view a private, prized car collection that has over 300 award winning and unique automobiles from 1090 to present day.

Members Enjoying Day Trips and Events



Evening of Comedy with Vito Zatto.



Pilsen Neighborhood Murals Tour.



90+ Birthday Celebration, celebrating Maine Township's residents who are 90+ years of age and older.

right: 90+ Celebrants ages 99 to 103 with Township Elected Officials.



Joining MaineStreamers

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

The Niles Lions Club sponsors FREE Hearing & Retinal Screenings



Tuesday, August 13th • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Town Hall Parking Lot, 1700 W. Ballard Rd., Park Ridge



ADULT HEARING LOSS - A common chronic disability. The earlier the detection, the better the chances for successful treatment.



VISION LOSS - Early detection of disorders such as macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy is critical to preserve vision, persons 55+ are encouraged to get free eye screenings.

For information: Contact Lion Carolyn at 847-970-0994



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 July 30, Aug. 27, and Sept. 24 at 7 PM.

Offices closed on September 2 for Labor Day, and
October 14 for Columbus 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

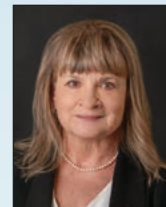
MAINE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS



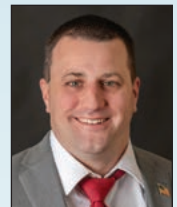
Karen J. Dimond
Supervisor



Peter Gialamas
Clerk



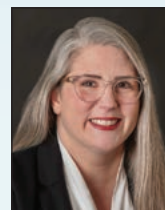
Susan Moylan Krey
Assessor



Ed Beauvais
Highway Commissioner



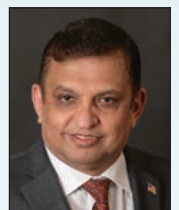
Kimberly Jones
Trustee



Kelly Horvath
Trustee



James Maher
Trustee



Asif Malik
Trustee