



MAINELY NEWS



KAREN J. DIMOND
Supervisor

Spring 2023

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850



Karen's Column

This month I would like to highlight some news from a few of our departments.

Website

We are happy to have a newly designed website! We hope it will enable you to find Maine Township news, events, and services easier than ever. Check out our new design at mainetown.com

Codification of Ordinances

You may wonder, "What does this mean?" It means that Maine Township has organized its ordinances into a logical, topical and easy-to-find collection. In the past, our ordinances were collected in a chronological fashion, which meant that one had to look through all ordinances to find applicable ones and any relevant updates. We are sure you will now find it much simpler to find ordinances. Locate the codified ordinances on our website.

Informational Programs

The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Iris Martinez, held an informational program at the Town Hall on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at which her staff members helped residents look up information on pending cases and explained how residents can use her website to get more information. On February 23, 2023, Board of Review Commissioner Samantha Steele brought her staff to the Town Hall to help residents file property tax appeals. And your Maine Township Assessor's Office is always available to help explain your bill and make sure you are not paying more than necessary.

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Court Cases & Records Information

On February 18th, Maine Township partnered with Circuit Court Clerk Iris Martinez's office to bring residents essential information about court cases and records.



Pictured (l to r): Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais, Clerk of the Circuit Court Iris Martinez, Illinois State Senator Laura Murphy, Trustee Asif Malik, Supervisor Karen Dimond, and Trustee Jim Maher

Holi Celebration



This event, sponsored by Care & Cure and Maine Township Trustee Asif Malik, was celebrated at Town Hall. Holi, which celebrates the arrival of spring, is known as a festival of love or a festival of color. This holiday incorporates vibrantly colored liquids and powders which is an important part of Holi. It's celebrated by many Hindus around the world.



Karen's Column

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Food Pantry

You may have read that some government benefits are now being reduced as the pandemic winds down. In response to these cut backs, and to new refugees coming to Maine Township, our food pantry has expanded its hours. The pantry is now also open on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm to help serve those who struggle to make ends meet. That means the pantry is now open these hours:

Tuesdays & Fridays . . . 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Wednesdays 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

As our fiscal year drew to a close on February 28, 2023, I was pleased to note that this past year we were able to stock the food pantry without using any tax dollars. By that I mean we were able to keep the pantry filled by just using donated food and cash. Your continued generosity means that we are confident we can continue to fight hunger in Maine Township without draining tax dollars.

And now we have a new way you can donate. If you like to donate food as opposed to cash, you may now go to Amazon's website, order whatever food you might like to donate, and have it delivered directly to our pantry at 1700 Ballard Road in Park Ridge, IL 60068. If you are an Amazon Prime member, delivery will be free. Amazon does not share donor information with us, but please know that we appreciate your donations even if we cannot send you a thank you note. You may also go to the food pantry page of our webpage, click on our Amazon wish list, and order the items that we need most. Thank you! ●

Blarney Bash



Blarney Bash was organized by the Center of Concern as a fundraiser and fun event, which included a 5K run as well as dinner and Irish music. Those who participated in the 5K received a t-shirt, race medal, access to fun awards and prizes, and supported the Center of Concern's critical programs and services.

Supervisor Karen Dimond (l) with Niles Township Supervisor Bonnie Kahn Ognisanti (r) and John McNabola of the Center of Concern (center) along with his dog Sunshine.

General Assistance

Our General Assistance department helps senior and disabled income eligible residents receive a discount on their license plate sticker. If you're a senior needing help navigating Medicare, don't hesitate to meet with our SHIP certified Senior and Disability Specialist. Please note that CEDA is behind on all Energy Assistance applications. They are requesting 90 days to approve applications instead of the 30 days we had been told to give as a timeline to our clients. This does not apply to disconnection notices. If you receive a disconnection notice, bring it to our office as soon as possible. You can reach the General Assistance Department at 847-297-2510 ext. 236.

Meet Our New OEM Director

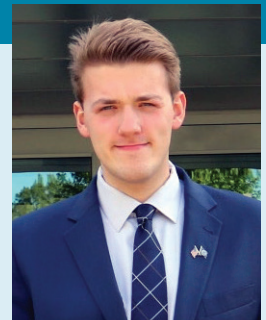
My name is Eddie Olewinski, and I am excited to introduce myself as the new Director for Maine Township's Office of Emergency Management. I come to this role with a few years of experience in emergency services and disaster response. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Supply Chain Management from DePaul University and am working towards a Master's degree in Homeland Security & Emergency Management from the George Washington University.

As the OEM Director, I will be working closely with local emergency services, community leaders, and state and federal agencies to develop and implement emergency plans, provide training and education to residents, and coordinate response efforts. It is my goal to work together with our community to build a culture of preparedness that ensures the safety of our

families and the sustainability of our township.

I understand that the past few years has been difficult for many of us, and I want to assure you that our Township is here to support you. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding emergency preparedness or would like to volunteer, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I look forward to working with you to keep our community safe and prepared.

Contact: 847-297-2510 ext. 232 or eolewinski@mainetown.com



MaineStreamers, Enhancing Lives After 55+

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



Locavore Farm

A true farm-to-table experience along with live music, a farm tour and a bonfire for roasting marshmallows.



Shipshewana Backroads Brown Bag Tour

Enjoy a guided tour through the beautiful Amish Country with a traditional Amish meal and visit unique shops along the scenic back roads.

Members Enjoying Day Trips and Events



Uncork Unwind, Art & Sip, Des Plaines



Holiday Party, Maine Township Elected Officials



Kenosha Civil War Museum, Kenosha WI



Salute To Vienna, Orchestra Hall

Joining MaineStreamers

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

MaineStay Youth & Family Services

New Tutoring Program – April 11 | 4:30-5:30 pm |

6 weeks | grades 2-5 | \$25

Our new in-person tutoring program will provide personalized assistance designed to improve academic success. Using a small-group format, our experienced tutors will work with your child to improve their academic skills and self-confidence.

Summer Camp

Our Adventure Maine Township summer camp program will take place from June 20-29 and July 10-20 and is open to children ages 8-13 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. Throughout the camp we discuss important topics such as teamwork, citizenship, peer pressure, respect, responsibility, and trustworthiness. Cost is \$50 for each two-week session.

Slam Poetry Society – April 13 | 5-6 pm | 6 weeks |

ages 8-13 | free

This program helps participants learn how to write poetry as a way to manage and reflect on their emotions and experiences in a healthy way.

Special Education Services Seminar – April 26 |

6-8 pm | free

This community education presentation will provide a basic overview of special education eligibility in the school setting and



Our Adventure Maine Township Summer Camp participants enjoy a fun day at Glencoe Beach.

educate parents on what services are available and how to better advocate for their children.

Pride Program – 1st and 3rd Wednesdays | 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.

Volunteer Mentors Needed

Our mentoring program, offered in partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, meets twice monthly on Tuesdays from 6-7:30 pm in a structured group setting and helps youth enhance their social skills, confidence, and ability to be successful in school and in the future. We currently have an urgent need for three male mentors. We have three boys waiting to be matched who are unable to join the program until a suitable male mentor can be found for them. A small contribution of only 3 hours of your time each month can change the course of a child's life.

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



TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Trustee, Kelly Horvath

As we leave the Winter behind and head into Spring, I want to remind everyone that programs like our food pantry are in need of donations year-round, not just during the holidays. With new expanded hours to meet our residents' needs, your donations are needed to keep our shelves stocked. You can find more information online on our newly updated website.

Spring is also a wonderful time to get back outside and enjoy nature. April 22nd is Earth Day, an annual celebration demonstrating support for environmental protection and raising awareness of protecting Earth's natural resources for future generations. The Township is proud to have hosted successful programs such as electronic recycling, holiday lights recycling, and more that show our commitment to sustainability and protecting our environment and we will continue to plan more events in the future. Check our website or sign up for our e-newsletter to stay up-to-date on various events. Happy Spring!



CLERK'S CORNER

Clerk, Peter Gialamas

Hello Everyone,

I would like to introduce the newest member to our staff at the Clerk's Department. Deputy Clerk Cathleen Ryder has been with us since January of this year and we are thrilled to have her. She has hit the ground running and stands ready to serve our constituents. If you are applying for a new or renewing an existing passport, please allow yourself extra time. The U.S. Department of State has a large backlog of applications because of the overwhelming demand for passports as people look to once again travel abroad. Even if you pay the \$60 to expedite the processing, it can take much longer than the projected 5 to 7 weeks. Please keep that in mind, so you don't have any unfortunate surprises when you look to travel.



Pictured (l to r): Deputy Clerk Cathleen Ryder (l), Clerk Peter Gialamas, Deputy Clerk Jessica Guzman, Chief Deputy Clerk Eva Magnowski

Recycle Prescriptions & More



Residents can safely dispose of unused pharmaceuticals in the bin sponsored by Cook County Sheriff Thomas J. Dart Prescription Drug Take Back Program. Please note NO liquid pharmaceuticals are accepted. Residents can also drop off used eyeglasses to be recycled which is provided by the Lyons of Illinois Foundation. Bring in any old cell phone to help a senior citizen supported by Cook County Sheriff Thomas J. Dart's Cell Phones for Seniors Program.

Don't forget to recycle your small electronics and used ink cartridges in the recycling container sponsored by Avenues to Independence. All disposal bins are located at the front entrance of Town Hall.

We also recycle paper, newspaper, magazines and cardboard with Midwest Paper and those recycling containers are located on the west side of the Town Hall parking lot.

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



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Ed Beauvais,
Highway Commissioner**

Greetings from the Highway Department!

Along with attending many community events and meeting with residents and local leaders, we have been very busy cleaning up storm damage from the high winds, ice and rain that have blanketed our area this winter. As we move into springtime, we are excited to enter the season of road and infrastructure construction projects. We ask that pedestrians/drivers continue to exercise caution around work areas for everyone's safety and so crews can get work completed in a timely manner.

One area of improvement that we all can benefit from and is on the top of our priority list is bettering our water drainage systems. In addition to road infrastructure improvements this year, there will be many drainage projects beginning to ramp up this spring and summer. These will include but are not limited to the areas in and around Lincoln, Lyons, and Knight Streets just West of Greenwood. MWRD is also anticipated to begin construction activity on a joint Maine Township governmental project along Farmers Creek. This will hopefully provide some relief to many residents currently dealing with problems along this waterway. Additionally, sewer cleaning and televising operations will resume.

We will also be hosting a community event on Saturday April 22nd to celebrate Earth and Arbor Days. On a first come first serve basis, a limited number of small trees will be given out to Maine Township residents by Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais and the Maine Township Board. This event was made possible because of the generosity of our local business Pesches in Des Plaines.

Please email **highway@mainetown.com** for further details about the event and to determine if slots are still available.

Springtime is also synonymous with home improvement projects. Residents residing in unincorporated Maine Township are under the jurisdiction of two local governments, Maine Township Highway Department and Cook County Building & Zoning Department (CCBZ). Please be advised that when submitting your request for Waiver Letter or Permit you will be required to provide your six-digit Cook



Highway crew trimming right-of-way trees after storm.



Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais and crew member Rich Brandes running the sweeper.

County Pre-Permit Number __ - __ - __ in order for us to issue your Waiver Letter or Permit. Go to: <https://www.cookcountyl.gov/service/e-permits> to complete your CCBZ Permit Application and you will be emailed your Pre-Permit Number.

If you are unsure if your project will require a Waiver Letter or Permit, please go to Maine Township Website and under Highway Department click on Project Review Form, print, complete and scan back to **highway@mainetown.com** and we will be happy to review your project and send you appropriate application form and instructions.

Our very popular Annual Tree Branch Pickup Program (unincorporated area only) will resume in April thru September the third Monday of the month. Branches may be placed at curb the Saturday or Sunday before Pickup Day by 7am. If you are new to the area, please go to Maine Township Website and read details of what we can and cannot pick up. Dates for 2023 season are as follows: April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August 21st and final pickup September 18th. Reminder our equipment is for branch trimming only and any trees cut down by landscaper or contractor are their responsibility for removal.

We are seeking input from the community on: "What household item do you find most difficult to recycle?" It is one of my priorities to assist whenever possible in the cause of recycling, and I would very much appreciate all suggestions from Maine Township Residents.

Looking forward to seeing you all out in the community this year.

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 Monday – Thursday, messages left on Friday will be returned on Monday. For quickest response email us at **highway@mainetown.com** or if you prefer you may call and request an appointment. To report an emergency, please 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

We Are Thinking About Spring in the Assessor's Office

After a long winter, the thought of spring is joyful! As we roll into spring, it is a great time to think about your property tax exemptions. For the 2022 property tax exemption year, here is what you need to know:

THE HOMEOWNER EXEMPTION WILL AUTO-RENEW.

If you have had this exemption previously, it will appear automatically on your second installment property tax bill.

THE SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION WILL AUTO-RENEW.

If you had this exemption previously, it will appear automatically on your second installment property tax bill. If you are newly applying because you purchased a home or recently turned 65 years of age (born in 1957) you will need to contact our office for an application.

THE SENIOR FREEZE EXEMPTION WILL NOT AUTO-

RENEW. If you have had the exemption previously, the Cook County Assessor will mail you a renewal application in mid-April. If it is the first time you are eligible, applicants can apply in mid-April on the Cook County Assessor's website or come into our office.

THE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WILL AUTO-

RENEW. Taxpayers that received this exemption for 2021 will be automatically renewed going forward.

THE VETERANS WITH DISABILITY WILL NOT AUTO-RENEW. All veterans that have received this exemption in prior years will be mailed an application in late spring and must include a Disability Certification Letter in 2022 or later from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.



Maine Township Welcomes Our New Board of Review Commissioner, Samantha Steele

On February 23, 2023, I co-sponsored a Property Tax Appeal Workshop with Samantha Steele and her staff for all residents to attend.

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

Opioid deaths in Cook County will exceed over 2,000 for the year 2022. The youngest victim was 12 years old. Those numbers do not include deaths related to the biggest killer of all, alcohol. The Maine Township Recovery Connection's core mission is to help those suffering from the disease of addiction to find treatment and post treatment recovery support. Many experts agree, the cure for addiction is community.

Luckily, we live in a community where we have support; very often navigating what to do and where to go, particularly in a time of crisis can be difficult. Our staff at Recovery Connection are experts available to help you and your family find the best option for your loved one.

We have relationships with local health and treatment agencies such as Rosecrance, Chicago Behavioral Hospital, and Lutheran General Hospital. Families Anonymous is based in downtown Des Plaines and aids

parents, spouses, and siblings to help themselves while helping their loved ones.

We also continue to build partnerships with local peer led recovery organizations like the First Step House, Miracle House, and Normandy House who all offer sober living environments for men, women, and young adults.

These organizations allow participants the foundation to begin their recovery while connecting them post treatment into our recovery community that is made up of thousands of local people who are your neighbors, business owners, clergy, every walk of life.

For questions about Recovery Connection, contact Marty Cook at **847-297-2510 ext. 233** or email: mcook@mainetown.com



Senior Programs

Understanding Medicare

Wednesday, April 12th, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Presented by the State of Illinois Department on Aging, Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

Come hear the latest information about Medicare benefits.

SHIP can answer questions about:

- Medicare (eligibility, coverage options, etc.)
- Medicare - Medicaid Dual Eligibility
- Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap/MedSup)
- Medicare Advantage Plans (HMO, PPO, PFFS)
- Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage

To register please call Alicia (847) 297-2510 ext. 251

No Charge



Community Care Program

Friday, May 5th, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Presented by Amy A. Nathan, MS, LCPC, NCC, CCP Program Supervisor, North Shore Senior Center

What is the Community Care Program (CCP)? This program offers services and support to qualifying older Illinoisans to help work with them to remain in their homes, if that is their choice. Attend this presentation for more information. *What is the community Care Program? Will I have to pay for CCP services? Who can qualify for CCP? Who determines my eligibility? What happens if I qualify for CCP?*

To register please call Alicia (847) 297-2510 ext. 251

No Charge



AARP Defensive Driving Course

Monday, May 15th & Wednesday, May 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Complete AARP's Defensive driving course and you may earn a multiyear discount on your auto insurance! During the two-day class you will learn about skills and strategies you can use on the road every day. Discover defensive driving techniques to help you deal with aggressive drivers, as well as explore local laws and traffic rules for drivers.

To register please call (847) 297-2510 ext. 244
No Charge



AARP
Driver Safety

AARP's Smart DriverTEK™

In-Person Workshop - Wednesday, May 31st 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Join AARP's 90-minute workshop and discover how new vehicle technology can make driving safer and easier. Learn all about the latest high-tech safety features in your current car, or what technology to look for when shopping for a new car. The safety benefits of blind spot warning systems, forward collision warnings and more.

To register please call (847) 297-2510 ext. 244
No Charge



We Have A New Website!

A recent initiative of Maine Township has been to modernize the way we communicate to residents like you. You may have noticed our new logo, Facebook page, and e-newsletter. We're excited to launch the next chapter of our modernization efforts with our redesigned website. This is our first significant website redesign in 5 years.

New features include:

- Responsive design that looks great on any device
- Entire site can be translated into 80 different languages with a single click
- Full calendar of township events
- Interactive online forms for program registration and resident requests
- Advanced accessibility features
- One click access to every township service from homepage
- "How Do I?" section for an easy answer to resident questions
- Searchable document center
- Social media integration
- Homepage alert feature
- Minutes and agendas archive section
- Ability for users to directly call phone numbers when viewing on mobile devices





MAINE NEWS



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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 & Events

Annual Town Meeting on April 11

Board Meetings on April 25, May 23, and June 27 at 7 PM.
Check www.maintown.com for information about Board Meetings held via video conferencing.

Offices closed on May 29 for Memorial Day, and June 19 for Juneteenth 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



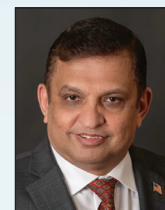
Kimberly Jones
Trustee



Kelly Horvath
Trustee



James Maher
Trustee



Asif Malik
Trustee