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Karen's Column

I have often thought that our employees are devoted to their jobs, and several

staff members demonstrated that fact on Halloween. Our MaineStreamers staff, who spend much of their time looking at maps so as to plan trips for our senior residents, came dressed as Google Maps. Jessica Guzman, who assists residents to apply for passports, came costumed as a passport. Nadar Ghazaleh, who is our code enforcement officer, came attired as another law enforcement officer-Sheriff Woody from Toy Story. And Maintenance Director Mike Samaan, who is our superhero in terms of repairing and maintaining the building, came dressed as Buzz Lightyear, also from *Toy Story* (see photos on page 4).

But you, our residents, churches, schools, and businesses, have been our real superheros the past few months, as you have generously provided food and cash to our food pantry, enabling us to fight hunger in our community. For example, the Niles-Park Ridge Crop Walk, organized by local churches, attracted 148 walkers who raised about \$33,000 with about \$7000 of the proceeds going to our food pantry. Children from Carpenter and Washington schools of Park Ridge also collected food, and Girl Scouts from Roosevelt School donated food and their time volunteering at our pantry. Local Jewel and Costco stores donated enough turkeys so that each of our food pantry clients could receive one.

Niles-Park Ridge Crop Walk



The Niles-Park Ridge Crop Walk, organized by local churches, attracted 148 walkers who raised about \$33,000 with about \$7000 of the proceeds going to our food pantry.

Food Pantry Director Nick Kanehl (r) pictured with Lee Joesten (I) at St. Andrews Church getting ready for this year's CROP walk. All proceeds help fight hunger worldwide.



Girl Scouts Help the Food Pantry



Girl Scouts from Roosevelt School donated food and their time volunteering at our food pantry. It's great to see future generations learn the importance of giving back!

Wheel of Fortune Winner!



MaineStreamers members enjoyed a fun filled morning playing Wheel of Fortune with a surprise, celebrity guest, Maine Township's very own Trustee, Kelly Horvath. Trustee Horvath shared her personal experience of what it took to become a contestant and a winner of the Wheel of Fortune game.

Karen's Column

continued from page 1

Donating to our pantry is easy, as food or checks may be dropped off at our office from 9 to 5 Monday through Friday. We also collect used eyeglasses for the Lions, along with cell phones and small electronic devices to be recycled. In addition, we recently added a secure box in which you can deposit unused prescription medicine, so you no longer need to wait for the next prescription collection day.

Looking for yet another way to donate? Join our blood drive on Jan 19, 2023. Call (847) 297-2510 ext. 251 for an appointment.

Another fund-raising event, the Community Garage Sale, was held this past summer after a three-year hiatus (see photos below). The sale broke prior fund-raising efforts with the proceeds going towards the Adventure Maine Township Summer Camp. Once again, the event allowed our residents to socialize with their neighbors and to buy and sell the unique items displayed at the sale.

As 2022 comes to an end, we at Maine Township wish you happy and healthy holidays and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.



Maine Township was one of two townships in Illinois chosen by the Township Officials of Illinois to showcase the importance of township government to the residents and communities they serve. We'd like to thank Senators Laura Murphy, Steve Stadelman, and Diane Pappas for stopping by to learn more about what the Township offers residents.



State Representative Michael Kelly, with Supervisor Karen Dimond, stopped by to take a tour of Town Hall and to visit our newly renovated Food Pantry.



Senator Ram Villivalem, visited Town Hall to hear about the services we offer our residents, meet the staff, and learn about the needs of the community and how can offer support.

Another Successful Community Garage Sale!



Pictured here is our annual garage sale event organized by MaineStay Youth & Family Services Department. All proceeds from the event benefit the Adventure Maine Township Summer Camp.



MaineStreamers, Enhancing Lives After 55+

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



Kenosha Civil War Museum

Civil War Museum like no other, with full sized interactive figures.



MJ The Musical, Nederlander Theater

MJ The Musical arrives on Broadway, offering a rare look at the creative mind that catapulted Jackson into legendary status.

Members Enjoying Summer Day Trips and Events



Mississippi Summer Adventure, Twilight River Cruise



Fall Foliage Train Ride, East Troy, WI



Trustee Jones & Assessor Moylan Krey



Informative: "Chicago: True Stories of the 1920's", Martina Mathisen

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 Winter Programs



Participants in our cooking class, taught by an experienced chef, teaches different cooking techniques, knife safety, and culinary concepts, designed to encourage healthier lifestyle choices.



One of the Littles in our Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program was excited to attend his first Bears game with his Big.

Kids Winter Fest – January 6 | 1-4 pm | ages 6-12 | free This event will feature fun and unique activities where kids can do something new and exciting while making new friends.

Art in the Town – January 23 | 4-4:50 pm (ages 6-8) | 5-6 pm (ages 9-12) | 10 weeks | free

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

Workshop Improv Theatre – January 25 | 4:30-5:30 pm | 8 weeks | ages 8-13 | free

This program focuses on confidence building and expressiveness, as participants step outside their comfort zone and learn skills such as listening, public speaking, problem solving, and teamwork. Adult Anger Management Group – January 26 | 6-7 pm | 8 weeks | ages 19+ | \$40

This group helps adults better understand and gain control over anger and make positive behavior changes to manage it effectively.

Anxiety Coping Skills Group – February 1 | 5-6 pm | 8 weeks | ages 8-13 | \$40

This group helps participants learn effective ways to deal with stress and anxiety and emphasizes putting these skills into practice in real life situations.

Cooking Class – February 2 | 4:30-6 pm | 4 weeks | ages 8-17 | \$40 This class, taught by an experienced chef, teaches different cooking techniques, knife safety, and culinary concepts, designed to encourage healthier lifestyle choices.

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, Asif Malik

Season's Greetings! I want to wish all the residents of Maine Township a very Merry Christmas, Happy

Hanukkah and a Happy Kwanzaa. May the New Year bring you happiness, peace, and prosperity. Wishing all of you a joyous 2023!



CLERK'S CORNER Clerk, Peter Gialamas

Hello Constituents,

I'm wishing everyone a joyous and healthy holiday season and a very Happy New Year. We have had a personnel change in the Clerk's office recently. Banu Siva, who was with us for over year, submitted her resignation and will be greatly missed.

If you are planning on doing any international travel in the spring, make sure your passport is up to date. If you need it renewed, please give us a call and set up an appointment to meet with one of our friendly clerks.

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

Shred Day



Maine Township hosted a Shred Day, October 22nd at Maine Township Hall. The event brought in around 350 cars and was free and open to all Maine Township residents. We will be planning another event in the near future as this was so successful.



Maine Township Halloween





Maintenance Director Mike Samaan (I) as Buzz Lightyear and Nadar Ghazaleh, our Code Enforcement Officer, as Woody from *Toy Story*.

Deputy Clerk Jessica Guzman dressed as a passport





HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Ed Beauvais, Highway Commissioner

As winter is underway, we should all continue to prepare for extreme weather conditions and temperatures. At the

Highway Department, we have ordered our snow supplies; our trucks are serviced, and plows are attached and ready to go. In addition to the Highway Department gearing up for the season, there are precautions residents should also consider taking:

- If you notice any abandoned, dismantled or non-operational vehicles parked in the street; please notify the Highway Department at **mthighway@aol.com** or Code Enforcement Officer so that we may remove vehicles and allow our drivers to clear the road more efficiently.
- If you contract someone to plow your driveway and walkway to your residence; remember, it is against Maine Township Ordinance to place snow from your property onto the public roadway. You must place any snow that you move onto your property.
- If you have elderly friends or relatives, now is the time to plan and get them the help they need if necessary. Ice is most treacherous to our senior citizens so making sure salt is placed on walking surfaces prior to and after snow events should be paramount.
- If you park in the street, you may want to purchase a shovel and keep it in your car to clean your parking area and avoid snow and ice from freezing over your vehicle.
- If you park in a restricted parking area (unincorporated Maine Township) your car will be TOWED and you will need to contact Gene's Village Towing 847-537-9693 to retrieve your vehicle.

We urge residents to please check posted signs to make sure you are not parked illegally after snowfall.

• Keep some extra groceries in reserve, as well as basic supplies on hand just in case the weather turns nasty. You are urged to not venture out in a snow/ice event unless you absolutely must.



Residents be on the lookout for highway department posted signs, failure to observe signs may result in your vehicle being towed.



Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais oversees highway crew in installation of new Ballard Rd sign at Dee and Ballard.



READY FOR WINTER -Highway Commissioner Ed Beauvais looking over delivery of highway department salt supply.

• Please **do not attempt** to flag down Maine Township Highway Department Drivers. Icy/snowy conditions are hazardous and quick stops are difficult. Instead call our office at 847-297-5225, report a concern on our department web page or send an email to us.

The good news is that eventually spring will surface and our annual Tree Branch Pick Up Program (unincorporated Maine Township only) will resume. Residents have requested dates for this program in advance, so they are as follows; from **April through September**, 7 am on **third Monday of the month** (branches may be placed by the curb cut edges facing the street on the Saturday or Sunday before the pickup date). **Dates for the 2023 branch pickup are as follows:**

April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August 21st, and final pick-up date September 18th

As we all know, Mother Nature does not always behave herself and after our Tree Branch Pick Up Program has ended, storms can still cause havoc in our area. The highway department is responsible for the trees in our right-of-way and for maintaining the streets. If a tree or branch falls and obstructs the street or your driveway, please immediately report to Maine Township Highway Department 847-297-5225. If this occurs after our normal working hours, please contact the Cook County Sheriff Department non-emergency number 847-635-1188 and they will contact Highway Department Personnel.

Homeowners are responsible for trees on their property and if branches or trees cause damage you may want to have your Homeowner's Insurance Company phone number handy for assistance on the removal of any trees or branches caused by storm damage.

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 mthighway@aol.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

More Information on Appealing your Taxes

October was a very busy month for my office. The 2022 Triennial Reassessment was open for appeals from September 7, 2022, through October 7, 2022, for the Cook County Assessor. During that time, my staff and I assisted 3,910 residents with their questions and concerns. If you did not file an appeal, you will have a second opportunity to appeal to the Cook County Board of Review. When the date is announced by the Cook County Board of Review, I will post it on the Maine Township Assessor's website. Once the township is officially opened, my staff and I will be happy to assist you in filing an appeal. Filing appeals are free through my office.

Property Tax Exemptions Always Reflected on Second Installment of the Property Tax Bill

The 2021 Second Installment Property Tax Bills are very late this year. It is important to review the bill to ensure you have received all the exemptions you may be entitled to receive. If your exemptions did not appear on the bill, call the Maine Township Assessor's Office at 224-257-4830.

A very warm wishes to you and your family during the holiday season. May your New Year be filled with love, health and happiness.

Sincerely,

Susan Moylan Krey and Staff

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 Month

Throughout the holidays, college students will be coming home and may start to exhibit signs of alcoholism or addiction. Maybe their weight has changed dramatically. If they haven't mentioned anything about what they're studying or details about their professors, it could be a sign they don't care about the education aspect of college. If they talk as though they're a teenager again where the school is fine but they're not interested in much, this could be a sign.

Taking time to figure out what's been happening with your adult child can be the lifeline they need. While at home, they may still be looking to maintain their addiction. Signs can include:

- Being secretive about where they're going.
- Sleeping for long periods of time.
- They are irritated, aggressive, depressed, or anxious.
- If you address the issue, they become defensive.
- They have poor grades.
- They are withdrawn.
- They may steal valuables from the home.

As our country continues to be in the grips of a drug epidemic, the award winning Maine Township

Recovery Connection continues build a sober community that supports young adults in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. Besides our weekly Recovery Connection meeting every Friday at 7:30 PM at Oasis Water Park in Niles.



we host fun social events that connect those who are trying to stay sober, with those who have successfully overcome addiction and are now productive members of our community.

This winter we will continue our annual outing to the Chicago Wolves game in Rosemont, as well as the We Are Not Saints, national convention where recovering people from all over the country come to Skokie to share their inspirational stories of overcoming addiction.

If you or a family member have concerns about drug and alcohol use, call Marty at the Recovery Connection for a confidential conversation **847-297-2510 ext. 233**

COVID Boosters





The North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic

will offer free one on one sessions with an attorney via zoom at Maine Township.

The appointments are on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 10am to noon.

The attorney specializes in areas of Domestic Violence, Immigration and Housing.

- NSLAC offers free legal services to low-income residents of suburban Cook County and Lake County, in the areas of Domestic Violence, Immigration and Housing.
- When a client contacts Maine Township to sign up for a clinic time slot, Maine Township will provide them with NSLAC's flyers, list of services and general intake form.

For more information, please contact Alicia at 847-297-2510 ext. 251.



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Town Hall Hours Mon - Fri : 9 AM - 5 PM

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Board Meetings on Dec. 27, Jan. 24, Feb. 28, and Mar. 28 at 7 PM. Check www.mainetown.com for information about Board Meetings held via video conferencing.

Offices closed on Dec. 26 for Christmas, Jan. 2 for New Years, Jan. 16 for Martin Luther King Day, and Feb. 20 for President's Day.

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

*****ECRWSSEDDM*****

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 Assistanceext. 236
MaineStreamersext. 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.mainetown.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



Trustee

Asif Malik Trustee

