

Mainely NEWS



CAROL A. TESCHKY, SUPERVISOR

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1850

FALL 2011



Carol's Corner

Supervisor
Carol A. Teschky

UNITED WE STAND

Can it be 10 years ago already? Like most Americans you can recall where you were and what you were doing on the morning of 9/11/01. I happened to have my television on to view the morning news shows. And there it was: one huge commercial airliner crashing into one of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. Could the pilot have made a mistake? What was he thinking? This was just terrible! But then the second airliner smashed into the other tower. This was no mistake. America was under attack.

Yes, we were under attack and we lost the greatest number of American lives on our soil. The devastating attack was perpetrated by 19 suicide-bent terrorists who turned commercial airliners into flying bombs for onslaughts on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and our Capitol and/or White House. The last plane was unsuccessful in its mission. Brave American patriots fought to overtake the hijackers diverting the plane before it ultimately crashed in an empty field in rural Pennsylvania.

They say America changed after 9/11, and that is probably true. We became united in our patriotism and desire to bring justice to the mastermind(s) of this dastardly attack. We would hunt them down, wherever they were hiding. We were united in our anger that someone would attack us on our own soil! How dare they! This enemy was quite different from others that the United States ever fought. They wore no uniforms. They

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COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE OCT. 1 TO BENEFIT DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND FOOD PANTRY

The Annual Maine Township Community Garage Sale will be held rain or shine Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge. Residents are encouraged to attend the event which is open to the public.

Organized by the MaineStay Department of Maine Township and sponsored by Chicagoland Senior News, Journal & Topics Newspapers, Liberty Bank for Savings, Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Parkway Bank and Park Ridge Taxi/Community Cab, proceeds benefit the MaineStay Adventure Camp for disadvantaged youth and the Township's Emergency Food Pantry. Residents may participate in the Garage Sale in a number of different ways. They can simply attend the event and shop for



Maine Township's annual garage sale is a popular event with residents and vendors alike. The event brings sellers and buyers together in a bargain filled day to benefit two worthy causes.

good finds or they can donate cash or merchandise.

Donated merchandise will be sold by Township staff to help raise funds.

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As one of the oldest celebrations of its kind in the area, the Maine Township National Night Out Against Crime themed "U Knight Against Crime" on Aug. 2 was again a huge success despite stormy weather and the heat. Here, Township officials help local children show off their entries in the NNO poster contest. Winners were awarded savings bonds from Liberty Bank and Parkway Bank among other prizes. Shown here, l to r in the back row, are Trustee Walter Kazmierczak, Supervisor Carol Teschky, Event Organizer and Trustee Susan Moylan Krey, Trustee Laura Morask, Highway Commissioner Bob Provenzano, and Trustee Peter Gialamas.



Carol's Corner

Continued from page 1

did not come from any one nation. They were part of a far-flung and sophisticated terrorist organization called Al Qaeda. After these nearly 10 years of searching for its leader the Navy Seals completed this mission last May. We were united again in a job well done by both our intelligence agencies and our military.

One other thing occurred after 9/11. You saw more American flags flying at homes and businesses throughout the country. We no longer needed a national holiday to display our flags and our patriotism. Every day is just fine. Also, flag lapel pins began appearing on suits and dresses. We are united in our love for this country and our love for freedom and our American way of life. The test of any great nation can be measured by how many people want to enter and how many want to leave. You know the answer to that one. So, never take our freedom and way of life for granted. The price of freedom always has been constant vigilance. And, if you meet a veteran or someone who is on active duty in the military, thank them for their part in preserving our American way of life. Keep those flags flying!



A 9-11 artifact from the World Trade Center has arrived in Maine Township. The artifact is a portion of a melted, twisted steel beam that came from one of the tower buildings. It was unwrapped at ceremonies held at the North Maine Fire Station on June 6. The beam will be part of a permanent memorial displayed at Ridgewood Cemetery, Des Plaines. Here, L to R, are Dagmar Rutzen of the Maine Township Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Robert Cohen, Director of OEM, Township Trustee Susan Moylan Krey, and Township Supervisor Carol A. Teschky.

TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Trustee Laura Morask



It's hard to believe it's been a year since Trustee Corner was inaugurated! And what a year—our township has been besieged by flood, heat, and incredible record setting weather highs and lows. With the unprecedented heat, has come an unfortunate increase in gang activity.

We can be proud that Cook County Sheriff and local police departments have made great strides in keeping this situation under control. While gang crimes statistics have shown a downward trend across our township, a tragic July gang shooting death within our township boundaries highlights the community need to be relentless in efforts to eradicate gangs within our township confines.

Our township continues to diversify our programs aimed at keeping our residents safe. Our Aug. 2, National Night Out Against Crime led by Trustee Susan Moylan Krey was a great event; although cut short by yet again another storm. But the event showed that the township and our residents really care about their neighborhoods, keeping them safe and getting children involved in those efforts. Participation from local youth in the annual poster contest was amongst the best ever and the winning posters were hung throughout County courthouses.

Other township efforts include the development by our youth services department; MaineStay, of two new popular programs targeted at vulnerable teens

Some of the best ways to fight gangs is to target at the recruitment level; to keep kids from joining in the first place, to help parents learn gang fighting strategies, to demonstrate viable after school alternatives for teens, and to offer up some real world solutions to help teens get out of a gang safely. To that end I will host our sixth annual Gang Crimes Seminar Wednesday, Oct. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. where parents, residents, law enforcement and teens can learn strategies to continue to take back our neighborhoods. I am excited that this year's seminar will include representatives from our local police departments, and the Cook County Sheriff, as well as a Supervisor in the Narcotics/Gang crimes unit of the State's Attorney's office who will share a program you can get your kids into through our local high schools.

A gang crimes detective from the Chicago Police Department will discuss recent trends in gang recruitment, colors and the most vulnerable pockets of gang activity along with some strategies and phone numbers to help you and your families stay safe. A video presentation of actual gang crimes pictures, graffiti, colors, newly formed gangs and new developments in the law that have helped us to get more guns and gangs off our streets will also be part of the seminar.

This event is offered at no charge and offers a free take home book packed with helpful information. For any questions or to reserve space, please call 847-297-2510 or visit our website at www.mainetownship.com.



COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE OCT. 1 TO BENEFIT DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND HUNGRY FAMILIES

Continued from page 1

Donations of small working electronics, children's games, children's furniture and accessories, garden tools and small hand tools are especially needed. Donations of clothes, large and/or heavy furniture, firearms, explosives or any type of weapons will not be accepted. Drop-offs will be accepted from Sept. 26 through 29 but not beforehand.

"These are fun events to raise money for two worthy causes—disadvantaged children and hungry families," says Township Supervisor Carol A. Teschky. "We encourage our Township residents to participate, to give financial support, or just come by to shop."

For more information, please call Marie Worobec at 847-297-2510, ext. 270. Information is also posted on the Township website www.maintownship.com/newsletter.

MAINE TOWNSHIP MAINSTREAMERS OFFER FUN AND EDUCATION

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. All residents and property owners are invited to apply for membership. Membership includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details all activities for the upcoming month. Most activities take place at Maine Town Hall located at 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge. Members pay only for those activities in which they participate in. For more information contact the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 or visit us at www.maintownship.com/newsletter.

AARP TAX AIDES NEEDED

Maine Township's MaineStreamers program is seeking individuals to help complete simple tax forms for older residents. All it takes is some training on the computer and a commitment of at least three to four hours once a week from February to early April. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Mary Swanson at 847-297-2510, Ext. 240.

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

By Tom Rueckert



Assessor Tom Rueckert has advised residents that the 2010 second installment real estate tax bill is expected to be mailed during September. Residents should review their tax bill to confirm that they received all proper exemptions. If a mortgage company pays the taxes, owners should make sure that they get a copy of the bill from the Cook County Treasurer and review all exemptions.

Those residents who turned 65 in 2010 are entitled to the Senior Exemption. Residents who are 65 years of age or older in 2010 with a household income of less than \$55,000 are entitled to the Senior Freeze Exemption.

If you did not apply for or receive these exemption(s) and believe you are entitled to one or both, please contact our office at 847-297-2510 so that we may help you secure them.

For more photos and articles please visit:
www.maintownship.com/newsletter



Supervisor Teschky and Commissioner Provenzano led a group of MaineStreamers and others for a performance of Senior Soul Train on WGN Ch. 9's Morning News earlier this year. It has become an annual tradition to celebrate the vitality of seniors.



MARSHA WARNICK CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Some things have changed in 30 years and some things remain the same. What is the same is the human need for assistance. There are always people in need of food, financial assistance, and, most often help working through the mountain of red tape to get help from state and federal programs and agencies providing public aid and medical assistance. Marsha Warnick has been working with people in need for 30 years as part of Maine Township's General Assistance Department.



GA Director Marsha Warnick

Beginning in August of 1981 as a case worker, Marsha is now the Director and working with a small team to meet the needs of General Assistance. She reports directly to the Township Supervisor.

"I have always loved helping people and enjoyed my duties at the township," she said. "The township staff is like my second family." Marsha has two children and two grandchildren in her "other" family.

"When I started I really didn't know what township government was about. It is truly the government closest to the people. I see this every day," she concluded.

Overall, the township's General Assistance Department helps 400 to 600 people a month. "We are proud that all our staff is fully certified in all areas so that we can continue to provide quality assistance," she said.

The Morton Grove resident is an avid reader and member of two book clubs. She also likes to knit and often makes items such as quilts and toys to donate to a needy person or good cause. In her "spare time" she listens to classic music and opera. She has also held leadership positions in the state and county social worker organizations.

MAINE TOWNSHIP OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTRODUCES NEW EMERGENCY BROADCAST SYSTEM

Robert Cohen, Director of the Township's Office of Emergency Management, recently unveiled a new low-power AM radio station to the Township's Board of Trustees. Similar to systems in use today on highways, this system can be used to provide residents and others in the area with vital information related to disaster recovery programs. The system may also be used to advise residents and visitors to our area about special Township activities including our upcoming Community Garage Sale on October 1.

According to Director Cohen, this system is not designed to be used for alerts. However, if an important notice is available for a pending event, such as the flooding along the Des Plaines River, the radio station could be used to warn residents. The primary purpose of the system is to keep residents informed about Township activities in the aftermath of a local disaster or weather event. Currently, the only way we have to accomplish this is to either have volunteers go door-to-door with information or to slowly drive through the neighborhoods with loud speakers.

Residents will be able to tune their radio to 1350 AM, and listen to our broadcast which can be heard in multiple languages. Residents should make it a practice to tune their radios to 1350 AM when severe weather hits. Information about the new program will be displayed on signs around the township as well as on the Township's marquee on Ballard Road.

For more about OEM services and other township departments, visit www.maintownship.com/newsletter

Do you need help paying your winter *Nicor* and *Com Ed* bills?

Is your **gross** monthly income less than:

Household Size Gross Income

1	\$1361
2	\$1839
3	\$2316
4	\$2794

Then you need to apply for **LIHEAP**.

LIHEAP gives a **one-time** grant to *Nicor* and *Com Ed*, to help you pay your bills this **winter**.

If you are 60 or older, or receiving Social Security Disability, call after **September 1st** for an appointment.

All others may call after **November 1st**.

Maine Township General Assistance
847-297-2510 x 236





HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Robert Provenzano, Highway Commissioner

If you believe that when it comes to government, less is more then you will appreciate the value that township government brings to the citizens of Maine Township. A report on the value of Townships prepared by researcher Wendell

Cox for Townships of Illinois Executive Director Bryan Smith outlined the following information:

- Smaller governments in Illinois tend to spend and borrow less
- Township expenditures have grown at a lower rate than those of any other level of government in Illinois since 1992
- Townships have the lowest labor costs, and employ a larger share of part-time employees
- Township road districts maintain most of the road miles in the state
- Townships rely on debt financing to a more limited degree than municipalities
- Local elected officials in smaller governments are able to take a more direct role in administering government finances and services
- In smaller governments, interest groups have less influence, because individual citizens have more influence.

Parking and Abandoned Cars

Please help us monitor abandoned cars. Let us know when an apparent violation is spotted so we can investigate and possibly remove abandoned cars.

We are also asking everyone to please obey the No Parking signs around the township. The Cook County Sheriff's Department just like many municipal law enforcement agencies

are strictly enforcing parking regulations. So, to avoid getting a ticket please park legally. We all benefit from compliance.

Report Suspicious Activity

Throughout Maine Township, there has been an unfortunate increase in gang activity and vandalism. It is important for you to report any suspicious activity to 911 immediately. When everyone works together with the local police departments, we can help stop this kind of activity from escalating. We also encourage your participation in our Gang Seminar at Maine Town Hall on Oct. 19. See Trustee's Corner in this edition for details or call 847-297-2510.



Commissioner Provenzano greeted local scout groups and many residents during the Taste of Park Ridge Family Day in Hodges Park.

Building Permits

Residents in the unincorporated areas of Maine Township are required to get a Highway Department Permit or Waiver Letter for any type of construction that may "affect the public right of way." This includes such projects as new construction, substantial remodeling or additions, driveways, fences and sheds. The permit process protects the homeowner, who would ultimately be liable for any damage to Township property by contractors who work without the proper permit. If you are unsure about your need for a permit or waiver letter for a project that you are considering, please call Sharon at the Highway Department at 847-297-5225 who can help you determine your responsibility. Permit fees are as follows: Waiver Letter to Cook County \$25, Simple Permit \$50, Permit with Plans \$100 plus cost of Engineering Review.

Street Lights Out?

Please report any street light outages or damaged signs in unincorporated Maine Township to the Highway Department at 847-297-5225.



Families as well as many seniors stopped by the Highway Department booth at the Maine Township Senior Expo earlier this year. It is a great opportunity to answer questions and provide the public with valuable information.

Should you have any questions, or for more information on the services we provide, please contact us by phone or email.

Regular Hours: Monday through Friday – 7 am to 3:30 pm

Phone: 847-297-5225

Email: mainetownshipwy@sbcglobal.net



CLERK'S CORNER

Gary K. Warner, Clerk



As with any endeavor, there is an ebb and flow to business in the Clerk's office which helps people in Maine Township with such tasks including—but not limited to—

- Voter Registration and Election Information
- Temporary Handicapped Parking Placard
- Hunting & Fishing Licenses
- Free Notary Public Service
- Arc Disposal Refuse and Yard Stickers
- Maine Township Maps
- New Resident Packets
- Cook County Vehicle Stickers
- Senior Circuit Ride Free and Reduced Fare Program

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of unincorporated Maine Township for their patience during the Clerk's office busiest time of the year, the sale of the yearly vehicle stickers.

Cook County vehicle stickers for 2011-2012 became available the third week in May with a deadline for display of July 1. They are required for all vehicles owned by persons residing in the unincorporated area. To make sure that residents would not incur late penalties, my office extended hours to include Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. We also made sure to have additional help in selling the stickers. Although a number of people were not pleased with the additional convenience fee of \$2 to cover processing for vehicle stickers—which is waived for seniors, those who are physically handicapped and disabled veterans—it was necessary to cover expenses.

Applications are available for seniors 65 and older to apply for a Senior Circuit Ride Free and Seniors Reduced Fare Program. Only seniors enrolled in the Illinois Department on Aging Circuit Breaker Program will qualify for free rides. Seniors who do not qualify with the Circuit Breaker program will receive a Reduced Fare permit. New applicants must prove their age by supplying a Driver's License, State of Illinois ID Card, Passport or Resident Alien card. The only fee is \$2 for a photo, which will be attached to the application.


In closing, we enjoyed talking with old friends and seeing many new faces at the annual Taste of Park Ridge which was a huge success. Thank you to the many folks who stopped by the Maine Township Clerk's table. We look forward to helping you whenever you find yourself in need of services from the Township. Our number one priority in the Clerk's office is to provide exceptional customer service no matter what your need. The Clerk's office maintains a wide range of information pamphlets on the various services that we offer. For complete information of all the Clerk's services visit www.maintownship.com or call 847-297-2510.



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**The Summit
of Uptown,**
a vibrant, active
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program calendar
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FALL HAPPENINGS AT MAINESTAY YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Family Counseling

Our professional counselors can help with family counseling, parent coaching and help in dealing with depression, anxiety, and stress. We can provide counseling in both English and Spanish on a generous sliding fee scale.

Beautiful Me Girls Group

Tuesdays beginning Sept. 6 from 6 to 7 p.m.

This eight-week interactive program is designed to give adolescent girls tools they need to enhance self-esteem and redefine body image. This group will discuss the influence of the media and will focus on the strengths that make each of us beautiful.

Tough Guise Boys Group

Tuesdays beginning Sept 6 from 6 to 7p.m.

Adolescence can be a challenging time of adjustments. This eight-week interactive encounter will help boys consider what it means to be real men and develop positive identity and values that will serve them throughout life.

Couples Workshop

Thursdays beginning Sept. 8 from 7 to 8 p.m.

Secrets of Relationship Success is a six-week journey to discover what it takes to make a romantic relationship work. In this practical course using a blend of seminar, video, and discussions, you will learn how to strengthen and be more successful in your relationship.

Adolescent Anger Management

Mondays beginning Sept. 26 from 6 to 7p.m.

This eight-week group helps adolescents between the ages of 12 and 18 recognize what makes them angry and teaches them new skills to handle difficult situations with more success.

Parenting Skills

Tuesdays beginning Oct. 4 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Need help "fine tuning" your parenting skills? Join our "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent" class. This seven-week parenting class helps parents learn ways to parent with more energy and less stress. Help your children become responsible for their own actions.

Gang Awareness Presentation

Wed., Oct. 19 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Trustee Laura Morask, a career prosecutor with the Cook County State's Attorneys Office, will give us an in-depth look at gang identifiers and actions in Maine Township. (For more information, see her column Trustee Corner in this edition)

TOWNSHIP HOSTS CASH DASH EVENTS ON SEPT. 20 AND NOV. 2

Maine Township will host a Cash Dash Event at Town Hall on Tues. Sept. 20 from 5 to 8 p.m. and again on Wed., Nov. 2 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. At the Cash Dash event, a representative from the Illinois State Treasurer's Office conducts database searches in an effort to reunite Illinois residents with hidden wealth legally known as "unclaimed property."

This hidden wealth can be anything from a long-lost bank account to an entire estate that never made it to a rightful owner. If you plan to attend this event, the only document you need to provide is a picture I.D.

MaineStay hours are Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Evening appointments are available with advance request. For more information and registration, go to: www.maintownship.com/newsletter.



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608 W. Higgins, Park Ridge
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Town Hall Hours

Mon - Fri : 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Evening MaineStay appointments are available by advanced request.

Postal Patron

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS


Town Board Meeting – Fourth Tuesday of each month @ 7:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Watch – First Wednesday of each month @ 7:30 p.m.

Garage Sale Oct. 1 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Gang Seminar Oct. 19 – 7-9 p.m.

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

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HOW TO CONTACT OUR DEPARTMENTS

Main Phone 847-297-2510

Departments/Extension Numbers

Assessor’s Office, Ext. 227

Clerk’s Office, Ext. 222

Code Enforcement Officer, Ext. 259

General Assistance, Ext. 236

MaineStreamers, Ext. 240

Veteran’s Assistance, Ext. 236

MaineStay Youth & Family Services
847-297-2510

Office of Emergency Management
847-297-5911

Highway Department 847-297-5225

You may also e-mail any department by accessing the Township Web site: www.maintownship.com.

MAINE TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS



Carol A. Teschky
Supervisor



Walter Kazmierczak
Trustee



Laura J. Morask
Trustee



Susan Moylan Krey
Trustee



Peter Gialamas
Trustee



Gary K. Warner
Clerk



Tom Rueckert
Assessor



Mary E. Rohde
Collector



Robert Provenzano
Highway Commissioner

