



elk grove township

Fall 2015



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Michael H. Sweeney, Supervisor

A Note from the Supervisor



As an elected official and public servant I take pride in finding new ways to fulfill our mission and operate efficiently and effectively. I am extremely excited to announce two board decisions that will help facilitate services for Veterans in Elk Grove Township and bring greater efficiency to township operations.

Elk Grove Township has recently partnered with The Vet Center. Then Trustee George Busse started the discussion about the partnership and the Board approved the measure in July. The Vet Center is part of the U.S. Department of Veteran affairs and the Center's mission is to offer quality readjustment counseling to combat Veterans. The Vet Center program is community based and offers a broad range of counseling, outreach and referral services to combat Veterans and their families. While the exact days and times have not been solidified, a Vet Center staff member will be available at the Elk Grove Township Administrative Building to assist Veterans. We will provide more details in the very near future.

Secondly, the Township Board has recently conducted a search for a Township Administrator that resulted in the hiring of Paul Pioch. As the Administrator, Paul manages all daily township operations, advises the Board on township related matters and implements the policies enacted by the Board. Hiring of Mr. Pioch has allowed the Board members and all elected officials to be even more responsive to community needs. Paul's first day was June first and he has hit the ground running. During the past 6 years Paul worked as the Administrator at Palatine Township. Prior to joining the government sector he worked in the for-profit world for over 30 years, the last 14 of those years at a large Chicago based corporation. His background is operations and administration and he earned degrees in Accounting and Management. In addition to his professional career, Paul has served on the United Way Board and for 23 years has been an active member of Lions Clubs International and served as a District Governor in 2008-2009. I look forward to working with him as we both continue to serve the residents of Elk Grove Township.

Please take a few minutes to review the information in our newsletter and as always please feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve you,
Sincerely,

Michael H. Sweeney
Supervisor
Elk Grove Township



Pictured left to right Board Members Art Niewiardowski, Dale Niewiardowski, Andrea Koshaba, Connie Carosielli, Suellen Satern, George Busse, Michael Sweeney and Greg O'Brien.

Free Presentations at Elk Grove Township

Robert Mecca is a Certified Financial Planner and principal of his own Fee-Only Financial Planning firm in Hoffman Estates with over 30 years of investment teaching. Bob will be making 2 free presentations at the Township Hall on Thursday, October 15, 2015. The first class runs from 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm and is titled "KEY STRATEGIES TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL SECURITY". You can learn from an experienced professional who helps clients secure their financial future. You'll learn proper wealth accumulation and wealth preservation techniques. Bob will discuss how to identify risk, increase returns, reduce income taxes, set proper financial goals and how to diversify investments. Insurance and long term care insurance will be discussed so bring all of your questions.

The second class will be held from 8:00 pm to 9:15 pm the same evening (Thursday, October 15, 2015) and is titled "2015 REVIEW, 2016 FORECAST AND STRATEGIES TO IMPLEMENT NOW". Bob will review what happened in 2015 and why. Get first-hand predictions for 2016 with personal strategies you can implement to be ready. Stock, bond, real estate markets, tax reduction strategies, how to increase cash flow, and best ways to design your investment portfolio will be discussed. Bring plenty of questions to tap into Bob's knowledge.

A Report from Clerk O'Brien

This will be my final article for the Township newsletter, as I am stepping down from my office as Township Clerk. My wife Brenda and I recently made the decision to downsize our home, now that our family is raised and we no longer needed all those extra rooms. We are very excited about our new place, but unfortunately it is not located within the boundaries of Elk Grove Township. Now that I am no longer a resident of Elk Grove Township, I cannot serve as your elected official.



While I will truly miss the opportunity to continue serving the residents of this community, it is far more important that your elected official be required to be a resident of the Township. The strength of local government is that it is directly responsive to the needs of the community. The reason it is responsive to the needs of the community is because its leaders are from your community. They are your neighbors, the local business owner, the Little League coach, the church volunteer. They truly understand that "Public Servant" isn't just an old fashioned title, but rather a very clear job description – to faithfully serve others.

Township government is not terribly glamorous, most people don't even know exactly what it does. I know I didn't fully understand it when I was first asked to get involved in it. But for those people that have ever had to turn to the Township for help, they can attest to the dedication and attentiveness of our staff and the tremendous services they provide. Where do you go to get help with your property tax assessment? How do you get an elderly relative or neighbor to a doctor's appointment? What about help with a teenager who is struggling with life? These are but a few of the services that your Township government provides for its residents, and all for less than \$100 a year for the typical property owner.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you as Township Clerk and in my previous office of Trustee before that. It has been an honor to be given your trust and I hope that I have provided you with the service that our community deserves. I am very grateful that one of Trustees, George K. Busse, has agreed to fill out the remainder of my term. He is a lifelong member of the community and has many years of experience serving as a Township Trustee. George brings

an exceptional level of dedication and knowledge to the office and I know he will be an excellent Township Clerk.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Sincerely,

Greg O'Brien

Township Board Accepting Applications to Fill Vacant Trustee Position

On Monday August 31st the Elk Grove Township Board of Trustees appointed senior Trustee George Busse to fill the vacant Township Clerk position. The vacancy was created when former Clerk Greg O'Brien resigned on August 10th citing a change in his home residence outside the Township.

The appointment of Busse to the Clerk position has created a vacancy on the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees must now fill the Trustee vacancy and the board members are opening the process to the residents of Elk Grove Township. Individuals who are interested in filling the Trustee vacancy are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Township by the close of business (4:00 P.M.) on Friday October 2, 2015. The letter must contain the applicants name and address. In addition to the letter of interest applicants may include other documents, such as resumes, but they are not required.

In accordance with State Statutes any person appointed to fill this vacancy must be a legal voter of the Township and have lived in the Township for at least one year prior to the appointment and shall be a member of the same political party as the person vacating the office; in this case the Republican Party. The appointee shall establish his or her political party affiliation by his or her record of voting in Republican Party primary elections or by holding or having held an office in a Republican Party organization before appointment. If the appointee has not voted in a Republican primary election or is not holding or has not held an office in a Republican Party organization before the appointment, then the appointee shall establish his or her Republican Party affiliation by his or her record of participating in the Republican Party's nomination or election caucus.

Letters can be mailed to Elk Grove Township or delivered in person: 2400 S. Arlington Heights Rd. Arlington Heights, IL 60005 – Attention Paul Pioch. Letters can also be emailed to PPioch@ElkGroveTownship.Com

Questions can be directed to Township Supervisor Mike Sweeney at 847-437-0300.

News from your Highway Commissioner...

Highway Department Preparing for Upcoming Winter Weather

The Elk Grove Township Highway Department is ready for the 2015 - 2016 winter season. In order to get the best possible price for road salt this year the highway department has entered in a joint purchasing agreement with Cook County. The added buying power includes not only Cook County, but also includes many other various municipalities and township highway departments and has enabled our township to acquire bulk treated road salt from Morton Salt at a substantial cost reduction. Also, if an unforeseen winter causes extremely high salt usage Elk Grove Township will be able to acquire any additional salt directly from any of Cook County's stockpiled inventories thereby reducing the possibility of any shortages. This will ensure our township roads to be safely treated from any winter related road conditions which may occur.



Art Niewiardowski
Highway Commissioner

Assessing the Situation

from Connie Carosielli, Assessor
of Elk Grove Township



As the year closes, my staff and I are already thinking about 2016. There will be dates and events that you should be aware of. To be certain that you have every opportunity to ensure property tax fairness, please call the Assessor's office at 847-437-0300 to give us your email address so that we

can keep you informed. You can also email us at assessor@elkgrovetownship.com. We continually strive to provide you with the most current information and resources. We are aware that many of you do not have an email address. If that is the case, please call our office and request a personal call by giving us your name and phone number.

Remember that we can assist you in filing your Senior, Senior Freeze and other exemptions starting in February. This is important to do in a timely fashion so that you will see a correct second installment bill.

We will experience the Triennial Reassessment in 2016. You will have two opportunities to appeal the new assessed values, once through the Cook County Assessors' office, and once through the Cook County Board of Review. Assisting you in researching comparable properties that would support your position for a lower assessed value is one of the primary functions of our office. As always this is a free service.

We appreciate your patience when we are extremely busy, and your unfailing courtesy. May your Fall and Winter be safe and healthy. We look forward to being of service to you.

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News from the General Assistance Department

Thank you for school supplies!

Every fall the children return to school and need tools to begin learning. Some of our families are struggling and not able to provide their children with the necessary supplies. Each year Elk Grove Township purchases required supplies and accepts donations. These supplies are then distributed to School District 59 schools for the use of low income families.



This year again, we want to thank the Moorings, in Arlington Heights, for their generous monetary donation and 12 boxes of school supplies. Also, thank you to the employees of American Academy of Pediatrics who donated 17 bags of supplies. These donations, along with those from individual residents, made this our most successful drive. Thank you to all who supported this program.

New Addition

We would like to introduce our newest GA Caseworker, Lisa Menich. Lisa has previous township experience working as a GA Caseworker as well as Program Support Specialist in two neighboring townships. She has an MA from Loyola University studying social justice. Lisa has been very involved in local community groups and organizations. Her passion for connecting people with resources will be an asset in her additional role of Community Outreach in relation to our GA Department.

Lisa resides with her husband John and their three college age children.

Holiday Program Preparation Begins

We have both Thanksgiving and Christmas Programs here at the Township. Donations are needed to make these programs a success again. If you helped last year you will be receiving a letter shortly, asking if you would like to participate again. If you didn't help last year, please consider it this year.

Thanksgiving meals contain all the "fixings" for that traditional dinner for families unable to do so alone. If you would rather not shop, we also accept gift certificates from a local grocery store.

Adopt-A-Family program for Christmas matches donors with a family to provide the Christmas experience. Individuals can sign up to be adopters or you can get a group together from work, a group of friends or family members to help share the cost.

We are registering adopters now. If you are interested in participating, please contact the General Assistance Department for details by October 15th, at: 847-437-0300, or e-mail us at: ga@elkgrovetownship.com.



Food Pantry

Thanks to generous donations, our pantry has met the need through the summer months for our residents facing a shortage. From January 1st through July 31 we served 370 families with 874 people. We provide non-perishable items to residents facing food shortage.

Thanks to everyone who donated food, organized a food drive or gave cash for the purchase of meat. Please see the list below for items needed most.

Canned Foods

- Chunky soups
- Fruit
- Canned or dried beans
- Tuna or Meat
- Vegetables
- Milk
- Chili
- Stew
- Ravioli, Spaghetti O's and others

Dry Foods

- Dry milk
- Spaghetti and Pastas
- Hamburger / Tuna Helper and others
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Rice
- Crackers
- Pudding
- Jello

Jar Foods (plastic preferred)

- Jelly
- Pasta / Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Breakfast Foods
- Hot and cold cereals
- Juice (100% fruit)

Non Food Items

- Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo / Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Soap
- Detergent

We appreciate all donations; however, we cannot distribute expired food products. Please check the dates on all cans and packaged foods when donating. Thank you.



GONE III Group Holds Food Drive to Benefit Township Food Pantry

GONE III recently held its second summer food drive among its 17 member companies and was able to provide quite a variety of food, as well as a cash, that was donated to the Township Food Pantry. It is with the help of local businesses, churches, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts and individual community members making food and monetary donations that allows the Township to have a Food Pantry that helps our struggling neighbors throughout the community.



GONE III is a non-compete referrals group comprised of GOA Regional Business Association members that has been meeting weekly since their inception in June of 1990 for the purpose of learning about and helping one another's businesses grow. Their mission is to get and give referrals – with the ultimate goals of obtaining professional and personal growth for individual members and increasing business for their companies. Members meet Fridays at 7:30 AM at the Elk Grove Township offices. Business visitors are welcome. Current members of the group include Arnstein & Lehr, Hodgdon Benefit Consultants, Inc., The Federal Savings Bank, SMG Security Systems, Inc, Gardi & Haight, Ltd., GOA Regional Business Association, Karabiner Design, American Family Insurance, Chromatech Printing, Inc., Divine Signs & Graphics, CGFS, Inc., Edward Jones/Roger Smith, Itasca Health & Chiropractic, Parkway Bank & Trust, Keller Williams Success Realty/The Heartland Team, BiO Tile & Grout Restoration LLC and The Words People.

Bike Safety

As the new school year begins we look back at the 2014/2015 school year. It was a great year, we instructed over 3,000 children in grades Kindergarten-5th grade with 100% of the grade schools in district 59 participating along with several parochial schools. We also sponsored bike helmet sales during the spring and summer school breaks. A helmet reduces the risk of head injury by as much as 85 percent and the risk of brain injury by as much as 88 percent. More children age 5 to 14 go to hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with bicycles than with any other sport.



Sandy Henmueller is shown in the recent photo when Elk Grove Township Bike Safety participated in the Des Plaines National Night out in August which was a great success! Check out our web-site for additional valuable information regarding Bicycle Safety. We look forward to another great year, keeping all the children in our township safe while bike riding!



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A Note from Youth Services :

The Importance of Sleep for Children and Teens

As the school year has begun in earnest, so have the demands being placed on the schedules of children and teens. What does a typical day for them look like? On average, elementary and junior high kids wake up around 6:30 or 7:00 to get ready for school. Most kids will take the bus to school, spend a full day in school, participate in at least one after-school activity (or be in childcare until 5 or 6), eat dinner, do homework, and go to bed. The daily demands on teens are even higher as they have a longer list of activities, which requires them to stay at school even later or get up earlier. Now, add increased stress along with fluctuating hormone levels—a pretty demanding stew that takes a toll on children and teens abilities to get a good nights sleep.



According to Margaret Richards, PHD, a director at the Pediatric Behavioral Health Department at the Cleveland Clinic, “sleep gives cells a chance to regenerate, muscles to repair themselves, and the brain a chance to recalibrate hormone levels that affect mood, appetite and the ability to focus.” She further states, “sleep really impacts how well kids’ brains function, from how much information they can absorb to how they perform on a test.” For example, if a teen stays up late studying for a test and doesn’t get enough sleep, he will have a harder time trying to access the information required the next day. Additionally, various studies have shown that lack of sleep in children and teens can impact many areas of our health, including increased weight gain, academic performance, risky behaviors and emotional stability.

Although parents acknowledge the importance of sleep in their children and teens, their children generally do not get the recommended amount of sleep for their age group. So how much sleep should children and teens get? Researchers suggest that **school-aged children require 10 to 12 hours of sleep and teens about 10 hours.**

How can we help our children and teens get the sleep they need?

First, provide a consistent bedtime routine and limit television/computer use in the bedrooms because this can interfere with sleep. Again, as Dr. Richard notes, “limit access to the juice. Not the juice that comes in liquid form — we’re

talking about electricity! Teach kids to plan for a reasonable bedtime. Sit down with your kids and explain to them how many hours of sleep they need each night based on their age. Then help them determine what time they ought to be going to bed according to what time they need to wake up each morning. For example, if a third-grader needs to be up at 6:30 and requires 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night, he should be going to bed no later than 8:30. Explain how many hours he has after school to get his homework done, and assist him in creating a rough schedule for his evening hours that allows enough room for schoolwork, activities, dinner, winding down and bedtime. Even if he doesn’t hit all the guidelines you establish every night, he will be learning how to organize his evenings so that he has enough time to sleep — a skill that will serve him well throughout his life.

Second, don’t allow children and teens to drink caffeinated beverages at night or to take a nap when they get home from school. Doing either of these will disrupt their sleep.

One of the best ways to enforce these rules is for parents to role model good sleep habits. As parents, we need to be alert and focused as well. In addition, however, parents may need to monitor, and even impose guidelines when their kids demonstrate a need for tighter limits. Don’t worry if your child hoists up protests, such as “all my friends play X-Box ‘til 10.” These are expected. You can simply say, “I understand (smile, and walk away).” Or, “school is your business right now. If you can show me that you can handle it well, and make good and healthy choices, I’d support you. If you show me that you can’t, you are sending me an invitation to help out. So, sleep on it a bit.”

For more information, or for counseling, Contact the Youth Services Department, 847-981-0373.

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Special Bus Trips

Senior and disabled residents of Elk Grove Township age 55 and older may use our door-to-door service. The service is a very busy one and provided over 5,000 rides in 2014. Reservations are accepted on a first come first serve basis.

The service is available Monday through Friday 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM. Reservations must be made at least one day in advance by calling the Elk Grove Township office at 847-437-0300 before 3:00 PM.

The Township buses travel anywhere within Elk Grove Township boundaries, which are Central Road on the North, Devon on the South, Mt. Prospect Road on the East and Rohlwing Road on the West. Local area hospitals which we transport to are Alexian Brothers and Northwest Community. We also have special trips that occasionally are outside of the Township boundaries.

We have some "Special Bus Trips" that we will be making in the coming months so if you are interested in signing up for any of them please call us beginning 2 weeks prior to the date of the trip.

October 30th	Friday	Lunch at Rose Garden Restaurant
November 17th	Tuesday	Golf Mill/Shopping
December 2nd	Wednesday	Library Christmas Trip
December 11th	Friday	Yorktown for Christmas Shopping

We look forward to hearing from you and hope you can attend one of our upcoming Special Bus Trips.

Elk Grove Township Information

Hours Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Phone (voice) (847) 437-0300
(TDD) (847) 437-4046

Highway Department
(847)437-0430
Fax (847) 437-0434
Email admin@elkgrovetownship.com

Board Meetings
4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
2400 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005