

Elk Gra

PUBLISHED JAN 2023

-January 16-

Office CLOSED for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

-January 18-

First day of Youth Services Groups

-February 1-

Last day to Donate Snow Boot and Snow Pants (pg.11)

-February 20-

Office CLOSED for Presidents' Day

-April 7-

Office Closed at 12:30pm

-April 11-

Annual Town Meeting (pg.10)

-Coming this FALL -

Shredding Event Community Services Day



George K. Busse **Township Supervisor**

A Message from the Supervisor...

Happy New Year! I hope 2023 is a wonderful year for you and your family. Please take some time to look through the newsletter to learn about the social and tax assistance services provided by the Township. Most people are surprised by the breadth of valuable services we offer!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Though the weather may be cold and gloomy. The hearts of our residents are anything but! This fall and holiday season we've had an outpouring of community generosity in support of the Township's special events and programs. Thanks for your support of the following initiatives:

Saving Trees (September)

The Township and the Mount Prospect Lions Club held a Shredding Day at the RecPlex in Mount Prospect. Over 4,800 pounds of paper were collected.

A Breakfast for Champions (October)

Elk Grove and Rolling Meadows High School students held their annual Cereal Bowl. They collected 2055 boxes of cereal for the Township Food Pantry. This is the second highest number of boxes ever collected.

Turkey and all the Stuffings (November)

Township residents donated 180 Thanksgiving baskets which were distribute d to needy families. At the same time the Township Food Pantry made up over 1000 special Thanksgiving and Christmas meal packages which were handed out to every resident who visited the Pantry in November and December.

Making a Child's Christmas Brighter (December)

Over 170 gift cards in the amount of \$50 were donated by residents for the Township Kids Holiday Gift Program. The parents of low-income families were given a gift card for each of their children which they used to purchase holiday gifts.

Expanded Senior Services

Our new Older Adult Programs & Benefits Specialist, Miriam Herrera, has been busy! Miriam is a certified Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselor. SHIP is a free state supported health insurance counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers. Miriam helped over 55 seniors choose and apply for the Medicare insurance that best met their budget and needs. There are myriad of other local and State programs for which Township seniors may be eligible. Contact Miriam

224-222-0942 to learn more about your benefits.

Envoye Township Reonle

East Entrance

Administration & Passports 847-437-0300

Assessor's Office 224-265-6110

West Entrance

Social Services & Food Pantry 224-265-6111 Adult & Family Counseling

Youth Services 847-981-0373

contents

Page 1 A Message From our Supervisor

Page 3 Assessing the Situation

Township Clerk's Office

Page 4 Food Pantry News

Page 5 Social Services Department

Page 6 Township Services

Page 7 Township Services

Page 8 Youth Services

Page 9 Adult and Family Counseling

Page 10 For the Community

Page 11 Ways to Donate

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES



Vince Dante **Trustee**



Dale Niewiardowski **Trustee**



Brian Maye **Trustee**



Richard Keenley **Trustee**

Assessing the Situation



Connie Carosielli CIAO Assessor

My staff and I hope that you and yours had a healthy and joyous holiday season, knowing that you faced the second installment tax bill due in late December. The next unhappy event is the first installment tax bill that is usually due March 1st. The state legislature has recognized that paying two tax bills within two months is an extreme burden on many. Legislation was passed in December that the deadline for

paying your first installment for 2022 has been changed from March 1st to April 1st so that you have additional time. This is a one-time extension.

Please remember that no exemptions are reflected on the first installment bill, and that the first installment is 55% of the previous total tax bill. If schedules stay the same, we will be able to assist you with filing your exemptions in February. Please call the office for an appointment and/or to find out if the County Assessor's Office has updated the forms.

Please remember that the Homeowner and Senior Exemptions rollover once you have qualified. Other exemptions must be applied for on a yearly basis, this includes the Senior Freeze, Disabled Person, and Veterans Disabled Person.

As of this writing, our residents have not received a response from the County on their assessed value appeals. When that occurs, we will be notified by the Board of Review as to the dates that you may file an appeal with them.

We attempt to keep you informed regarding the various opportunities and deadlines regarding your property and the tax implications. If you are not on our email or phone lists, please call (224)265-6110 and sign up. It is to your advantage to be informed.

Clerk's Corner



Suellen Satern Township Clerk

I want to inform you of the passport services that the township offers as a Passport Acceptance Facility. I hope you find the following information helpful. All of our passport services are by appointment only, M - F, 10 AM - 3 PM. Please call 847-437-0300 for an appointment. We have Passport Agents who speak English, Spanish, or Polish.

New Passports and Replacement Passports

Replacement passports are to replace lost or stolen passports or passports that have expired more than 5 years ago.

<u>Items Needed for New Passports and Replacement Passports</u>

- Proof of Citizenship birth certificate or naturalization certificate.
- Photo ID driver's license, state ID or previous passport.
- Passport Photo recent photo, within 6 months
 NOTE: the township does not take passport photos you need to do that before your appointment and bring it with you. Most stores with a photo department offer passport photo service.

• Form of Payment - check or money order only; cost of standard adult (16+) passport: \$130

Please call the township for details on passport costs and fees.

Note: Minors under the age of 16 do not need an ID, but they need to have both parents present at the appointment (or provide a divorce or death certificate).

Minors age 16 - 17 can get an adult passport, need a photo ID which can be their school ID, and need one parent present at the appointment. Young adults age 18 and up can apply for a passport on their own.

Passport Renewals

If your passport expired within 5 years of the issue date, you can apply for a renewal. NOTE: you do not need to make an appointment and come in to the township office for a renewal. You can mail the renewal form directly to the U.S. Department of State.

If you are planning a trip where you need a passport, please plan far in advance in getting your passport application completed. Depending on the time of year, passports can take a lot more time to be received than at other times. Current processing time for standard service is 6-9 weeks with expedited services offered for an additional \$60. Visit travel.state.gov for current passport and travel information.

Welcome Shoppers!

The Holiday Season is often difficult for families facing food shortages. The Township Pantry works hard year-round to fill the gap in our communities and going the extra mile for the Holiday is no



This year the was pantry able to distribute nearly 1000 holiday meal boxes to food panty clients between November and December. The boxes included

exception.

holiday staple foods such as turkey, ham, or chicken, celery, potatoes, canned cranberries, stuffing, etc.

The Elk Grove Township Food Pantry hours have changed. The food pantry is offering appointments starting at 9:30am to 7pm on Tuesdays and 9:30am to 3:30 pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Clients must call 224-225-6111 to schedule an appointment ahead of time. New Food Pantry clients or those who's pantry card is expired must bring a photo ID, recent utility bill (issued within the past 30 days), and arrive 15 minutes before their scheduled appointment time to have a food pantry card issued.



Hours of Operation
Tuesdays

9:30a.m - 7: 00p.m

Wednesdays/Thursday/Friday

9: 30a.m - 3:30p.m.

224-265-6111

Thank you to our wonderful donors for the food donations and for your kindness. We could not succeed without you help.

Sanford Chemical Inc Friends of Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary

St Theresa School Topco

CJ Logistics

Assyrian Universal Alliance Foundation

North Shore Unitarian Church

Pocas International

Those Guys Car Club

Starbucks

St Paul Lutheran Church

Parker Hannifin Corporation

Tricoci University

Brucker Co.

That's Caring

Tops

The Breakfast Club

The Elk Grove Garden Club

Girls Scout Troops 45744, 45907, 47438

Sam's Club

Edlong Co.

District 59

Maureen Lucore

Markaz Mohammedi

Raghu Sundara

John Zumph

Rene Del Signore

Robin Szajna

John Olson

D'Andrea Family

Antonio Bertke

Clementina Izquierdo

Steve Schaufuss

James Barnes

Sergio Valsecchi

Kathy Mills

The Miller Family

Brian Homann

Carolyn Butz

Scott Spangler

Jessica Powel

Sharon Gintz

Julie Garcia

Georgianna Duffy

Cathryn Castillo

Maggie & Zbigniew Razzwski

Tom Krengiel

Scott & Linda Ivie

Joyce Gupta

Lou Casalari

Linda Lantz

Maureen Lohndorf Larry Eihhorn

John Broderick

How can we help you today?



Utility Assistance & State Benefit Assistance

If your household income falls below 400% of Federal Poverty Level we can assist with applying for programs to help with the cost of electricity, gas & water. Also, if you are having trouble navigating the online process of applying for SNAP food assistance or Medicaid, our staff may be able to help.



Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

Do you qualify for Medicare but are confused by the process? Our SHIP certified counselor can give you one-on-one guidance based on your unique situation and needs. We can help you compare options, change coverage and correct billing issues.



Medical Lending Closet

If you are in need of medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches etcetera, the Township can help. We lend these items to residents at no cost.



Mobile Dental Clinic

Residents can register at our office to utilize the Northwest Community Hospital Mobile Dental Clinic. This income based medical service allows residents to receive dental care in a convenient and affordable way.

There is never a fee for any program provided by the Elk Grove Township Departments.

Call us today to speak to a Case Manager or schedule an appointment

224-265-6111

What services does Elk G



Empowering People through Community

Clerk's Office

847-437-0300

- Applications for Absentee Ballots
- **Hunting and Fishing Licenses**
- **Notary Public**
- **Passport Applications**
- Temporary/Handicapped Parking Placard
- Voter Assistance
- **Voter Registration**

Assessor's Office

224-265-6110

- Applications for Division and Consolidation of Properties
- **Assessed Value Complaints**
- **Board of Review Complaints**
- Filing Certificate of Error Applications
- Homeowner's Exemption
- Name Change on Tax Bill
- **Notary Service**
- **Property Characteristic Changes**
- **Property Location Changes**
- Senior Citizen Exemption
- Senior Citizen Freeze
- Tax Deferral Applications

Transportation Services

847-437-0300

- Senior and Disability Bus
- T.R.I.P Program (Township Riders Initiative Program)
- Taxi Cab Discount Card

Social Services

224-265-6111

- **Food Pantry**
- LIHEAP(Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)
- **Nicor Sharing**
- Salvation Army
- Access to Care
- **Medical Lending Closet**
 - Mobile Dental Clinic
- Senior Health Insurance Program Consoler (SHIP)
- Wellness Check-ins & Senior Will Program
- State Benefit Applications
- Medicare-Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI)
- Seasonal Programs
- Referrals



rove Township provide?

em·pow·er (əmˈpou(ə)r/) verb

make (someone) stronger and more confident, especially in controlling their life and claiming their rights com·mu·ni·ty (kəˈmyoonədē/) noun

a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals

Adult and Family Counseling

847-981-0373

- Individual, Couple/Family Counseling
- Parenting Seminars
- Youth Drug Abuse Programs
- Psychiatric / Medical Management
- Offering Teletherapy
- ADHD Screenings

Youth Services (On-site and In-schools)

847-981-0375

- Bullying Prevention in School
- Challenge Course
- Future Leaders Group
- Gang Prevention in Schools
 - Girls Empowerment Group
 - Leadership Development
 - Life Skills Group
 - Social Skills Group

Veteran Services

224-265-6112

Veteran Service Officer (VSO)

Community Outreach

224-265-6111

- EGTAC (Elk Grove Township Agency Collaborative)
- Food Drives
- Gift Card Drives
- Job Posting for Local Jobs
- Resources for Social Service Agencies
- Snow Angels Campaign
- Volunteers for food drive and special events
- Cereal Bowl (High Schools)
- Shredding

Employment Center

224-222-0935

- Assistance with Networking
- Seminars & Job Fairs
- Resume & Interview Skills
- Job Search
- LinkedIn Profile Assistance

Bike Safety

847-437-0300

Safety Training

Video Games

How Much Screen Time is OK?

After wrapping up the holidays, and having children who likely "unwrapped" new video consoles or games, you might now find yourself now wondering if this videogame craze is such a good thing. Your child disappears for hours into their rooms and the faux world that is created for their entertainment by these electronic muses. Is this good? Is this bad? Or, how much is too much?

As you might suspect, research is all over the map on these questions, which leaves parents with little clear guidance. So, the staff of Elk Grove Township Youth Services would like to introduce a little "common sense" to the topic. We hope it helps.



First, playing video games is an OK way for kids to spend some of their free time—with a few qualifications. Kids who play up to an hour per day are generally just fine. The games may even build eye-hand coordination, give kids a sense of mastery and accomplishment, improve cognition, and offer a helpful release. But kids who use 3 or more hours of screen time per day are more prone to obesity, lack of sleep, academic challenges, aggression, and other behavioral problems. Not good. A common-sense strategy might be to say, "games are fine, as long as they don't interfere with family time, homework, activities, and social time."

Additionally, a common-sense strategy might involve understanding your child's developmental stage, and be sure that the "content" of their games is suitable and appropriate for them. A good resource for this is: commonsensemedia.org

Here are some additional, useful guidelines to follow:

- Understand that it is normal for kids (particularly boys) to want to play video games.
- Video games (and use of all electronic devices) are not entitlements, but privileges. They can be successfully used as levers for completed homework and chores.
- When you (as a parent) decide on the criteria for acceptable games, ask your child for input to select games that fit within your criteria.
- When you (as a parent) decide on the criteria for acceptable games, ask your child for input to select games that fit within your criteria.
- 5) It is OK to set a limit of 60 minutes for school nights. And, do not fall for "none of my friend's parents do that (scowl)."
- 6) Be mindful that "online" games bring in an anonymous community of people who can communicate messages to your child. You will need to monitor both content of games and communication activity.
- 7) Make video games part of "family time." There are lots of games requiring 2 or more participants. Go "with it," instead of "fighting it."

For more information on this, or any other child concerns, call the Youth Services Department at 847-981-0375.

Managing the Winter

Winter Blues is a universal phenomenon affecting adults, seniors, teens, and children alike who live in the northern hemisphere. With fewer hours of daylight and dropping temperatures, many of us experience a slump in spirits and decline in mood. Holiday lights are taken down and we bundle up for challenging weather conditions ahead. We close our windows, pile on layers of clothing, and stay inside. Some of us sleep more hours, crave sugary snacks, or turn to other unhealthy habits with less physical activity. Those who encounter additional stress such as family or work conflicts, grief and loss or illness are more susceptible to developing signs of Seasonal Affective Disorder or Winter Blues which is oftentimes a type of depression that may necessitate clinical treatment.

Symptoms of depression include frequent feelings of sadness or tearfulness daily, losing interest in usual activities, sleeping and/or eating changes, loss of energy, feelings of hopelessness or worthlessness, difficulty concentrating, thoughts of death. Specific winter pattern Seasonal Affective Disorder symptoms are: oversleeping, overeating and weight gain, and social withdrawal.



If you or anyone you know is experiencing signs of depression and Seasonal Affective Disorder, consider an immediate medical appointment.



A physician may test for vitamin D deficiency or other medical explanations including making a referral for antidepressant medications and psychotherapy.

Some people have found light therapy helpful or getting as

much natural sunlight as possible by opening the blinds and curtains and sitting near a window on sunny days. Movement and physical activity are always helpful even if only in small doses.

Anyone experiencing thoughts that life is not worth living or suicidal thinking should seek urgent assistance by going to an emergency room or calling or texting 988, the mental health crisis line.

How Does Counseling and Talk Therapy Help?

Counseling can assist by identifying the presence of Seasonal Affective Disorder, Depression, or other similar mental health conditions. Ongoing assessment will point to the severity and recommended options and level of care for treatment. Counselors can also help clarify specific triggers to overwhelming feelings of sadness, anxiety, anger, and support finding alternative ways to cope and even prevent further emotional distress.

The Elk Grove Township Adult and Family Counseling Program is available to empower the well-being of all Township residents seeking information about accessing counseling services. All services are confidential and provided in English and Spanish with evening appointments available.

For further information or to determine the services that best fit your individualized needs, call 847 437-0434 and ask for a counseling intake.

Thanksgiving Baskets Medical Lending & Grocery Giftcards

Many families struggle to meet food needs on a day to day basis. The holiday season often adds additional stress individuals and families. Our goal is to Empower the community and this vear Grove Township distributed 183 Elk Thanksgiving Baskets to in-need families. baskets included grocery cards valued at \$4,575. Thank you to all of our donors and volunteers. The would not have been Township able many residents without serve as your support!



Closet



Are you in need of gently used medical equipment?

Did you know that Elk Grove Township has a medical lending closet open Monday through Friday from 9am - 4pm. The township Medical Lending Closet has a wide variety of gently used medical equipment available for lending at increments of three (3) months. Walkers, bath seats, bed tables, bed side rails, toilet seat with handles, and many other items are currently available. Check out is fast and easy!

Call to schedule curbside pickup or to learn more about the items in the lending closet!

224-265-6111

Annual Town Meeting



Tuesday April 11, 2022 7:00 p.m.

600 Landmeier Rd Elk Grove Village, IL

(847) 437-0300

Park on the east side and enter the **Meeting Hall** directly.

Food Pantry Donations

Monetary donations are accepted at the pantry year-round and often help fill the gaps between donated food items and items that are in high demand. If you would like to bring in or send a monetary donation, please mail or drop off your donation at 600 Landmeier Rd in Elk Grove Village. When dropping off monetary donations, please use the EAST entrance.

Donations are accepted Monday through Friday 9AM to 4PM. If you need help with your donation drop-off, please call 224-265-6111 and someone will assist you!

Reededitems

Toilet
Paper Paper
Towels
Toothpaste
Deodorant
Jelly
Honey
All Soup
Broth
Juice
Tea

Snow Angles Donation

New or Gently used Snow Boots and Snow Pants



Elk Grove Township is collecting donations of new or gently used children size snow boots and snow pants. All donations will go to school-aged children various sizes. Donations are accepted Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm at the Township Building (600 Landmeier Rd) until February 1. Children grow quickly and its often difficult to for in-need families seasonal outdoor clothing. ΑII buy donations are greatly appreciated.











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The highly-popular Elk Grove Township Newsletter reaches every household and business in Elk Grove Township. You can now advertise in this publication to help grow your business and attract new consumers to our area. Published quarterly each issue is saved until the next one and used as a reference tool, used over and over again.



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- Elk Grove Township covers several affluent areas including Mount Prospect, Elk Grove Village, Des Plaines, Rolling Meadows, and Arlington Heights!
- **4,000 businesses** within the Elk Grove Township receive the newsletter!
- Targeted Audience No wasted circulation!

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Elk Grove Township



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Bring Your Entire Picture Together: One Piece at a Time

It takes a team of experts to help you live your best life; you have doctors, attorneys, and tax professionals you rely on to keep your life running smoothly. We are prepared to do the same for your financial future. Embolden Wealth Management offers customized strategies to plan for life changes such as retirement, divorce, changes in employment, entering a caregiving role, or experiencing the loss of a loved one. We also work with business owners and entrepreneurs to develop a plan that addresses your own unique concerns and risks.

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- **Retirement Planning**
- **Education Planning**

Estate Planning

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Elk Grove Township Information

Hours Phone

Email

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (voice) (847) 437-0300 admin@elkgrovetownship.com

Highway Department & Storm Water Issues (847) 437-0300 (847) 437-0434 Fax

Board Meetings 4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. 600 Landmeier Road, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007