

Elk Grove Township

PUBLISHED JULY 2020





Michael H. Sweeney Township Supervisor

A Message from the Supervisor... We are certainly living during interesting times and I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family happy and healthy. Over the last several months our daily lives have changed dramatically as we have navigated the COVID-19 pandemic. Likewise, Elk Grove Township has adapted to meet the needs of the community in a safe and effective manner. Prior to moving into our new township administration building, our offices were closed to the public in the interest of staff and resident safety. While our township offices have been closed to the public, our incredible staff has continued to serve our community. Many services, such as general assistance and adult and family counseling, have been delivered remotely. In addition, the township food pantry has temporarily become a drive-thru service, and the township senior and disabled transportation busses have continued to operate without interruption.

I'm excited to announce that the township's new administrative building opened to the public on Monday June 22 nd. Many of our services can still be delivered remotely, but residents are welcome to seek assistance in-person. I would encourage you to call our offices prior to visiting to ensure that we can help you in the most efficient way possible.

As always, I encourage you read about the township services in this newsletter. If we can help you or someone you know please contact us right away. On a final note, you are invited to visit the new township building during our new Open House dates; Thursday August 6 from 4-7p, or Saturday August 8th from 8a-1p.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve you.

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES



Suellen Satern **Trustee**



Dale Niewiardowski **Trustee**



Bob Ingraffia

Trustee



Richard Keenley **Trustee**

Assessing the Situation

Due to the pandemic, Fritz Kaegi and the Cook County Assessor's Office has made the decision to re-assess all of the properties within Cook County, which may lead to a change in your assessed value of your property for Tax Year 2020. Therefore, it is important to monitor this situation in the coming weeks. Our office had been told that



Connie Carosielli CIAO Assessor

Assessment Appeals will run through August 4th.

To contact us, we strongly recommend that you call our direct phone number, (224)265-6110 or send an email to our new dedicated email: appeals@elkgrovetownship.com Please always include your name, Property Index Number or address, and email, if you have one.

If you are familiar with the online appeal process, my office will be more than happy to send you comparables via email, so you can file an appeal on your own on the Cook County Assessor's website, cookcountyassessor.com. You can also call or email our office and we can electronically file for you. Copies of your appeal can be sent to you via email or USPS.

The Assessor's Office has re-located to our new building at 600 Landmeier Rd., Elk Grove Village. Whenever possible, residents are encouraged to use no-contact options to conduct business. In addition to calls or email, we will also have a drop box (located to the left of the outside door at the east entrance of the building) to give you the ability to deliver necessary supporting documents for your appeal to us.

If you do decide to visit our office, there are some guidelines that must be followed when you visit our office.

- 1. Do NOT enter the building with COVID-19 symptoms.
- 2. Please use hand sanitizer upon entering our office.
- 3. Wearing a face covering will be required.
- 4. Maintain Social Distancing of at least six feet (6').
- 5. No visitors under the age of 12 years old are permitted.
- 6. Limit the number of individuals in your party to no more than two (2) people.
- 7. We ask that when you are in an area that has designated protective shields in place that you remain behind those shields at all times.

Finally, please keep in mind that there will most likely be long wait times, whether it be in person or waiting for us to return your phone call or email. We ask for your patience and understanding. Rest assured; we will respond to you in an efficient manner.

News from your Highway Commissioner

Stormwater Management: How You Can Help

(From MWRD Storm Water Management brochure for Cook County available at the Township Office)



Highway Commissioner Art Niewiardowski

Storm water management does not merely apply to flood control. It can also be used to improve water quality and conserve potable water. You can help out by implementing Best Management Practices (BMP) at your residence. Example BMPs include rain barrels, cisterns, green roofs, rain gardens, permeable paving and natural landscaping.

One simple measure would be to connect your downspouts from the public storm sewer system. The storm water could be stored in rain barrels to be used to water gardens or directly discharged to rain gardens instead of flowing into our sewers. Reduction of storm water flow into our sewers reduces the amount of flow discharged into our waterways and can help to alleviate flood damages from occurring due to overbank flooding.

It is illegal to dump paint, oil, or any hazardous material into a street inlet as these materials will also pollute the waterway to which the storm sewer eventually discharges. Residents living near waterways should take extra care to remove debris on their property which could wind up in the waterway. Yard waste should be properly disposed of and not dumped into or along the banks of creeks or streams. Branches, bushes and other debris cause blockages at culverts and bridges which can cause flood damages for you and your neighbors. If you see anyone dumping garbage or any debris into a waterway, please call the MWRD at 1-800-332-DUMP.

Contact us at 847-437-0300 to report issues.



Clerk's Corner

2020 Illinois Fishing Licenses. As we move into deep summer months and, hopefully, out from under the Covid-19 dark cloud, please keep in mind that there are some great ways to enjoy the outdoors right here at home. Many of these outdoor



George Busse, Township Clerk

opportunities revolve around the Ned Brown Forest Preserve, popularly known as Busse Woods. Busse Woods is located in the heart of our Township and offers a wide variety of outdoor activities including hiking, jogging, cycling, canoeing and fishing. I'd like to highlight the unique fishing opportunities that are found in Busse Woods. We are blessed with one of the best fishing spots in Cook County. Three reservoirs (Busse Main, Busse North and Busse South) offer a combined 457 acres of prime fishing. The lakes are stocked with northern pike, walleye, bass, crappie, perch and bluegill. The main reservoir is one of the only fishing areas in Cook County that is stocked with the king of fresh water fishing – the musky! The Busse Reservoirs have fishing walls and electric motor boat rentals. Personal canoes, kayaks, rowboats and sailboats are permitted. However, before you start baiting your hook you need to make sure you have a 2020 Illinois Fishing License. There are several types of licenses available but the most commonly purchased are the Illinois Resident Daily for \$5.50, the Illinois Resident Annual for \$15.00 and the Illinois Senior Resident Annual (65 and older) for \$7.75. You can purchase your fishing license online on the Illinois DNR website or at the Township Office Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our offices are only short drive from the reservoirs. You can pick up your license and be fishing for that record musky in minutes!

"Fallen Hero" Surviving Spouse Tax Abatement Program. The Cook County Board has authorized a property tax abatement for the surviving spouses of fallen police officers, military personnel and rescue workers. This program is not well known but can be important to a surviving spouse of one our County's fallen heroes. The program can abate up to 100% of a surviving spouse's Cook County property liability. Please note that this is limited to the county portion of the property tax bill. It does not include municipal, township special district (schools, mosquito or abatement, etc.) taxes. The Board of Review of Cook County administers the program and applications must be submitted to them. The Board of Review can be contacted for more information or for an application at 312-603-5560.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLAST OFF!

The schools have provided us a list of the items that they desperately need. While we will happily accept all school supplies, we've been asked to focus on those needed MOST:

- EARBUDS
- Composition notebooks
- Markers
- Pencils (regular or mechanical)
- Folders
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Pencil boxes and pouches
- Glue sticks



IMPORTANT CHANGES STARTING AUGUST 4, 2020

Elk Grove Township has been meeting client's need for food by using a drive-thru model during the pandemic. Beginning August 4, 2020, with extra safety measures in place, we are thrilled to be able to offer a new way of distributing food to our Food Pantry users! Our new "client's choice" model means that clients shop our pantry and choose the items that they would like.

NOTE: ALL clients MUST MAKE an APPOINTMENT to visit the pantry.



Appointments are required for a few reasons:

- 1. In light of recent health concerns, we want to avoid lines and wait times. We must limit the number of people in the food pantry. To stay safe, you must bring/wear your mask and sanitize your hands upon entering the building.
- 2. We want each of our shoppers to have the time to shop at their leisure. There will be a limited number of shoppers and all "high touch" items, like carts, handles, counters, etc., will be wiped down/sanitized after each shopper.
- 3. We want to make sure our shelves are stocked so no matter what time you arrive, there is a great selection of healthy items to choose from throughout the day.

Our Social Services staff screens potential and current clients every 6 months to make sure they are availing themselves of all programs and opportunities that can assist them in moving forward. Clients are issued Food Pantry cards that are good for 6 months to make the check-in process a speedy one. If you do not have a food pantry card, or the one you have is expired, let our staff know BEFORE you come to visit and we can set up an appointment to issue or renew your card prior to your pantry appointment. You will need to bring a photo ID, current utility bill and proof of all members of the household (i.e. birth certificates, report cards, medical cards, IDs, etc.)

We are relying heavily on volunteers to help us keep up with the demands of this new system and are encouraging all that are interested in volunteering to give us a call.

We know these changes will take some adjustment for our regular users. Please be patient and address any questions or concerns with our staff.

To make an appointment to use the pantry, please call 224-265-6111



We can't do what we do to help others without you helping us! We appreciate all that the community continues to do to support our efforts, especially:

- Sanford Chemical
- Elk Grove Park District
- Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary
- 9 Round
- Community Education District 214
- Faith Lutheran Church
- Village Point Church
- US Staffing

Lending Closet Needs Equipment

Do you have medical equipment collecting dust in your basement or garage? Please consider donating any gently used, clean equipment like walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, canes, or other assistive devices to our Township Lending Closet. Your unused items can help another resident during a challenging time. Donations accepted during office hours in the Social Services Department.

For more info, call 224-265-6111.

Spotlight on the Young at Heart

Are your aware of the wide array of services available to residents over 55 years old? Check out what Elk Grove Township can do for you!

Counseling Services- Professional counselors see residents dealing with a variety of issues like depression, anxiety, trauma, family and relationship issues, etc. Sliding fee scale, first visit is FREE!

Financial Assistance- If you are a low-income household or facing a hardship, please call our Social Services office. We have a myriad of financial programs to assist residents in need.

Lending Closet- Whether you are recovering from a health incident or just finding that you need the temporary use of some assistive equipment, we currently have a small assortment of items for those in need of assistive equipment like walkers, canes, wheelchairs, etc. We are also accepting donations of items that are clean and in good condition. Please call us for more details.

Transportation Assistance- If you are 55+ or over the age of 18 and receiving disability, you qualify for this free service that can take you anywhere within our township borders (and outside the borders through additional transportation programs). Call for more information.

Assessor's Office- Assist in filing for and/or confirming that residents are receiving all property tax credits for which they are eligible. (Current Property Tax appeals run through August 4, 2020)

Additional Resources:

Food Assistance
Health Resources
Employment Support Center
...and MORE!

Don't see the type of assistance you need? CALL US! We have a large information and referral network and we're happy to direct you!

224-265-6111



Senior Community Check-in

The purpose of our Community
Check-in is to identify and connect
with seniors to assess their social,
emotional, physical and safety needs.
Our Social Workers will assist seniors
to connect them with resources
provided by the Township (ie: Food
Pantry, Bus Service, Financial
Assistance Programs, and Counseling
Services) and our community partners.

Contact Stephanie Shparago, MSW, LSW for more information: 224-222-0942

Mobile Dental Clinic

There is an undeniable link between overall health and oral health. Studies show that poor oral health may be linked to heart disease, stroke, pre-term childbirth and oral cancer.

The Mobile Dental Clinic program provides preventive and restorative oral health services to

individuals and families who are without dental insurance and who live at less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The program emphasizes the



importance of overall oral health and establishing a permanent dental home.

The staff includes a full-time dentist, program manager and dental assistant. Elk Grove Township residents are screened by the township's Social Services staff to determine eligibility for treatment. A \$30 co-pay is charged for each adult appointment and there is no co-pay for children. For more information and to schedule an appointment, please contact Elk Grove Township Social Services Office at 224-265-6111

How can Elk Grove Township help me right now?

For Social Services call 224-265-6111

Financial Assistance Programs can help with rent, utilities and other emergency needs. Applications taken over the phone.





Food Pantry is offering Drive –thru services for residents through the end of July, on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00pm-3:00pm. In-person shopping to start August 4rd, however, you MUST have an appointment. Bring your food pantry card or photo ID and a utility bill.

Information and Referral Services: Have questions about how to apply for local or federal programs? Wondering what steps to take next? Our Caseworkers are here to connect you to services and agencies.





Senior Community Check in is a weekly phone call service that will assess the social, emotional, physical and safety needs of the participants. Our Social Worker will provide participants with resources offered by the township and connect them with community partners, if needed.

For Youth Services call 847-981-0375

All **Youth Services** programs are free of charge to residents and meet in person or over ZOOM all summer long! Social skills groups, girl empowerment, managing emotions....and MORE! Registration required. For questions and registration, please call us or email RDorn@ElkGroveTownship.com



For Counseling Services call 847-981-0373

Are you or members of your household struggling with anxiety, depression or other mental health issues during this challenging time? Our **Counseling Services** are here to help! We offer confidential teletherapy, phone therapy or in-person therapy to residents of all ages. Call for a FREE consultation.



For Employment Services call 224-222-0935



Looking for a job or to change your career trajectory? Our **Employment Support Services** can help you touch up your resume, practice interviewing, start or update your LinkedIn page and more! Quarterly Employment
Seminars are held to give you the latest information vital to your job search.

For Transportation Services call 847-437-0300

Seniors (55+) and persons with disabilities are eligible for our **FREE bus service** that can take you anywhere in our township like doctor appointments, dialysis, grocery shopping, etc. Call to register.



For the Assessor's Office call 224-265-6110



Our Assessor's Office is happy to help with any questions that you may have regarding your property taxes and help you apply for exemptions. We can also add you to our list and contact you with information regarding dates of property tax appeals. Current appeals are scheduled to end August 4, 2020.

Elk Grove Township Employment Support Center

Local People. Local Jobs.

Contact us:

(224) 222-0935 or jobhelp@elkgrovetownship.com

Hours of Operation:

Wednesdays. 9:00am-2:00pm

Services Available:

- LinkedIn Profile Critique
- Interviewing Practice
- Current Local Employer Job Board
- Employment/Career Counseling
- Career Seminars and Workshops

Did you know: The new federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance(PUA) program provides benefits for many individuals who have been determined ineligible for state unemployment benefits, including self-employed workers and independent contractors:

www2.illinois.gov Search: PUA

Now more than ever, it's important to give yourself every advantage in the job market. The goal of our Free Career Counseling is to help job seekers utilize available tools and resources so that they become the most desirable candidate in a job market filled with competitors. Contact us for your free consultation or to register for one or all of our seminars.

➡FREE CAREER SEMINARS•

Join us for our Free Career Workshops that will help you move your career search forward. Our presenter is John Chalekian, Director of the Elk Grove Township Employment Support Center. Each of the workshops builds on the **previous, but can also be attended independent of the others.**

Be sure to sign up and tell your friends to join us if they are in need of employment assistance.

September 2, 2020

"...a little help from my friends": Building Social Collateral

This "round-table" discussion will give you insights into finding the right job by focusing on your circle of friends, acquaintances, and ex-work associates for job leads. Pandemic or not, connections are often the key!

November 4, 2020

Interviewing 101: How to Answer "Killer Questions"

Increase your skills and confidence when responding to challenging interview questions.

All career workshops to be held at:

Elk Grove Township- Conference Room 2 (use EAST entrance)
600 Landmeier Rd.
Elk Grove Village IL 60007

10:30am to 12:00 Noon

Please call or Email your registration to: 224-222-0935 or Jobhelp@Elkgrovetownship.com

Note: Dates are subject to change. Please contact us to make your reservation.

The Adult and Family Counseling Department: From the Clinical Tool Box

Do your friends say, "just turn off the TV" when you complain to them about all the bad news going on? Given the situation with the coronavirus and our economic downturn, that is actually advice worth listening to, particularly if you spend a lot of time consuming the news. Along those lines, I even hesitate writing (yet another) article on the virus. So, let's walk away from it and focus instead--on us, and how each of us manages intense stress and overthinking, no matter what the source.

There are a lot of practices that have taken hold in recent years, such as mindfulness mediation, relaxation, breathing exercises, mind-mapping, and many others. The key in all of these is to do "something different." This does not mean to ignore distressing thoughts. Rather, it is to acknowledge and accept them, but then gently put them aside to focus on something else. Just interrupting our thought sequence can be enough.

One of my favorite techniques to do so (that I have given to adults, teens, and children) is to recognize when you are feeling something intensely, whether it is anxiety, fear, anger, or worry, to use the 5-4-3-2-1 Grounding Technique. It is simple to use and remember: For each step, either write, think, or say aloud the sensations you're observing.

For more help, and/or counseling services (including convenient teletherapy), contact:



What are your kids/teens doing this summer?

New and Ongoing Program Offerings include:

- Social Skills Groups
- Girls Empowerment Group Virtual Game Night
- **Managing Emotions**
- Teen Advisory Board
- Future Leaders Group Tips for parents: Keeping your child active during the summer.
 - Stress Less Group: Using mindfulness techniques, learn how to better cope with stress.

All program offerings are free of charge this summer for Township residents.

Registration required for all groups. For questions and registration, please contact:

Renee Dorn, Program Coordinator 847-981-0373 or @ElkGroveTownship.com





Jul. 13- Youth Services Programs session begins (pg. 9)

Aug. 4- Food Pantry open for shopping (pg.4) Reminder: You MUST have an appointment

Aug. 4- Last day to file Property Tax appeals (pg. 2)

Aug. 6- Open House 4pm-7pm

Aug. 7- Last day/ Back to School Blast off Donations(pg.3)

Aug. 8- Open House 8am-1pm

Sept. 7 - Office CLOSED for Labor Day

Elk Grove Township Service Area

The service area for our township is approximately 28 square miles and serves about 93,000 residents.

Our borders are:

North- Central Road

South- Devon Avenue

West-Route 53/ Rohlwing Road

East - Mount Prospect Road



Senior/Disabled Transportation



Elk Grove Township Transportation department can offer a solution to get you

to doctor appointments or the grocery store safely during these hot summer months. You can use our services exclusively, or just when you need to. We offer curb-to-curb service to senior citizens (over 55) and disabled residents (over 18).

Township buses can take you to your favorite local places to do your shopping and to the pharmacy, fitness center, as well as to your doctor, dentist, optometrist or dialysis appointments. All rides within the township borders are FREE (free-will offering) and you can take one round trip ride each day Monday-Friday, as buses are available.

In addition to curb-to-curb services, we also offer occasional bus trips and the TRIP program that will take residents to medical appointments outside our township boundaries. A discount taxi debit card is also available.

Give us a call at 847-437-0300 to get more information about our transportation services and to find out how to register!







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847-741-4100 *elginrecycling*.com

Mention the EGT NEWSLETTER, you will receive \$5 OFF the recycling fee of each TV/monitor brought in to our Arlington Heights Location.

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Arden Courts of Elk Grove 1940 Nerge Road Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 847.534.8815

ElkGrove@arden-courts.com



Do you work hard... but still can't afford to see a doctor?

You may be eligible for \$5 doctor visits.



If you are uninsured or underinsured...

Access to Care wants to help!

Our Member Benefits Include:

- Visits with a doctor near your home for \$5
- Lab & X-ray tests for \$5
- Prescription plan with \$15-\$40 options
- · Free flu & pneumonia shots
- · Free diabetic testing strips
- Behavioral health services

Access to Care is not health insurance, but charity care. We serve residents of suburban Cook County and northwest Chicago. Se habla Español. We do not discriminate on race, religion, or immigration status.





Visit accesstocare.org or call 708.531.0680

Bundle up for savings



When you choose Allstate to protect what matters most, you get an expert agent who will make it easy for you to save. Like with bundling your insurance. It's the simplest way for you to save time and money, while getting protection for the things that matter most. Stop by or call today and let's get you bundled up.

Gervasi & Associates, Inc. 847-201-0104



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Elk Grove Township



This newsletter is published by Elk Grove Township 600 Landmeier Road Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Visit our website: www.elkgrovetownship.com

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Schedule your FREE confidential consultation today

Whether you are new to utilizing professional financial services, or if you would simply like a thorough second opinion on how your portfolio is being managed, we invite you to contact our office to schedule your no pressure, no obligation appointment.



When you partner with us, we are your advocate.

We work with individuals and business owners to articulate your investing goals, creating a strategy that is consistent with your objectives and values.

Entrepreneurs & Business Owners

We know that running a business can be exhilarating but all-consuming. Let us help you protect your family and your business by building a plan that considers your full financial picture. Whether you need assistance with a company sponsored retirement plan such as a 401(k) or SEP IRA, benefits for key employees, or a business continuity plan, we will help tailor a strategy that suits your needs.

Tax Analysis & Planning

We review your tax return and determine if there are any opportunities to save on taxes. We also review how much tax should be withheld from your investments if you are utilizing them as an income stream. In coordination with your estate planning, we also discuss estate and inheritance taxes and if they will have any implications on your loved ones when you are gone.

Retirement Planning

We assist you with identifying your retirement goals and objectives as well as review your sources of income during your retirement years. Your income sources include things such as social security, pensions, and your other investments that may provide an income stream to develop your "paycheck" in retirement.

Why Work with a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ At all times when providing financial advice to a client, a CFP® professional must act as a fiduciary, and therefore, act in the best interest of the client.

A CFP® professional has a Fiduciary Duty which consists of a Duty of Loyalty, Duty of Care, and a Duty to Follow Client Instructions.

CFP® professionals understand the complexities of the changing financial climate and are committed to make financial planning recommendations in your best interest.

Contact our office to schedule an appointment today!

(630) 467-1121

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Elk Grove Township Information

Hours

Phone Email

(847) 437-0430 Fax (847) 437-0434 **Board Meetings** 4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. 600 Landmeier Road, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007