



DEAF LINE

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2020

NOTICE: This newsletter is a combined issue of September/October 2020. Effective immediately, you will receive a Deaf Line newsletter every two months until further notice.

Video Phone Conference Call (VPCC) - Virtual Fall Events

September 9th (9:30 a.m.) & 16th (2 p.m.) - "Andy's Adventures between Hungary and USA" by Andy Ban

September 9th (2 p.m.) & 14th (1 p.m.) - Chair Yoga by Marcie Sacks-Botto

September 21st (1 p.m.) & 23rd (2 p.m.) - Learn about Italian Culture, Gestures & Etiquettes by Tom Adamo

September 28th (1 p.m.) & 30th (2 p.m.) - "My Journey as a Deaf Immigrant" by Kavita Pipalia

Spots are limited - First come, first served.

Please RSVP with Sarita:

sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org or

224-520-9763 VP.

PROGRAMS

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Eligibility Requirements—Income Guidelines

Size of Household	1	2	3	4	5	6
LIHEAP	\$2,127	\$2,873	\$3,620	\$4,367	\$5,113	\$5,860
Share the Warmth	\$2,023	\$2,743	\$3,463	\$4,183	\$4,903	\$5,623
ComEd Hardship	\$2,602	\$3,523	\$4,444	\$5,365	\$6,285	\$7,206

Gross Income for 30 days prior to Application Date

* **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** assists low-income households with gas and/or electricity bills. Currently, Schaumburg Township will take appointments and will accept both in-person appointments and remote assistance. Requirements: Proof of current 30-day gross income, copy of recent heat and electric entire bills, proof of Social Security #s, and proof of rental agreement.

* **Share the Warmth Program** - Requires recent Peoples Gas bill, driver license ID or State ID, and proof of household incomes

* **ComEd Residential Special Hardship Program** - Requires recent ComEd bill, driver’s license ID or State ID, proof of household income and proof of financial hardship

To make an appointment, contact either Disability or Senior Services Department at 847-285-4541 V or 224-520-9763 VP.

BENEFIT ACCESS PROGRAM

The Benefit Access Program is for discounts on license plate registration fee and RTA ride free transit pass. The income eligibility limits are:

* \$33,562 (1 person in a household)

* \$44,533 (2 persons in a household)

* \$55,500 (3 persons in a household)

The applicant must be 65 years or older by December 31, 2020 or 16 - 65 years of age and totally disabled before January 1, 2020 and must be a resident of Illinois.

If you already applied last year (2019), you do not need to re-apply. Just wait until next year (2021). If you applied in 2018 or have not applied before, you can apply anytime before December 31, 2020. If you are not sure, please contact Sarita at 224-520-9763 VP and we can check for you and can even assist you in filing your applications.

NICOR GAS COVID-19 BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Income-eligible residential customers with account balances of up to \$300 who earn up to 300% of the federal poverty guidelines, or a monthly gross income of \$6,438 for a family of 4, are eligible to automatically receive a one-time grant, while funding is available, on their next bill to help pay off their account balance.

To receive this one-time Nicor Gas grant, eligible customers must first apply and be approved for LIHEAP or the Nicor Gas Sharing Program.

As for the **Nicor Gas Sharing Program**: Contact your local Salvation Army office to enroll in the Sharing Program to obtain the one-time grant. Check www.nicorgas.com/residential/billingandpaymentoptions/energy-assistance-programs/sharing-program.html for details and locations.

COVID-19 UPDATES: SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP OPERATIONS

- The Township is still open - Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- In-person appointments will be required. However, we continue to help clients remotely as much as possible.
- All services and virtual programs will continue until further notice.
- We follow the social distancing standards and we require everyone to wear masks in the building. For those who are medically unable to wear a mask please contact us to assist you.
- If you are not feeling well, showing any COVID-19 symptoms or have had exposure to COVID-19, please stay home and call us to reschedule.
- Hand sanitizer stations are available for you to use.
- The Township is committed to adding extra safety measures such as increased cleaning throughout the building with special attention to frequently touched surfaces.

For further questions, please call the Township at 847-884-0030 or 224-520-9763 VP. Please visit our website: www.schaumburgtownship.org

MEDICARE PART C/D ENROLLMENT

October 15 - December 7, 2020

The Medicare Part C and D Open enrollment Period is October 15 - December 7. This is a good time to review, change, join or cancel your part C (Advantage) or Part D plans. Any changes to your plan will be in effect January 1, 2021. You do not have to change your plan, but it is recommended to check if another plan for next year could be more beneficial for you.

Sarita Phadke is a SHIP (Senior Health Insurance Program) Counselor and she can help you with information and assistance with the following: Medicare Part D, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C), Medicare Savings Programs (Medicaid, QMB, SLMB) for people with Medicare, Extra Help, etc. If you would like to evaluate your options, or want to change to a different Medicare plan, or Medicare Part D, please contact Sarita to make an appointment: sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org or 224-520-9763 VP.



Save the date: October 3, 2020 for Township's Community Shred Day! Check our website and Facebook for details.

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG EVENTS

Saturday, September 19th: Document Destruction Event will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at Al Larson Prairie Center of the Arts, Schaumburg, IL. This free event is for Schaumburg residents only. Cars enter off of Summit Drive. Face coverings and proof of residency will be required. Residents can bring up to 2 boxes of documents to be shredded.

Saturday, October 10th: There will be a Recycling Event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Boomers Stadium West Lot, 1999 S. Springinsguth Road, Schaumburg, IL. This event is only for Schaumburg residents. Recycling items include electronics, paints, document destruction, books, clothes/textiles, cell phones, bicycles, batteries, eyeglasses, and much more. For details about the recycling items, please visit the village's website: <https://bit.ly/3aeTLIP>



TOWNSHIP'S FOOD PANTRY

The Township's food pantry is available for those who are in need of food during the Covid-19 pandemic. The pantry is set up, so clients can shop for the items their family needs.

The new hours are:

- Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday & Thursday, 12 to 4 p.m.

Clients can visit the pantry twice a month. They will need to make an appointment by calling 847-884-0030 Ext. 1013. Residents will need to bring a current piece of mail that has been issued within the last 30 days as proof of residency, to each appointment. Please enter through the Township Main Entrance.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Schaumburg Township will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2020 in observation of Labor Day. Have a safe and wonderful holiday weekend!

Alert! Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day is on Monday, October 12, 2020 and the Township will be open.



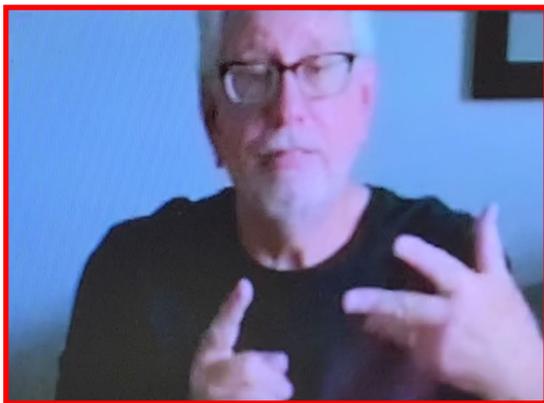
Great Appreciation to Sorenson,
for the Virtual VP Chats!

Very grateful to all following presenters to keep attendees
entertained during the COVID-19 pandemic!



Seung Koon Ki
from CHS gave an
interesting talk about
the educational
comparisons
between China and
USA as well as his
amazing journey to

USA. Also, he taught Chinese ABC Finger-
spelling which was fun to learn.



Thomas Benziger gave an excellent and educational presentation on “Understanding Laws & Your Rights”. Thomas explained the timeline of laws and disability rights movement as well as history. In addition, he emphasized about the importance of advocacy.



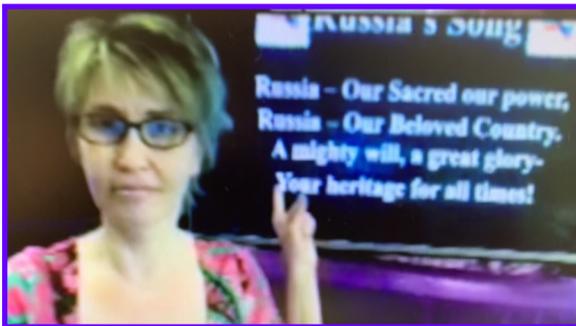
Great presentation on Jewish Culture,
Traditions & History by Norman Glazer!
Fascinating stories that Norman shared!



During the bingo games, the attendees
showed their favorite balls and at the
same time, they narrated stories about
them.



What an amazing and finest Deaf magic show by Magic Morgan and Liliana! They entertained the audience with fun tricks and wonderful stories! Everyone had a wonderful time!



Liliana Morgan presented an incredible talk about her hometown, Russian Folk Culture - traditions, customs, clothes, foods, etc. Also, she taught basic Russian Sign Language! It was fun learning some signs!



Fun Hat Day! Everyone came in, showing off their festive hats during the bingo games!



In honor of National Senior Citizen Day, there was a narration about the special day and history, followed by a drawing for gift cards, generously donated by ITAC! Thank you, ITAC!



COLD & FLU SEASON

With the cold and flu season approaching, here are some healthy tips to help prevent flu:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to prevent them from getting sick.
- Stay home from work, school and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue when coughing/sneezing.
- Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Clean & disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, specially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.
- Get a flu shot - Check with your doctor first.

** Both COVID-19 & Flu can have varying degrees of signs and symptoms, but they do share some common symptoms. For more information, visit the CDC website: www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/flu-vs-covid19.html.



“DEAF U” ON NETFLIX

Netflix will show documentary series, “Deaf U”, featuring a close-knit group of Deaf students at Gallaudet University, a renowned private university for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, in Washington, D.C.

In this show, the group of friends navigate the highs, lows, and hookups of college life together and their stories offer an unexpected look inside the Deaf community.

There will be 8 episodes that are about 20 minutes long each. It will premiere October 9, 2020. It will be executive produced by Eric Evangelista, Shannon Evangelista and Nyle DiMarco.

IMPORTANT AWARENESS MONTHS IN OCTOBER



OCTOBER
BREAST
CANCER
AWARENESS
MONTH

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women. Every 13 minutes, one woman in the U.S. will lose her life to breast cancer. 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Mammograms are the best

way to find breast cancer early, when it is easier to treat and before it is big enough to feel or cause symptoms. For more information on signs, symptoms, factor risks, treatments and other resources, visit www.komen.org and www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast.



Domestic Violence Awareness Month - The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) estimates that domestic violence is a crime that affects up to 30% of American women. It also affects both women and men, of every race, religion, culture and status. Support survivors and speak against domestic violence all month long. If you or know someone needs assistance, contact The Deaf Hotline: 1-855-812-1001 VP (24 hours/7 days) or CHS: 773-904-0143 VP. For more information, visit the following websites: www.adwas.org, www.thedeafhotline.org and www.ncadv.org.

REMINDER: FALL BACK

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed tonight.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Do not forget to set your clocks/watches one hour back on Sunday, November 1, 2020. Also, it is a good time to check that your smoke/CO detectors are working or change batteries.



MCLAKES MEETING

The McLakes (Chapter of Illinois Association of the Deaf) will have their general meeting and elections on Saturday,

September 19, 2020, 10 a.m. It will be held on Zoom. Everyone is welcome to attend the virtual meeting. Check the McLakes' Facebook to get the Zoom ID and password.

SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Wear a cloth face covering in public spaces

Stay at least 6 feet from other people

Frequently wash your hands

Source: CDC.gov



**FREE AMPLIFIED
PHONES AND
CELL PHONE
AMPLIFIERS**

The Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) offers free amplified phones and two cell phone amplifiers for qualified Illinois residents with a certified hearing loss. Schaumburg Township is a Selection Center. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, we do not accept any walk-ins or appointments to test phones until further notice. But we can assist with the phone questions/forms. You can view phones or for more information on www.itactty.org. For questions, contact the Disability Services at 847-285-4541.



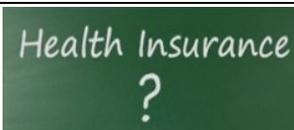
**FRIENDLY
REMINDER**

SEPTEMBER

- ◆ September 7 - Labor Day
- ◆ September 11 - Patriot Day
- ◆ September 13 - Grandparents' Day
- ◆ September 18 - Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown
- ◆ September 21 - 27 - International Week of the Deaf
- ◆ September 21 - Peace Day
- ◆ September 22 - Fall begins

OCTOBER

- ◆ October 12 - Columbus Day
- ◆ October 15 - Medicare Part C/D Enrollment begins
- ◆ October 31 - Halloween Day



SHIP PROGRAM

The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

offers free individual counseling services at local sites throughout Illinois. There are trained volunteers who can assist with various Medicare issues. There are several SHIP counselors at Schaumburg Township who can assist you in any way. Sarita Phadke is one of the SHIP counselors.

For an appointment, call 847-884-0030; 224-520-9763 VP.

SHIP is not affiliated with any insurance company. SHIP counselors do not sell or solicit any type of insurance.



Deaf Line is published every two months. Any agency, organization, or group may reprint any of our articles provided proper credit is given by name of newsletter and date.

Address: Schaumburg Township Deaf Services
One Illinois Blvd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169-3314

Phone: 224-520-9763 VP; 847-285-4541 V; 847-884-0030 V; 847-884-1560 Fax

Website: www.schaumburgtownship.org

Disability Services

Lauren Ewan—Public Relations/Event Coordinator: 847-884-0030 ext. 2025; lewan@schaumburgtownship.org
Sarita Phadke—Deaf Services Coordinator: 224-520-9763 VP; sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org
Ami-Nell Scurry—Benefit Specialist: 847-884-0030 ext. 2022; ascurry@schaumburgtownship.org
Sharon DeMarchi-Belter—Benefit Specialist: 847-884-0030 ext. 2024; sdemarchi-belter@schaumburgtownship.org

Township Officials

Timothy M. Heneghan—Supervisor
Diane Dunham—Trustee
Jeffrey S. Mytych—Trustee
Nimish Jani—Trustee
Charlotte Kegarise—Trustee
W. Robert Vinnedge—Clerk
John R. Lawson, C.I.A.O.—Assessor
Scott M. Kegarise—Highway Commissioner

Schaumburg Township is a Selection Center for the Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) Program (Amplified Phones, Cell Phone Amplifiers, CapTel Phone and TTYs).

 Follow & like us - @TOSDeafServices



Schaumburg Township Deaf Services
 One Illinois Boulevard
 Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

PRSR STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO. 154
 SCHAUMBURG, IL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

- ◆ Monday, September 7 - **SCH TWP Closed** (Labor Day Holiday)
- ◆ Friday, September 11 - **Patriot day**
- ◆ Monday - Sunday, September 21 - 27 - **International Week of the Deaf**
- ◆ Tuesday, September 22 - **Fall begins!**
- ◆ Monday, October 12 - **Columbus Day & SCH TWP will be open**
- ◆ Thursday, October 15 - **Medicare C/D Enrollment begins!**

NOTE: *No Deaf Social/Support Group for the rest of 2020
 (Due to COVID-19 Pandemic)*



Virtual VP Coffee Chat

Every Monday at 1 p.m. & Wednesday at 2 p.m.



Virtual VP BINGO GAMES

Every Tuesday & Thursday at 1 p.m.