

## January and February 2020

### AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE PROGRAM

The Township will once again partner with the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program to provide free tax preparation to low- to middle-income taxpayers. In 2019, the Township completed over 1,000 income tax returns for residents. We are proud to say that our site is the second largest in the Great Lakes region. Tax-Aide is possible due to the tireless dedication of volunteers who complete the returns. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 847-285-4541.

Appointments are required for AARP Foundation Tax-Aide and are available from early February through mid-April. The appointments are scheduled on a first come, first served basis. Residents can schedule an appointment by calling 847-285-4597 after January 27. Visit our website for a checklist of what to bring to your appointment at [schaumburgtownship.org/departments/senior-services](http://schaumburgtownship.org/departments/senior-services).



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### IT'S SHOWTIME WITH SENIOR SERVICES

Senior Services will be venturing to the Paramount Theater in Aurora for a special production of "Secret of My Success" on Wednesday, March 4, 2020. Based on the hit Universal Pictures film, the musical tells the hilarious story of a young man from the Midwest trying to make it in the big city. Will he discover what the secret to success is? This hysterical production is not to be missed! Tickets are \$65 and include transportation, buffet lunch, and show. Reserve your seat as soon as possible. Payment is due at time of registration. We will be scheduling more day trips throughout the year. If there is a place you'd like to visit, let us know at 847-285-4541.



### Take Charge of Your Diabetes in 2020

Do you have Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes? Are you caring for a person with diabetes? Did you set a New Year's resolution to **take charge of your diabetes in 2020**?

Join us for a FREE six-week workshop called, Take Charge of Diabetes. The Take Charge of Diabetes workshop was designed by Stanford University to help people manage their chronic conditions. Some of the topics covered include healthy eating and nutrition, stress and depression management, how to be a healthy caregiver, problem solving, meeting personal goals, partnering with your health care provider and more.

The class will be offered in partnership with AgeOptions, the Area Agency on Aging for Schaumburg Township. Trained facilitators will run the workshop at the Township building every Tuesday starting January 21 and ending February 25. The class will start at 9:30 AM and end at 12 PM. Registration is required; to register, call Senior Services at 847-285-4541 or email [mconway@schaumburgtownship.org](mailto:mconway@schaumburgtownship.org).

This workshop series is not intended to replace or provide medical advice. If you have a medical question, we encourage you to reach out to your healthcare provider.



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# Day Trips and Programs

Please register for all programs with Senior Services at 847-884-0030 (unless otherwise noted). Any fees are due at the time of registration. We can accept cash, check, or credit card. There is a 4% fee for credit card payments. All programs are held at 1 Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates, IL, 60169 (unless otherwise noted). Unfortunately, we are unable to issue refunds unless we can fill your space with another person.

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH THE NURSE

Wednesday, January 8  
9:30 AM—10:30 AM  
FREE



This month, we focus on "Why am I SO tired?" Join us for a general conversation about reasons for fatigue. Bring your questions; we'll bring the coffee. Register with the Nurse at 847-285-4551.

## DIY WITH THE DIRECTOR MODPODGE WOOD

Wednesday, January 8  
11 AM—12 PM



\$3 suggested donation  
Ring in the New Year with an inspirational wood craft. If you prefer, you can bring in a photograph for a personalized touch. Space is limited; Registration required.

## TALK TECHY CLASS

Tuesday, January 14  
Tuesday, February 11  
10 AM (Apple Users)  
1:30 PM (Android Users)  
FREE



Benefit Specialist Ami-Nell Scurry will lead a class on how to navigate touchscreen smart phones. Bring your questions! Registration required.

## ANNUAL TAX SEMINAR

Tuesday, January 14  
9 AM—12 PM  
FREE



Tax counselors will share info on filing instructions, record keeping tips, changes for 2019 tax year, and ID theft protection. There will be time for Q&A. Registration required.

## HORSE RACING

Wednesday, January 15  
Wednesday, February 19  
12 PM—2 PM



\$2 suggested donation  
Do you like horse racing? Join us for the township version and have a blast competing for prizes by betting on your fave filly. Hot dog lunch is provided. Registration required.

## TAKE CHARGE OF DIABETES

Tuesdays, January 21—February 25  
9:30 AM—12:00 PM  
FREE

Trained facilitators will lead this six-week workshop on ways to "Take Charge of Your Diabetes." (See page one for more details.) Registration required.

## COOKING DEMO

Tuesday, January 21  
1:00 PM—2:00 PM  
FREE



Join Nurse Janet on ways to make your oatmeal work harder! She'll review five savory spins on oatmeal bowls. Space if limited. Register with the Nurse at 847-285-4551.

## BRIDGES TO MEMORY

Wednesday, January 22  
Wednesday, February 26  
2 PM—3:30 PM  
FREE

Bridges is a unique group intended for people with dementia and their caregivers to attend together. Specialized activities will be provided. Registration required for new members.

## ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Monday, January 27  
Monday, February 24  
11 AM—12 PM  
FREE

We invite anyone providing care to join us for a general support group. Share with others facing similar situations. Registration recommended.

## BREAKFAST SOCIAL—JO JO'S 1935 W GOLF RD, SCHAUMBURG

Tuesday, January 28  
8 AM—9 AM

On your own  
Join us for a monthly breakfast outing and socialize with others over a delicious meal. Separate checks will be issued. Registration required.

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH THE NURSE

Wednesday, February 5  
9:30 AM—10:30 AM  
FREE

Nurse Janet hosts this monthly discussion. In February, we'll discuss flu and pneumonia. Bring your questions; we'll bring the coffee. Register with the Nurse at 847-285-4551.

## DIY WITH THE DIRECTOR HEART SHAPED WREATH

Wednesday, February 5  
11 AM—12 PM



\$3 suggested donation  
In celebration of Valentine's Day we will be making a heart-shaped burlap wreath. Join us as we create these beautiful decorations. Space is limited; Registration required

## BREAKFAST SOCIAL—I-HOP 2250 BARRINGTON RD, HOFFMAN

Tuesday, February 25  
8 AM—9 AM

On your own  
Rise and shine with the Township! Join friends for delicious food and socialization. Separate checks will be issued. Registration required.

## SECRET OF MY SUCCESS AT THE PARAMOUNT

Wednesday, March 4  
10:30 AM—4 PM  
\$65

This side-splitting musical about ambition in corporate America will be a blast. Ticket, lunch, & transportation included. HURRY—Space is limited! Registration required by February 4!

## CUB UTILITY BILL CLINIC

Wednesday, March 11  
11 AM—1 PM  
FREE



Join the Citizens Utility Board for this info session and review of your utility bill. Bring in a copy of your Nicor and ComEd bill to review. Time for Q&A. Registration required.

# Social Services

## Medicare Claim Change

As of January 1, 2020, most Medicare claims submitted with the old HICN numbers (the Medicare Claim number using a Social Security Number) will be rejected, no matter the date the service was performed. Please be sure you give your healthcare provider your new Medicare card to avoid rejected claims. If you have not received your new Medicare card, call Social Security at 800-772-1213 as soon as possible. If you have lost or misplaced the new card, you can print a duplicate from home by logging into [mymedicare.gov](http://mymedicare.gov). There is an option to "print Medicare card."

## Social Security Expands Hours

Starting, January 8, 2020, Social Security offices will remain open until 4 PM on Wednesdays. The typical field office will have hours from 9 AM—4 PM, Monday—Friday. Previously, Social Security offices closed at noon on Wednesdays.

The closest Social Security Administration office to the Township is at 230 W Lake St, Bloomingdale or 705 N Wheeling Rd, Mt Prospect.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with Social Security, please call 800-772-1213. You can also walk in to the office for assistance.

## SHIP Trained Staff Ready to Help

The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is a free service to help people with Medicare. Township staff are trained in SHIP and available to help explain benefits, troubleshoot issues, or clarify information. Appointments are required by calling 847-285-4541. SHIP is sponsored by the Illinois Department on Aging. Our staff are happy to help with complex issues and questions related to insurance.

## LIHEAP and Furnace Help Available

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program began October 1, 2019. The program provides credit toward Nicor Gas and/or ComEd accounts. Call 847-285-4541 for required documents and to make an appointment. The program will end May 31 or earlier if funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP may also be able to help if your furnace is no longer working. To qualify, you must meet income and household guidelines. If approved, the Furnace program will repair or replace the existing unit.

### **Gross Monthly Income Guidelines**

- 1 person household \$1,562
- 2 person household \$2,114
- 3 person household \$2,666

## Free Energy Assistance Programs

There is a free energy efficiency program available to Nicor customers. The Nicor EnergySmart program will send a kit of easy-to-use products at no charge.

There is no income requirement, but eligible households must have a Nicor account. Kits will be mailed directly to homes within 4-5 weeks.

ComEd customers may qualify for a program called "Savings for Income Eligible Seniors." A technician will install energy efficiency products at no charge to eligible customers.

To qualify, you must have ComEd service, be 60 and older, reside in suburban Cook County, and meet income guidelines. The income limit for a single family household is \$47,400. If you have questions or would like an appointment, call 847-285-4541.

## Benefit Access Program

The Benefit Access Program is a program available to Illinois residents who meet income guidelines. Eligible applicants must also be over the age of 65 or 16 and older with a disability. To qualify, a single household must have gross income from the previous tax year less than \$27,610; for a two-person household, the limit is \$36,635.

Benefit Access provides two benefits—a discount off the annual license plate registration fee and eligibility for the Free Ride Transit Pass which provides free transportation on all public, fixed route transportation. To see if you qualify or to schedule an appointment, call 847-285-4541.

## SNAP Issues New Income Guidelines

The State of Illinois recently announced new income limits for the SNAP program. SNAP provides monthly assistance toward your grocery bill. SNAP benefits can be used at most area grocery stores to purchase things like fresh produce, dairy, canned goods, meat, and more. For households with a person over the age of sixty or with a disability, income guidelines are as follows

### **Gross Monthly Income Guidelines**

- 1 person household \$2,082
- 2 person household \$2,818
- 3 person household \$3,555

Township staff are trained to help file SNAP applications. Benefits are available on a Link card and reloaded automatically each month. SNAP benefits are available to all who qualify—you would not be "taking" from someone else if you apply. The process is simple and we are happy to help! Call 847-285-4541 to schedule your appointment.

## DROP-IN Programs

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>VETERAN SERVICES</b> 9 am—3:30 pm (appointment required after 12 PM)</p> <p><b>CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP</b> 11 am—12 pm 4th Monday</p> <p><b>CHAIR YOGA</b> 11 am—12 PM 12 pm—1 pm \$5 per class</p> <p><b>SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES COMMITTEE</b> 7 pm 3rd Monday</p>	<p><b>TAI CHI</b> 1 pm—2 pm \$5 per class</p> <p><b>BONE DENSITY SCREENINGS</b> 2nd Tuesday (register with Nurse Janet at 847-285-4551)</p> <p><b>SENIOR WILLS</b> 2nd Tuesday (appointments required)</p> <p><b>FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP</b> 7 pm—8 pm 4th Tuesday</p>	<p><b>COFFEE AND CONVERSATION</b> 9:30 am—10:30 am 1st Wednesday</p> <p><b>DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP</b> 10:30 am—11:30 am 2nd &amp; 4th Wednesday</p> <p><b>DIY WITH THE DIRECTOR</b> 11 am—12 pm 1st Wednesday</p> <p><b>BRIDGES TO MEMORY</b> 2 pm—3:30 pm 4th Wednesday</p>	<p><b>VETERAN SERVICES</b> 9 am—3:30 pm (appointment required after 12 PM)</p>	<p><b>KNIT/CROCHET</b> 9 am—11 am</p> <p><b>CHAIR YOGA</b> 11 am—12 pm 12 pm—1 pm \$5 per class</p> <p><b>AT THE MOVIES</b> 12 pm 3rd Friday \$2 donation</p>
				<p>Interested in one of our drop-in activities? There is no need to register (unless noted). Just come on by! Questions? Call Senior Services at 847-285-4541.</p> <p>Would you like to start a drop-in group or club? Call Caryn Remer for more information about how we might be able to launch something.</p>

### Monthly Movies

Enjoy a movie, beverage, and freshly popped popcorn during our "Friday at the Movies." Movie starts at 12 PM and we request a \$2.00 donation.

#### January 17

*Sweet Home Alabama*  
(PG-13 Comedy/Romance)  
A young woman (Reese Witherspoon) must return home to Alabama to obtain a divorce from her husband, after seven years of separation.



#### February 28

*My Big Fat Greek Wedding*  
(PG Comedy/Romance)  
A Greek woman falls in love with a non-Greek and struggles to get her family to accept him while she comes to terms with her heritage.



### Transportation Services

There is a \$1 fee per ride when using the Township bus. Reservations Required. Please call 847-882-1929 for a reservation, to register, or for more information.

<u>January DATES</u>	<u>STORES</u>	<u>February DATES</u>	<u>STORES</u>
FRIDAY—3RD	TARGET 1235 Higgins Rd Schaumburg	MONDAY—3RD FRIDAY—7TH	WALMART 850 S Barrington Streamwood
MONDAY—6TH FRIDAY—10TH	WALMART 850 S Barrington Streamwood	MONDAY—10TH FRIDAY—14TH	TARGET 2621 Schaumburg Schaumburg
MONDAY—13TH FRIDAY—17TH	TARGET 2621 Schaumburg Schaumburg	MONDAY—17TH FRIDAY—21ST	CLOSED WALMART 801 Meacham Elk Grove
MONDAY—20TH FRIDAY—24TH	WALMART 801 Meacham Elk Grove	MONDAY—24TH FRIDAY—28TH	TARGET 1235 Higgins Rd Schaumburg
MONDAY—27TH FRIDAY—31ST	TARGET 1235 Higgins Rd Schaumburg		

# News IN and AROUND the Township

## CAREGIVER SUPPORT PACKAGE—THANK YOU!

In November, the Township celebrated National Caregiver Month by collecting items for support packages. The support packages were then distributed to caregivers throughout the month. We were fortunate to receive several items, as well as cash donations from area businesses, agencies, and individuals to create the packages. We are proud to say that we distributed 25 packages during the month. We still have some packages left. If you are caring for a loved one, please stop by while supplies last.

Many **THANKS** to our sponsors and donors:

AARP  
Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Cook County Commissioner Kevin B. Morrison  
Home Instead Senior Care  
JourneyCare  
Northwest Community Healthcare  
State Senator Laura Murphy  
State Representative Michelle Mussman  
Ms. Maureen Statland  
Team Rehabilitation Physical Therapy  
Township of Schaumburg Knit and Crochet Group  
Township of Schaumburg Trustee Nimish Jani  
Victory Centre of Bartlett  
Village of Schaumburg—The Barn  
Visiting Angels  
Westbrook Senior Living  
Yale H. Lauter Insurance Agency, LLC—Gaye G. Mitchell



## REAL ID IN ILLINOIS

Are you confused by the REAL ID implementation? Starting October 1, 2020, every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID compliant license or photo ID to access federal facilities, enter a nuclear power plant, or board a commercial airline. In other words, if you are flying a domestic flight anywhere within the United States or territories, you will need a REAL ID. Other forms of ID may be accepted. You can present a passport instead of the REAL ID.

REAL ID is NOT a national identification card; but rather, a national set of standards. The standards were created based on a recommendation from the 9/11 Commission. Each state has to issue the cards based on these standards to make our identity documents more consistent and secure across the nation.

You do not have to obtain a REAL ID if you only use your license for driving or general identification purposes. If you board a domestic flight after October 1, 2020, you will need a REAL ID, Passport, or other accepted document.

In Illinois, you can obtain a REAL ID at the Secretary of State's office. For further information and to verify the needed documents, visit [cyberdriveillinois.gov](http://cyberdriveillinois.gov). The closest Secretary of State is located at 1227 E Golf Rd, Schaumburg, IL 60173. For more information on REAL ID, you can call 833-503-4074 or email [realid@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:realid@hq.dhs.gov).

## TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY HELP NEEDED



The Schaumburg Township Food Pantry is 100% donation based. Each month, the pantry serves approximately 700 households because of the generous support of our community. And now, it's easier than ever to donate items! Items can be purchased through Amazon and sent directly to the Township. You can help fill our shelves from the convenience of your desk or couch. Some of the urgently needed items include pasta, tomato products, canned meats, and toilet paper. Check out our "wish list" at <http://a.co/9YbUnas>. Thanks for your support!

## ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT SALE

The Schaumburg Community Garden Club will be holding their annual sale on Sunday, May 17, from 10 AM—2 PM at Spring Valley Nature Center. The Nature Center is located at 1111 E Schaumburg Rd, Schaumburg.

You can view photos of native wildflowers, grasses, perennials, trees and shrubs, as well as pre-order online at [www.schaumburggardenclub.com](http://www.schaumburggardenclub.com).

The deadline to pre-order is Friday, May 1. Check out the website to learn more or to place your order.



## GET YOUR PASSPORT AT THE TOWNSHIP!

### *Passport Reminders:*

- 1 Bring a check or money order for each application.
- 2 Bring an original birth certificate listing both parents or original naturalization papers.
- 3 Bring a photo ID.

## TOWNSHIP CLOSURES

The Township will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for New Year. Happy New Year to all!

The Township will close at noon on Friday, January 24, for a Staff Appreciation Event.

The Township offices will also be closed Monday, February 17, in observance of President's Day.



Visit the Clerk's Office for passport services, and our website for more information.

Many thanks to all who attended the annual *Senior and Disability Services Holiday Party* on Thursday, December 12. We hope everyone had a wonderful time. Guests were treated to a delicious luncheon, games, raffle prizes, and festive music stylings from violinist Jennifer Silk and entertainer Maureen Christine. Happy Holidays to all! Hope to see you in 2020!



# Holiday Party Sponsors

Bobbi Sloan  
Ahlgrim & Sons  
Funeral and Cremation Services, Ltd.

AristaCare

Hoffman Estates Community Bank

ITAC

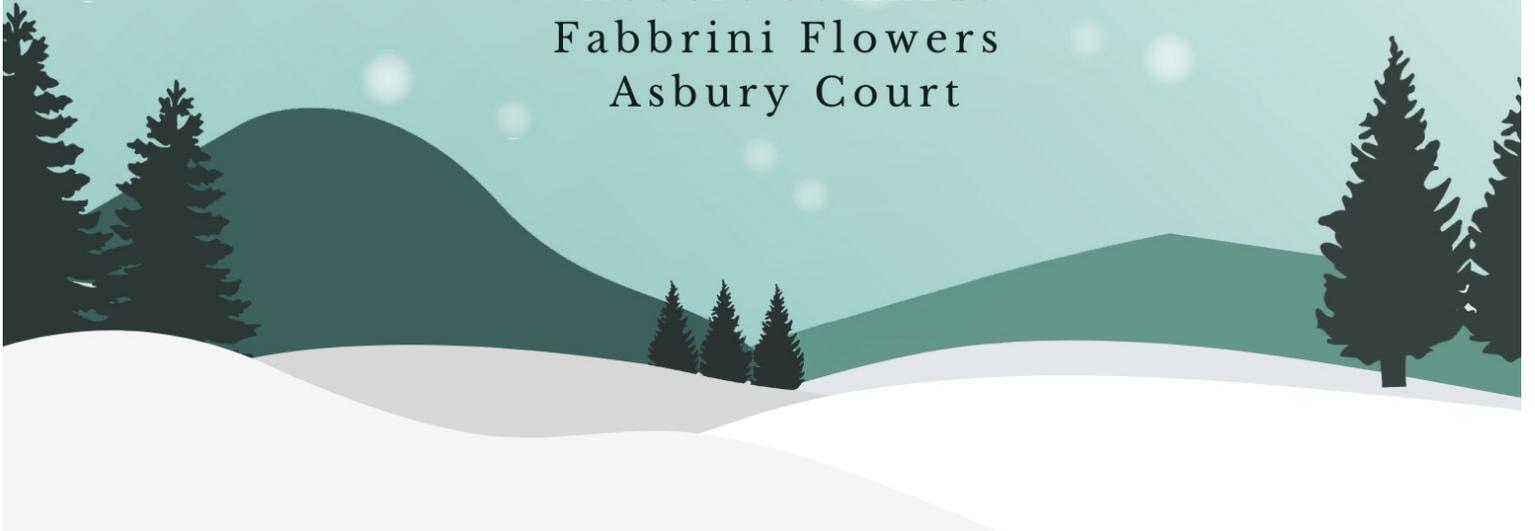
Cook County Commissioner Kevin B. Morrison

Friends of Trustee Nimish Jani

Robert Schmidt

Fabbrini Flowers

Asbury Court





**Township of Schaumburg**  
**Department of Senior Services**  
 1 Illinois Boulevard  
 Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
 Phone: 847-884-0030

**Senior Services Direct: 847-285-4541**  
[www.schaumburgtownship.org](http://www.schaumburgtownship.org)

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



**Senior**  
**Services**  
**has a new**  
**DIRECT DIAL!**

**Reach us at 847-285-4541**

### **SENIOR SERVICES**

- CEDA Energy Services (LIHEAP, Furnace, Weatherization, & more)
- Day Trips
- Disability parking placards
- Employment Services
- Illinois amplified phone program
- Income tax return assistance
- Notary public services
- Home visits
- Information and referrals
- Medicare counseling
- Recreation programming
- RTA Reduced Fare and Free Ride Transit Passes
- Senior citizen will program
- Social events and parties
- Support groups
- Transportation
- Veterans Services, and MORE

### BABY, IT'S COLD (AND SNOWY AND ICY) OUTSIDE PREPARE NOW FOR WINTER WEATHER

Winter in Chicagoland means freezing temperatures, snow, and ice. Now is the time to plan accordingly for inclement weather. The State of Illinois has several excellent resources at [www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov). Make sure to have at least seven days' worth of medication, supplies, and food. Consider getting extra batteries or a generator (especially if you use oxygen). Prepare a bag with extra clothing, supplies, medication, flashlight, and emergency contact numbers. Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to make sure they are working properly.

During an emergency or inclement weather, caregivers or home workers may not be able to reach you. Make arrangements for a backup plan with other caregivers or family members. If you have a service animal, make sure it has a registered tag.

Arrange now for snow removal at your property. If you are physically unable to remove snow from your driveway and sidewalks, consider asking a neighbor or loved one to help with the cost of a service or to clear the snow and ice for you. If you have a neighbor who needs extra assistance, consider shoveling or snow blowing their driveway as an act of kindness. All people should exercise caution when outdoors and do not overexert yourself or be outside for long periods of time.

The Township is a warming center. If you are without electricity or heat, you are welcome to visit our building during operating hours. Please check our website or facebook for up-to-date building closures. Police departments, libraries, and hospitals may also be an option for a warming center. Never hesitate to call 911 in case of an emergency.

Senior Services maintains a list of people to contact in case of emergency or extreme weather. In the event of an extreme weather situation, staff or volunteers would reach out and connect with the residents. Township staff would then work with other providers or departments to establish services, if needed. If you need a life alert (like the emergency necklace or bracelet button), the township can provide referrals. Please contact Senior Services for additional information or to be added to our telephone check-in list at 847-285-4541.

