

The Town Crier



**TOWNSHIP OF
SCHAUMBURG**

A HISTORY OF SERVICE . . .
A COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR



Community Giving Spreads Holiday Cheer to Hundreds!

The Township of Schaumburg has an incredible and giving community. We see this throughout the year with our food pantry, sponsored events and programs, volunteers and more! That being said, the community’s generosity is especially apparent during the holidays. This year, our neighbors stepped up in a big way supporting 325 low-income seniors, families and people with disabilities. Our holiday programs provide gifts, gift cards, toys, games, winter gear, personal items, household items and food contributions to residents in need.

In total, we provided 514 Thanksgiving meals and had 1,234 food pantry visits to those experiencing hunger. We partnered with 123 individual and group donors to support our Adopt-A-Family program. The community adopted 248 families and individuals which was 532 total people in that program alone.

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TOWNSHIP OF SCHAUMBURG

CAREER COACH

resume review | identify transferable skills
find a career direction | interview prep
negotiation tips | master online job postings
networking skills | and more!

Email TODAY: empservices@schaumburgtownship.org

February

- 15 Disability Services Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social and Dance, 6 – 8 PM.*
- 17 Township is closed for Presidents' Day
- 25 Senior Breakfast Social – I-Hop, 8 AM.*
- 28 Movie Friday – *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, 12 PM.*

March

- 4 *The Secret of My Success* at the Paramount Theater, 10:30 – 5 PM. Details p. 3*
- 11 Citizens Utility Board (CUB) Utility Bill Clinic, 11 – 1 PM. Details p. 3*
- 20 Illinois Secretary of State Rules of the Road, 10 AM. Details p. 3*
- 27 Movie Friday – *Patch Adams*, 12 PM.*
- 31 Senior Breakfast Social – Egg Harbor Cafe, 8 AM.*

April

- 4 Breakfast with the Bunny, 9 AM. Details p. 4
- 7 Senior Music Night, Denise Armour, 6 – 8 PM. Details p. 3*
- 21 Fall Prevention Clinic, 10 – 12 AM. Details p. 7**
- 22 Earth Day Celebration: Energy Conservation Tips, 10:30 – 12 PM. Details p. 3*
- 24 Movie Friday – *Going in Style*, 12 PM.*
- 28 Senior Breakfast Social – Denny's, 8 AM.*

May

- 1 Native Plant Sale Pre-orders Due. Details p. 6
- 5 Minds Matter Mental Health Awareness Fair, 4 – 7 PM. Details p. 5
- 8 Annual Mother's Day Tea, 11:30 – 1 PM. Details p. 3*
- 9 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Details p. 4
- 17 Native Plant Sale, 10 – 2 PM. Details p. 6

Weekly Recurring Activities/Events

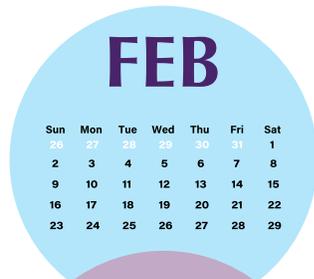
- Monday and Wednesday Walking Group, 9:30 – 10:30 AM.
- Monday and Thursday Veteran Assistance Benefits and Services, 9 – 3:30 PM.
- Monday and Friday Chair Yoga, 12 PM.
- Tuesday Tai Chi, 1 – 2 PM.
- Friday Knit and Crochet Group, 9 AM.

Monthly Recurring Activities/Events

- 1st Wednesday Coffee and Conversation, 9:30 – 10:30 AM. Details p. 7**
- 1st Wednesday DIY with the Director, 11 AM.*
- 2nd Tuesday Northwest Suburban Pregnancy/Infant Loss Support Group, 7 – 8 PM. Room 114. Details p. 4
- 2nd Tuesday Senior Wills, (by appointment only).
- 2nd and 4th Wednesday Diabetes Support Group, 10:30 AM. Room 102. Details p. 4
- 3rd Tuesday Deaf Social/Support Group, 10:30 – 3 PM. Details p. 4
- 3rd Wednesday Township Horse Racing, 12 PM.*
- 4th Monday Caregiver Support Group, 11 AM. Details p. 4
- 4th Tuesday Fibromyalgia Support Group, 7 PM. Details p. 4
- 4th Wednesday Bridges to Memory, 2 – 3:30 PM.* Details p. 4
- 4th Wednesday Regular Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 PM.

* Registration is required with Senior and Disability Services at (847) 285-4541.

** Registration is required with Nurse Janet at (847) 285-4551.



Please note: If you attend a Township function and the event is photographed, your image may be used for news and promotional purposes.

Schaumburg Township Contact Information

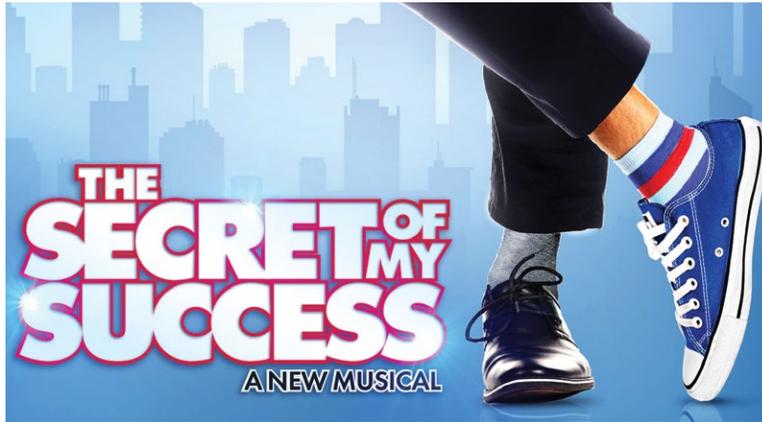
One Illinois Boulevard, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169 Monday through Friday 8:30 – 5 PM

Assessor's Office
Clerk's Office
Disability Services
Senior Services
Welfare Services

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(847) 884-0030

Community Nurse: (847) 285-4551
Deaf Services – Videophone: (224) 520-9763
Highway Department: (847) 884-1727
Kenneth Young Center: (847) 884-6212
Passport Services: (847) 285-4561
Transportation Dispatch: (847) 882-1929



It's SHOWTIME with Senior Services March 4th

We are happy to announce a special trip to see *The Secret of My Success* at the Paramount Theater on March 4th from 10:30 – 5 PM. Based on the hit Universal Pictures film, *The Secret of My Success* tells the uproarious story of an ambitious Midwesterner trying to make it in the big city, secrets and all. Is money, a powerful job or a happy marriage the secret to success? This production is a wild look at ambition and making your own way. You will be laughing all the way home. Tickets are only \$65 and include transportation, buffet lunch and the show. Reserve your seat with Senior Services as soon as possible at (847) 285-4541. Payment is due at registration.

Make sure you check out the bimonthly Senior Newsletter if you enjoy theater productions and other day trips. To be added to the Senior Newsletter mailing list, please call Senior Services or email hbisioulis@schaumburgtownship.org.

Low-cost Exercise Classes at the Township Provide Countless Benefits

Senior Services proudly offers several weekly exercise classes – each focusing on both body and mind.

Every Tuesday at 1 PM certified **Tai Chi** instructors lead classes at the Township. Tai Chi is a low-impact, slow-motion exercise and benefits both body and mind. Tai Chi can help increase muscle strength, flexibility and balance – all things that decline as we age. No experience is necessary, but we ask you to wear comfortable clothing. Each class is \$5 at the door. No registration required.

Chair yoga improves flexibility and clears your mind. Many studies show that yoga can help with low back pain and stress. At the Township, chair yoga is offered every Monday and Friday at 12 PM. Each class is \$5 at the door and is facilitated by a certified instructor. No registration required.

Exercise does not have to be strenuous or cause undue exertion. Simply walking can help your cardiovascular health. The Township hosts a **Walking Group** every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 AM. When the weather cooperates, the group meets at Volkening Lake and enjoys an outdoor walk around the lake. During the winter months, the group meets at the Township. There is no cost to participate and all walking paces are welcome.

If you would like more information on our exercise classes, please contact Senior Services at (847) 285-4541.

SENIOR EVENTS

Secret of My Success at the Paramount Theater	MARCH 4TH 10:30-5 PM \$65
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CUB Utility Bill Clinic	MARCH 11TH 11-1 PM FREE
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Illinois Secretary of State Rules of the Road	MARCH 20TH 10 AM FREE
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Senior Music Night Featuring Denise Armour	APRIL 7TH 6 - 8 PM \$15
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Fall Prevention Clinic	APRIL 21ST 10-12 PM FREE
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Earth Day Celebration: Earth Conservation Tips	APRIL 22ND 10:30-12 PM FREE
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Annual Mother's Day Tea	MAY 8TH 11:30-1 PM FREE
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For additional event details, check our website, the Senior Newsletter or contact Senior Services at (847) 285-4541. Registration required.

NEED A RIDE?

(847) 882-1929

Township transportation is available to older adults (age 55+) and people with permanent disabilities (age 18+)

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Cost

One-way ride | \$1
Round-trip | \$2
Bus pass | \$15 (18 rides)



Letter Carrier's Food Drive, Stamp Out Hunger, on May 9th

On May 9th letter carriers across America participate in the Stamp Out Hunger Food drive. Carriers will collect non-perishable items on their typical mail route and deliver to their local food pantries. To donate, leave a box or bag of non-perishable food next to your mailbox that day before your letter carrier arrives with your mail. Last year, the Township received 10,843 pounds from the Schaumburg Post Office. Not sure if your letter carrier participates? Head to your local postal service website or give your post office a call to confirm! This is an easy way to help provide for hungry families in our community.

Breakfast with the Bunny Returns April 4th



Disability Services is pleased to announce the second annual Breakfast with the Bunny. The event will be on April 4th at 9 AM. We invite residents with disabilities and their families to visit with the Bunny and enjoy a hot breakfast. Families will be invited to meet the bunny in a sensory-friendly environment without large crowds and noise. Guests will also enjoy crafts and

activities at their table. Interested individuals must register no later than March 27th, by calling Disability Services at (847) 285-4541. Residents new to our events must complete a registration form to attend. We welcome sponsorships for our events; if you are a business or organization interested in sponsorships, please contact Disability Services Director Megan Conway at (847) 884-0030.

Six Support Groups Available Every Month at the Township

Did you know that there are several support groups available at the Township that provide safe environments to share and learn from others facing similar challenges? No fees are required to attend. The Township hosts the following support groups:

Northwest Community Healthcare, AMITA Health at St. Alexius Medical Center and AMITA Health Alexian Brothers Medical Center collaborate to provide bereavement support who have lost their child during or after pregnancy. **The Northwest Suburban Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 7 – 8 PM. For more information email jkottmeier@nch.org or call (847) 618-8415.

The Township Community Health Nurse Janet Stachula facilitates a **Diabetes Support Group** for people with pre-diabetes or diabetes and their caregivers. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:30 am. For more information call (847) 285-4551 or email jstachula@nch.org.

The Township's **Deaf Social/Support Group** meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 AM. The group is led by Deaf Services Coordinator Sarita Phadke in American Sign Language and offers socialization, fellowship and information. For more details on this support group and more visit the Deaf Services' Facebook page @TOSDeafServices, call (224) 520-9763 (VP) or (847) 285-4541, or email sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org. Registration is required with Coordinator Phadke.

Director of Senior and Disability Services Megan Conway facilitates a **Caregiver Support Group** on the 4th Monday of each month at 11 AM. Registration is not required, but is recommended by calling (847) 285-4541. The group is offered in affiliation with the Alzheimer's Association, but all caregivers are welcome.

The Township hosts a peer-led **Fibromyalgia Support Group** on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 PM. Interested individuals can email the facilitator at nwfibro@yahoo.com for more information and to be added to the reminder list.

Director Conway also facilitates a monthly group on the 4th Wednesday at 2 PM for people with memory loss and their caregivers. The group, **Bridges to Memory**, is intended to provide a safe space for people dealing with memory loss and their caregivers to engage in appropriate activities, reminiscence and socialization. Registration is required by calling (847) 285-4541.

Clerk's Corner

Township Clerk W. Robert Vinnedge

Recent Veterans' Honor Roll Recipients



The Township of Schaumburg Clerk W. Robert Vinnedge and the Board of Trustees honored Specialist Michael D. Switzer, Sergeant Joseph J. Riefski and Motor Machinist Mate Myron Petrakis at the October Board of Trustees meeting.

Motor Machinist Mate Myron Petrakis U.S. Navy 1944 – 1946	Specialist Michael D. Switzer U.S. Army 1968 – 1970
Sergeant Joseph J. Riefski U.S. Army Air Corps 1942 – 1945	Corporal John J. Kearns U.S. Marine Corps 1967 – 1971
Sergeant Carlo J. Riggio U.S. Air Force 1966 – 1970	Lieutenant James E. Thies U.S. Army Active 2005 – 2006 Reserves 2004 – 2011

Honoring Our Schaumburg Township Veterans

Clerk W. Robert Vinnedge and the Board of Trustees honor community veterans every 4th Wednesday of the month at the Board of Trustees meeting. Township veterans can be recognized for their service to our country by completing an application and returning it to the Clerk's Office with a copy of their DD-214 record. Applicants must have served in a time of conflict, have an honorable discharge and currently reside in the Township. Applications are available at the Township Clerk's Office or on our website at schaumburgtownship.org.

KYC Offers Youth Substance Use Prevention Programming

In partnership with the Township, Kenneth Young Center (KYC) promotes healthy choices among youth through educational programming in local middle and high schools. These evidence-based programs aim to prevent the student use of opioids, vaping, alcohol, tobacco and other substances and help keep families healthy and safe. KYC's extensive service offerings at the Township provide a place to turn for families who need help tackling tough issues like youth substance use. If you would like to learn more about what's available through KYC at the Township building, visit kennethyoung.org.

Get your Passport Photo at the Township!

Poor quality photos are one of the reasons passport applications are delayed. The Township takes passport-quality photos for \$10! Photos can be taken and printed in 10 minutes. If you are getting your photo taken elsewhere, here are some common passport photo missteps to be aware of:

- Passport photos cannot include any glasses. You should have a neutral facial expression with both eyes open and be able to see your whole face.
- Photos should not be edited to be lighter or darker and the subject should be in front of a plain white background with no shadows. Photos should not be edited to make the background white or brighter.
- Photos should be no more than six months old.
- Passport photos taken too close or too far away will be rejected. The correct photo size is 2 x 2 inches. Your head must be between 1 – 1³/₈ inches from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head facing the camera directly with full face in view.
- The photo quality is important. Photos that are blurry, grainy, pixelated, or printed on non-photo quality paper will be rejected. Your photos should be clear with a high resolution and printed on matte or glossy photo quality paper.
- No uniforms or camouflage attire. Hats or head coverings are not allowed unless for medical or religious purposes.

Review all photo requirements and see examples here: travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply/photos.html. If you have a question about your photo, give us a call at (847) 285-4561.

Save the Date!

Minds Matter Mental
Health Awareness Fair

Tuesday, May 5th

4 – 7 PM

Township Building

1 Illinois Blvd., Hoffman Estates

The Mental Health Committee will be hosting its annual Mental Health Awareness Fair, Minds Matter. Come learn about mental health issues and services available in the area. Mental health experts will also lead informational sessions. Please check the Township website for updated details before May!



From the Desk of the Highway Commissioner, Scott M. Kegarise

This time of year Spring draws near and days grow longer with rains soon to follow. Swales must be clear of leaf debris for them to be useful against flooding. Clogged pipes can cause standing water that can saturate a septic field producing potential health issues.

With an eye towards conservation, the Highway Department has rain barrels available for purchase at schaumburgtownship.org/departments/highway-department. Rain barrels can also be purchased in person in the Township Clerk's Office. All barrel purchases come with free delivery. Utilizing rain barrels helps with run off, conserves water and provides free water for landscape use. What a smart way to plan for spring and summer gardens.

Thank you for slowing down for our personnel and remember that if you can't see our mirrors we can't see you. Many of our streets require us to back down them in order to exit the street. Please be aware of those flashing lights so that we all get home safely.



Rain barrels are available in black and grey.

A Message from the Assessor, John R. Lawson, M.S., C.I.A.O.



Trustee Jani, Assessor Lawson, Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Patlak, Cook County Commissioner Morrison and Supervisor Heneghan at a property tax appeals seminar.

Property Tax Exemption Options for Older Adults

Older adults who qualify can apply for two property tax exemptions: the senior freeze or senior exemption.

Senior freeze is available for residential property owners who are 66 years of age (born in 1954 or earlier) in the tax year in which they are filing for with a household income of \$65,000 or under. This exemption freezes the assessed value of your home for one year, reducing the rate of growth of your property taxes. Seniors must file every year in order to receive this exemption. Senior freeze forms were mailed in January and are due 30 days following the mailing – due dates are on the form mailed to you. The Township can help file for this exemption and residents will need the 2018 I.R.S. 1040 federal taxes in order to complete your form.

Senior exemptions are available for residential property owners who are 66 years of age (born in 1954 or earlier) in the tax year in which they are filing for. This exemption could help save you up to \$800 and will be automatically renewed each year. Residents not currently receiving the exemption, and those who turned 65 in 2019, must apply for the senior exemption in 2020.

First Installment Cook County Property Taxes

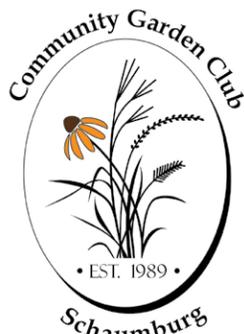
First installments of 2018 Cook County property tax bills are due March 3rd to avoid late penalties. Tax information is available on cookcountytreasurer.com. Residents will need a property index number to view what is owed. Payment options are:

- Online at cookcountytreasurer.com, with a checking or savings account
- At 400 Chase Bank locations in Illinois
- By mail, in an enclosed return envelope postmarked no later than March 3rd, 2020.
- Mortgage escrow (Taxpayers should confirm payment with their mortgage-paying firm.)

Native Plant Sale

The Schaumburg Community Garden Club will be holding their annual Native Plant Sale on May 17th from 10 – 2 PM at Spring Valley Nature Center, 1111 E. Schaumburg Road in Schaumburg. Order ahead by May 1st and view what is available at schaumburggardenclub.org.

The sale will include native wildflowers, grasses, perennials, trees and shrubs. Convenient pre-order pick up is from 11 – 1 PM on May 16th. Place your order today! The Schaumburg Community Garden Club is a 501(c)(4) organization.



Schaumburg Community Blood Drive

Thursday, April 2nd, 3:30 – 7:30 PM
The Barn at 231 S. Civic Drive, Schaumburg IL 60193

Call Vitalant at (877) 258-4825
to schedule an appointment.

Fall Prevention Clinic April 21st

Older adults have a higher risk of falling, which could lead to a serious injury like broken bones, fractures or worse. Help avoid a future fall by registering for our free Fall Prevention Clinic from 10 – 12 PM on Tuesday, April 21st at the Township of Schaumburg building. Registration is required at (847) 285-4551 and appointments are limited.



Nurse Janet Stachula

Upcoming Events:

Coffee and Conversation:

All sessions: 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Registration required at (847) 285-4551.

Free

- February 5th Do I Have the Flu and/or Pneumonia?
- March 4th Stroke Education
- April 1st Differentiating Palliative and Supportive Care, Comfort Care and Hospice Care
- May 6th Care for the Caregiver

Healthy Cooking Demo:

10 – 11 AM

Registration required at (847) 285-4551 (limited seating).

Free

- March 24th Meat Lover's Breakfast Cups

Access To Care: Primary Healthcare for Low-Income, Uninsured and Under Insured

Thirty years ago, the Access to Care program was developed by the Suburban Primary Health Care Council to assist those in need in suburban Cook County. Access to Care is a nonprofit, primary healthcare program for low-income, uninsured and under insured individuals.

Patients receive diagnosis and treatment for nominal fees. The most common diagnoses among adult patients are diabetes and hypertension. Individuals with chronic and episodic conditions are monitored by their physicians and are able to obtain medication to manage their illnesses. Patients receive care in the private offices of their Access to Care physicians. There is a one-time enrollment fee for new members of \$20 per adult.

Welfare Services can assist Township residents with applying for the Access to Care program and can answer questions on program eligibility. To be eligible for Access to Care, the family's income must be under 300% of the federal poverty guidelines and they cannot be eligible for public health programs such as Medicaid. Access to Care also covers individuals who live in the program service area, meet the income guidelines and have insurance with a deductible of \$1,500 or more.

Curious about the program or have more questions? Give our Welfare Services staff a call at (847) 884-0030 to make an appointment!



AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Volunteers Provide FREE State and Federal Income Tax Preparation

By Trustee Nimish Jani

Each year the Township of Schaumburg partners with AARP Foundation Tax-Aide to provide free tax preparation to low- to moderate-income taxpayers. In 2019, the Township assisted over 1,300 taxpayers and was the 2nd largest in the Great Lakes region. Tax-Aide is powered by volunteers who are trained and tested on the tax-preparation process. The Township has an engaged community of volunteers and the popularity of this program illustrates how impactful volunteers can be. Serving over 1,300 people in a few short months is no small feat. These volunteers work hard and show their dedication to the community and those in need. This program is a great example of how volunteers are needed all year at the Township. Tax-Aide is one of many programs supported and led by volunteers – many of our support groups are volunteer-led as well as our career coach. A strong volunteer presence is an essential part of the Township infrastructure. The Township also accepts the community's generosity by way of in-kind and monetary donations from individuals and businesses. Those interested in volunteering with the Township at any time throughout the year should call our main line at (847) 884-0030 to be connected with the appropriate department.

Appointments for AARP Foundation Tax-Aide are available from early February through mid-April. Residents can schedule an appointment by calling (847) 285-4597. Appointments are scheduled on a first come, first served basis. Visit our website for a checklist on what to bring to your appointment (schaumburgtownship.org/departments/senior-services).

The Town Crier



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A HISTORY OF SERVICE . . . A COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

February 2020

The Town Crier, a report to the citizens of Schaumburg Township, is published by Township of Schaumburg
One Illinois Boulevard
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169-3314
(847) 884-0030
schaumburgtownship.org

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

Schaumburg Township is in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Equal Opportunity Employer Male/Female/ Handicapped/Veterans. Schaumburg Township meets all ADA accessibility requirements.

ECR-WSS Residential Postal Customer, Local Schaumburg Township Illinois

The Township of Schaumburg serves residents living in parts of the following communities: Elk Grove, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Rolling Meadows, Roselle, Schaumburg, Streamwood and unincorporated Schaumburg Township.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR

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The Township also received donations and a total of \$550 from 17 businesses, agencies and local politicians to create Caregiver Month Care Packages.

Township volunteers gave 1,499 hours of their time in service of our community in November and December. Tens of thousands of food items were also donated in those months.

Thank you to every individual, family, club, company and organization that made our community brighter by helping our neighbors have a happier holiday. I'd also like to thank our dedicated volunteers and staff for sharing your energy, time and talents. Your continued support and commitment make these programs possible.

