



### Ruse Burglaries

A ruse burglary is one in which an offender lures a homeowner outside or to a different part of the home (e.g., the basement) to “fix a problem.” While the homeowner is distracted, other offenders enter the home undetected and steal cash, jewelry, and valuables. These crimes increase during the spring and summer months when the weather is warm and usually occur in the morning.

Elderly homeowners are excellent targets because these individuals are not apt to report crimes in which they are the victims. Any homeowner, however, should be considered a potential victim.

### Excuses used by criminals to gain entry into one’s home or lure a homeowner outside

- ◆ They have to test the water pressure due to a broken pipe.
- ◆ They have to check the fuses or circuit breakers due to an electrical outage in the area.
- ◆ They pose as utility company or public works employees doing “annual inspections.”
- ◆ The chimney, fence, or gutters need repairs or a fence is on a neighbor’s property and must be moved.
- ◆ Tree branches on the property are resting on utility wires and must be trimmed.
- ◆ The driveway needs repairs or resurfacing.
- ◆ They are seeking information about homes for sale in the area.

### How to Protect Yourself

- ◆ Keep all doors locked, including screen doors.
- ◆ Don’t talk to anyone at your door whom you don’t know.
- ◆ If you choose to speak to an individual at your door, be sure the door is closed and locked.
- ◆ Keep all items of value locked up and out of sight. Do not store them in bureau drawers. Use a wall safe if possible.
- ◆ Check credentials of anyone claiming to be a utility worker or public works employee; these individuals should be driving “official” vehicles that are appropriately marked.
- ◆ Place a sticker on your door stating that peddlers and solicitors are not welcome.
- ◆ If you choose to go outside to look at a “problem,” lock the door when you leave.
- ◆ Do not allow transient workers to do repairs on your property until you’ve checked the reputation of the business.
- ◆ If a person persists on entering your house against your wishes, keep the door closed and locked and do not allow the individual to enter. Call 9-1-1 immediately.
- ◆ Report unusual activity in your neighborhood to the local police department; try to provide vehicle information, license plate numbers, and descriptions of suspicious individuals when filing a report.

*-Resources: various*

### Covid-19 Survey Scam

How it works: You receive an email or text message asking you to complete a survey about the COVID-19 vaccine. The message states that you will receive a gift or monetary compensation in exchange for completing and returning the survey. You’re told you have to pay a small fee for shipping the gift.

### How to Protect Yourself:

- ◆ If you receive such a message, it’s a scam. Participants are never asked to pay a fee for gifts they get for completing legitimate surveys. Delete the message and do not click on any links or open any attachments.
- ◆ Do not provide any bank account, credit card, or personal information in order to receive your gift. If you do, fraudulent purchases will be charged to your account and you also risk having your identity stolen and personal information sold to other fraudsters.
- ◆ If you’ve been a victim of this scam, report it to the FTC at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov).

*-Resource: FTC*



# THE S.A.L.T. COMMUNICATOR

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together

Serving and Protecting Senior Citizens

July 2021

## ESSE Adult Day Services:

### A Vital Resource Returns

Presented at the June SALT Meeting via Zoom

Ms. Nancie Barry presented to SALT at our first in-person meeting in well over a year. Just as SALT was elated to return to meeting together without screens, ESSE, which stands for Ecumenical Support Services for the Elderly, is back serving clients at 100% capacity in person.

ESSE runs its adult day care and programs from three churches, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Wheaton, Faith Lutheran in Glen Ellyn and Community Baptist in Warrenville. The organization began in 1982 at Faith Lutheran and grew in 1995 to add their site at St. Paul. Ten years later they expanded services to Community Baptist.

Due to the common reason we all know, ESSE closed down on March 16, 2020. It opened after Labor Day, needed to close again at Thanksgiving due to higher COVID cases and reopened on February 8th. While shut down, Nancie described the effort of staff to make and deliver activity packets to clients at home. Staff also wrote grant requests to secure future grants. In this way, no staff needed to be furloughed or laid off during the time that services could not be provided.

Each day the program offers a theme with attendant activities. These experiences accommodate those with cognitive or physical limitations. A full day, between 7 am and 5 pm, costs \$70 and includes breakfast, a catered, hot lunch and a snack. A half-day, or four

Nancie Barry

Program Director,  
ESSE Adult Day Services



hours, costs \$50. A family can choose one day or five for their loved ones to participate in the program. Nancie described that over 95% of their participants have a form of dementia. ESSE is unique in that it works with lower-functioning clients. ESSE has a nurse on staff full-days at their Wheaton site and half days at their Glen Ellyn site and can therefore take care of medication management. Their staff ratio is one staff member to four clients.

Contracted with the state as an adult day care provider, ESSE is a State of Illinois Community Care Program Provider as well as a Veterans Affairs Contracted Provider. The Community Care Program registration is conducted at the County. Nancie mentioned that ESSE also accepts payment from managed care organizations.

ESSE, in Latin, also means "to be." Guided by this, the goal of ESSE is to support their participants "to be" all that they can by providing adult day care options which promote their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. In addition to providing welcome socialization for older adults, this service provides respite for families and allows them to be able to maintain their personal schedules.

For more information, visit [www.esseadultdaycare.org](http://www.esseadultdaycare.org) or phone 630.260.3773.

**The Milton Township SALT website at [miltontownshipSALT.com](http://miltontownshipSALT.com) offers a trove of resources in our community. Check out our tabs on Transportation, Food Security, Housing, Safety & Communication, Legal & Financial services, Health as well as Age Guide.**

# DuPage County Community Services for Seniors

## Money Management Program at DPC:

### A Unique Assist to Keep Seniors at Home

Presented at the April SALT Meeting via Zoom



Christine Evans

Money Management Program Coordinator  
DuPage County Senior Services

Christine Evans joined the April SALT meeting onscreen to share a special resource within the DuPage County Community Services Seniors Case Management Division. A protective service for those 60+ years old who need help managing their finances, this program works to keep low-income seniors from unnecessary institutionalization, guardianship or homelessness. Sponsored by the Illinois Department on Aging, the program provides trained volunteers who are matched with eligible clients through DuPage County Community Services and supervised by a Money Management Coordinator. Volunteers act as Bill Payers, sorting mail, balancing checkbooks and helping access outside resources. In some circumstances volunteers act as Representative Payees for clients and prioritize the client's bills including rent, utilities, food, and medical needs. In-office monitors audit accounts monthly to ensure integrity. Office Volunteers also assist the Coordinator with mailings, filings, phone calls, and Medicaid tracking.

For seniors who enjoy problem solving, working with other seniors in the community, and encouraging people to meet their goals, no matter how small, the program welcomes volunteers. Currently all work is virtual, over the phone and computer, and picking up mail to organize and pay bills. For more information about Case Management within the community as well as DuPage County's Money Management Program, please utilize the contact information provided below.

### How to Make a Referral to the Money Management Program:

Phone: 630.407.6500 | Email: [seniorsvcs@dupageco.org](mailto:seniorsvcs@dupageco.org) | Please provide client name & demographics

## A New Program to Help Caregivers:

### DuPage County Introduces TCare

Presented at the April SALT Meeting via Zoom



Meghan Butcher

Case Manager, Caregiver Resource Center  
DuPage County Senior Services

For those caring for a loved one over 60, DuPage County Community Services has a new program designed specifically to help. Realizing that caregivers need assistance in continuing to juggle their responsibilities, TCare is an evidence-based assessment designed to reduce caregiver stress and burnout. TCare is part of a system which partners with government and healthcare entities to use scientifically-validated algorithms to create individualized care plans for caregivers.

On-going case management support may include assistive technology, in-home support, education, adult day care, informal support and counseling. A Case Manager may also offer referrals to programs for the caregiver to help keep the resident safe in their home for as long as possible. Meghan noted that an informal caregiver can be a spouse, son or daughter, grandchild, niece or nephew, friend or neighbor, sibling, cousin, in-law, or the parent of a disabled adult or senior.

### How to Make a Referral to the TCare Program:

Website: <https://dupagecounty.tailoredcare.com> | Email: [Seniorsvcs@dupageco.org](mailto:Seniorsvcs@dupageco.org)  
Please include family caregiver contact info including demographics of caregiver and care recipient



## DuPage Senior Citizens Council

*Providing Meals and More...*

Ann-Margaret Luciano  
Volunteer Services Coordinator

Chad Henry  
Nutritional Enrollment Coordinator

DuPage County seniors are fortunate in the richness of services and resources available to help navigate the many needs that arise as one advances in age. The DuPage Senior Citizens Council (DSCC) serves to promote the ability of older persons to live their lives in dignity. A volunteer-driven non-profit, their mission precedes them in offering well-being checks, home-delivered meals ("Meals on Wheels"), yard clean-ups as well as friendly visits, or, in this past year, friendly phone

calls. Ann-Margaret Luciano visited SALT via Zoom with colleague Chad Harry to illuminate the many ways that the DuPage Senior Citizens Council offers dignity to area seniors.

The DSCC operates through funding by federal and state grants through the Older Americans Act, specifically the Administration for Community Living and the Illinois Department on Aging. Ann-Margaret emphasized that more than 82% supports services. Of their best-known offerings, the Home Delivered Meals are packed and delivered to homebound older adults and provides 1/3 of the daily dietary intake for a senior. Volunteers deliver between 10:30 am and 1 pm, Monday through Friday.

As importantly, each meal delivery includes a well-being check to ensure the safety and health of the older adult. The organization is rightly proud of this feature, understanding that this is likely more vital than delivering a meal. A review of the senior's physical and mental state, as well as health and physical surroundings, helps the DSCC visitor see how the senior is faring. During the pandemic, the Friendly Visits Program became Friendly Phone Call Program until the visits could resume. These phone calls reduce loneliness and social isolation among our older adults.

In Milton Township, in 2020, 325 older adults were served, with 30,900 meals delivered and 12,900 well-being checks conducted. The DSCC visitors were able to give health and wellness education in 3,900 instances, and the organization's volunteers gave 200 hours in Friendly Phone Calls.

For services, or to volunteer, visit [www.dupageseniorcouncil.org](http://www.dupageseniorcouncil.org) or phone 630.620.0804.

### Upcoming virtual SALT Meeting

Monday, July 12, at 10 am

For this month again only, we will meet via Zoom,  
Please check our SALT website for the Zoom link within a week of the meeting.

August - No Meeting

September 13 - We meet in person at the Glen Ellyn Police Department  
65 S. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, 60137

# *The SALT Senior Auto Inspection Returns!*

*Saturday, October 9th  
9 am - Noon*



*Fire Station One  
One Fapp Circle in Wheaton  
(behind Target)*



*After needing to take a year apart, we are eager to resume.*

*Certified mechanics and volunteers will perform  
a free 40-point check of each car and make recommendations  
for the winter months ahead.*

*All tires including spares will be checked for air pressure and  
inflated as needed. Fluids will also be topped of as needed.*

*Coffee and cookies will be provided during your wait.*

Milton Township welcomes its new Supervisor, Clerk and four new Trustees!

Supervisor John Monino

Clerk Yadav Nathwani

Trustee Jeff Castle | Trustee Dan Milinko | Trustee Drew Ellis | Trustee Joe Soto

As sponsor of SALT, each of our newly-elected officials  
looks forward to promoting  
the well-being of seniors throughout the Township.



Want to read a past issue of this newsletter?

[www.miltontownshipsalt.com](http://www.miltontownshipsalt.com)

Want to call the Township?

630.668.1616

Want to visit the Township?

1492 N. Main St  
Wheaton

Questions or comments?

[p.cannova@miltontownship.net](mailto:p.cannova@miltontownship.net)

#### S.A.L.T. Council Members

Chuck Smith, Chairman · Jodi Hefler, Vice Chairperson · Penni Cannova, Social Services Coordinator, Milton Township · Arnold Shifrin, Director of Communications · Officers Jill Uhlir and Kayte Witten, Wheaton Police Dept. · Officer Joe Nemchock, Glen Ellyn Police Dept.

#### DuPage Sheriff's Office

Sergeant Ed Castillo · Corporal Troy Agema · Deputy Terri Albright

Chief Bill Schultz, Wheaton Fire Dept. · Fire Administrator Nicole Shanley, Glen Ellyn Volunteer Fire Dept. · Sue Davison, Glen Ellyn Senior Center · Fire Marshal Lee Westrom, Warrenville Fire District

Want to "go green" and receive *The Communicator* electronically? Email

[p.cannova@miltontownship.net](mailto:p.cannova@miltontownship.net) with your name, postal address, and email to switch to email-only

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[www.miltontownship.net](http://www.miltontownship.net)

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