



# THE S.A.L.T. COMMUNICATOR

SENIORS & LAW ENFORCEMENT TOGETHER



## MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Milton Township S.A.L.T. Council is to determine and to meet the needs of senior citizens by reducing crime and abuse and enhancing safety through communication and education in cooperation with the Township, law enforcement agencies, and other community agencies and organizations.

## MEMBERS

- Chuck Smith, **Chairman**
- Jodi Hefler, **Vice Chairperson**
- Arnold Shifrin, **Director of Communications**
- Officers Jill Uhlir, **Wheaton Police Department**
- Officer Allison Ramirez, **Glen Ellyn Police Department**
- Officer Carol Cadle, **Carol Stream Police Department**
- Corporal Troy Agema, **DuPage Sheriff's Office**
- Carl Voda, **Warrenville Fire Department**
- Kathleen Drouin, **Metropolitan Family Services**



## EVENTS: SENIOR AUTO INSPECTION

The October 8th, 2022, Milton Township S.A.L.T. Senior Auto Inspection was another great success, with 89 cars inspected. All cars underwent a 40-point inspection, including filling spare tires and fluids. In addition, all car batteries were tested that day. Each senior received a detailed report of the inspection findings. We are delighted to once again provide this valuable service to our Milton Township Seniors.



## MEETINGS

Every S.A.L.T. meeting showcases a different presenter every month to help educate seniors or those helping seniors. The dedicated members of S.A.L.T. all come to communicate and help the seniors in need. Please consider joining the S.A.L.T. monthly meetings if you need support or want to stay informed on different senior topics.

**S.A.L.T. meets on the second Monday of each month.**

**Glen Ellyn Police Department  
65 S. Park Blvd. Glen Ellyn, IL  
@ 10 AM**



To read about the scams impacting seniors, head to [miltontownship.com/SALT](http://miltontownship.com/SALT)



# SCAM REPORT

MILTON TOWNSHIP S.A.L.T. COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Submitted by Arnold H. Shifrin, Director of Communications, SALT



## Some Ways To Protect Yourself On The Internet

- Be very skeptical of emails you receive from individuals you don't know. Internet imposters are not who they claim to be and are responsible for the majority of online scams.
- Don't click on links or open attachments in unsolicited emails or text messages if you don't know the sender. You may unknowingly be directed to bogus websites.
- Use strong passwords and 2-factor authentication (2-FA) to access your accounts and keep your online data safe.
- Look for a "lock" icon and "https" preceding the URL in the browser address bar before providing your personal information. These generally signify the site is secure and encrypted.
- Check the URL for misspellings and wrong domains. Examples: arnazon.com (look closely; the first three letters of the address are "a, r, n" NOT "a, m, a."), betsbuy.com, walmrt.com, and neimanmarcs.com.
  - Examples of legitimate domain names: .com, .org, .net, .edu, and .gov.
  - Examples of domains reputed to circulate malicious content: .xyz, .icu, .ru, .cn, and .tk.
- If you receive an email from the IRS, your bank, a credit card company, the local police department, a utility company, or Medicare threatening you with arrest or a monetary fine if you fail to provide or confirm your personal information, delete the message. It's from a scammer. Do not provide the requested information, click on links, or open attachments in the message.
- If you wish to confirm the validity of a message, contact the sender at a website or telephone number you know is correct, not one that was given to you by someone else. A sender's legitimate telephone number can be obtained from their website or a receipt.
- If you receive a message that you are the winner of a lottery or some other drawing and all you have to do to collect your winnings is to pay a small shipping and handling fee, you are dealing with a scammer. Did you enter such a drawing? If you never entered a contest, you couldn't be a winner.
- If you're in a public Wi-Fi environment such as Starbuck's, a library, or an airport, do not conduct online business (e.g., pay bills, access bank accounts, make purchases). These settings are generally not secure and scammers located near you may be able to access your personal information.
- If you are using a public computer in a library, school, or government facility, make sure you completely log out when you're finished.
- Before making charitable contributions, verify that the organizations are registered with the IL Attorney General's office and that their registrations are current.
- Scammers often try to rush their victims into making hasty decisions. Don't let tight deadlines or threats of harm or arrest cause you to panic and act without first verifying the facts.
- If you purchase something online and are told to pay with a gift card, prepaid debit card, or by wire transfer, you're dealing with a scammer. No legitimate business will require you to pay this way.
- Keep current with updates for your computer. Microsoft, Adobe, and other companies release software patches for their products on "Patch Tuesday," the second Tuesday of each month.
- Do not save your passwords in a file on your computer or on a piece of paper you keep in your pocket or purse. Instead, use an encrypted software program (e.g., LastPass®) to manage your passwords.
- Regularly back up your data to an external hard drive and/or the cloud. If your system is breached (e.g., virus, malware, ransomware), a comprehensive backup will help you restore any lost data.

[Sources: Various]



# MEMORABLE MEETING RECAP



## December Speaker – Presented by James Mendrick, DuPage County Sheriff

Sheriff Mendrick began his presentation by providing some background on DuPage County. “We serve just under 1 Million people here in the second largest county in the State, and we are the only municipality with a jail.”

Within the first few minutes, it was evident that the Sheriff has a passion for his job and community. He spoke to a number of good programs that have been implemented in his department under his command. These include:

- Efforts to feed impoverished families during the holidays
- Paring of a police officer with a health department official post-domestic incident
- Efforts to get needles and old prescription drugs out of homes
- Sanitation efforts in the jails during cold and flu season and rehabilitation of jail inmates

Sheriff Mendrick continued his presentation by discussing some challenges the Sheriff’s Office faces. For example, the immigration influx has led to an increase in undocumented individuals and homelessness. He also noted that “cybercrime is up around 600%”. (Please refer to [Miltontownship.net/SALT](http://Miltontownship.net/SALT) to read about the cyber crimes impacting seniors). The Sheriff also discussed the Safety Act, which is now postponed until further notice. To learn about the safety act, head to the previously issued S.A.L.T. newsletter, which can be found on the township’s website.

Sheriff Mendrick then moved on to speak about the jail and the efforts made by the Department regarding rehabilitation. When a new inmate arrives, the rehabilitation program begins with detox, counseling, courses, and job training. This approach has helped lower recidivism rates to 18%. By comparison, the heroin rate usually is 90%. The rehabilitation efforts include courses in horticulture, tile setting, drywall, welding, janitorial services, GED’S, and truck driver training. In addition, gang-affiliated tattoo removal is provided. Lastly, job training is provided where Suits for Success gives inmates three suits for job interviews.

Sheriff Mendrick closed his presentation by speaking on the importance of practicing situational awareness. He made notes that victims of crime tend to be random. Therefore, always be aware of your surroundings. He encourages everyone to park close to stores and always lock their doors. He also encourages individuals to invest in video home monitors.

(630) 682-7256 – Non Emergency

501 N County Farm Rd, Wheaton IL 60187

<https://www.DuPageSheriff.org>



## January Speaker – Presented by Jonathon Kruger & Janell Robinson, Giving DuPage

Giving DuPage is a local organization that promotes giving and volunteering countywide. Giving DuPage was founded in 2001 by two philanthropists who felt that the community needed to be aware of how to share their time, treasure, and talent with others. Their vision was to cultivate a fully-engaged community through the power of service. This organization has three leading roles: to mobilize volunteers, to provide capacity-building resources to local nonprofits, and to inspire the community. In addition, their goal is to help individuals use their skills and gifts to give back to the community to create a lasting impact.

To fulfill these roles, they have a partnership with the Northern Illinois University Center for Nonprofits and NGO Studies; this partnership enables them to provide continuing education in finance, marketing, strategic planning, and other areas that build up the operational skills of nonprofit organizations. They also host an annual Nonprofit Conference, training webinars, and an Executive Director Network.

Volunteers are a significant focus of Giving DuPage, one of the main links on their website is a “Volunteer Portal.” This link seeks to connect organizations looking for specific assistance with individuals looking to give their time and talents – over 400 nonprofit organizations are currently using it. Giving DuPage also wants its volunteers to know their impact on the community is recognized and appreciated. So each year, they host “Volapalooza” to honor exceptional volunteerism in the community.

Giving DuPage Days are a hub of community building. The goal is to bring over 100 charities together and combine their fundraising efforts into a few days. With this approach, Giving DuPage helped these organizations raise about \$1,000,000 for their continued work in our local communities.

Giving DuPage has a tremendous impact on the county. Please refer to their contact below if you have further questions about volunteering or their work with nonprofits.

(630) 407-6458

421 N County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187

<https://givingdupage.org/>



## February Speaker – Tanya King, Outreach Librarian of the Glen Ellyn Public Library, and Dana Tieman, Department Head Continuing Education & Technical Center and Courtney Tedrick, Department Head of Community Engagement of the Wheaton Public Library.

Tanya King passed along an invitation to the Resource Fair on 3/22; it will be geared toward the 55+ crowd, with many organizations present, and will feature 20-minute hot-topic programming in the community rooms. She also highlighted recent technology initiatives made by the Glen Ellyn Public Library, including a five-session course where 30 seniors received their own Chromebooks and learned to use them, 1-on-1 45-minute tech sessions, a flight simulator, social media training, and Microsoft Excel training. The Glen Ellyn staff can also help provide seniors with tools and skills to preserve family memories by transferring home movies from VHS to DVD or cloud formats. See The Guide or <https://gepl.org/> for more details.

Courtney Tedrick and Dana Tieman also shared the Wheaton Public Library’s recent technological offerings. Wheaton offers desktop and laptop use (for residents and non-residents alike), scanners, printers, and faxing. They are also proud to offer A/V equipment to be lent out, such as Blu-ray players or a camcorder for your special events.

The Wheaton Public Library is an excellent resource for continued learning as they host technology courses, classes for cell phone use, and 30-minute 1-on-1 sessions. In addition, they have various databases available, including e-books, audiobooks, and 13 different genealogy databases. Courtney and Dana encouraged everyone present to take advantage of the fantastic WPL app and see the programs uploaded to their YouTube page!

GEPL – 400 Duane St. Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
 630.469.0879 [GEPL- Gepl.org](http://GEPL-Gepl.org)

WPL – 225 N. Cross St. Wheaton, IL 60187  
 630.668.1374 [Wheatonlibrary.org](http://Wheatonlibrary.org)



### March Speaker – Marina Minic – C.U.B.'s Solar Programs Coordinator

The Citizens Utility Board (CUB) was founded in 1984. It is a non-profit and non-partisan organization focused on fighting utility rate hikes, promoting clean energy, and advocating for consumer protections in Illinois. As part of their outreach, Marina attended the March S.A.L.T. meeting and presented on a number of energy-saving programs to lower home energy costs.

Among these key strategies she presented, one of the most essential was Analyzing and Understanding Your Bill. Both ComEd and Nicor inform you each month of your "Total Usage" with a daily breakdown, "Supply" (meaning which company is providing your energy), Updates, and how their rates compare against their competitors. A simple examination and better understanding of your bills can help you decipher your current usage habits and whether you are receiving the best available rate

Marina then went into greater detail on options to lower your home energy bills. She presented on the benefits of energy efficiency, LED lighting, Energy Star appliances, weatherization, and receiving a free Home Energy Assessment from ComEd. With this free home energy assessment, ComEd will send a specialist to your home and after inspection will present you with a personalized plan and free equipment to help you become a more energy efficient home. Other cost-saving options she presented were: Peak Demand Control, Peak Time Savings, Central A/C Cycling, and IL Solar for All (more details available on [citizensutilityboard.org](http://citizensutilityboard.org)).

(800 669-5556    309 West Washington Street Suite 800 Chicago, Illinois 60606    [Citizensutilityboard.org](http://Citizensutilityboard.org)

Upcoming S.A.L.T. Meeting: Monday May 8th – Presentation By: Wheaton Police Department Senior Service Team

# SPECIAL TO MILTON TOWNSHIP



### Special Police District

Authorized by referendum in 1987, the Milton Township Special Police District provides the Sheriff with three additional Deputies and squad cars to patrol the unincorporated areas of the Township regularly. These Deputies spend most of their time in these areas and answer calls within the various municipalities. Only unincorporated residents are taxed for this addition to public safety and law enforcement.

### SAVE THE DATE

# 2023 CONCERT EVENT

FUN - FOOD - LIVE MUSIC



**MEMORIAL PARK**  
225 KARLSKOGA AVE, WHEATON, IL 60187



**24**  
JUNE  
2023



**6:00 PM -**  
**9:30 PM**

**MILTON TOWNSHIP**  
SPONSORED CONCERT

AN EVENT TO HELP SUPPORT THE  
Milton Township

**FOOD PANTRY**

Find More information about our food pantry at [miltontownship.net](http://miltontownship.net)