



MILTON TOWNSHIP Newsletter

VOL. 6 --- OCT 2025

(630) 668-1616 | Learn more about us @ www.milontownship.net



Milton Township: WORKING FOR YOU

Transparency is a key value of your newly elected Milton Township leadership team. We want you to know how your tax dollars are being spent and the resources available to you. Case in point: this newsletter. It is jam-packed with resources and stories demonstrating how local government can and should work! Other ways to stay in the local loop include:

- Monthly Township Board Meetings
- Recorded monthly Township meetings (posted on our website)
- Facebook for updates and resources
- MILTONTOWNSHIP.NET for meeting minutes, trustee reports, and more

Communication, of course, goes both ways. We want to hear from you! You'll find our leadership team's emails on our website's contact page. If you see us at a meeting, come talk to us! We are here for you!

RESOURCES FOR YOU



Free Notary Service



Food Pantry



Medical Lending Closet



Youth Scholarship



Licenses Plate Renewal



Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)



Disability Resources



Property Assessment



Storm Damage Clean up



Senior Service

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THE IMPACT OF OUR
COMMUNITY MENTAL
HEALTH BOARD

CERT SPOTLIGHT

SALT COMMUNICATOR

DID YOU KNOW?



This year, LIHEAP opens October 2nd. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program is available. General assistance applications are also open. To apply, head to: milontownship.net/services/financial-assistance

DIRECTORY

Township Board

Supervisor, Buffy Higgins-Beard	b.higginsbeard@milontownship.net
Township Clerk, Dan Bailey	d.bailey@milontownship.net
Trustee, Larry Pitts	l.pitts@milontownship.net
Trustee, Jaqueline McGrath	j.mcgrath@milontownship.net
Trustee, Steve Siemer	s.siemer@milontownship.net
Trustee, Paula McGowen	p.mcgowen@milontownship.net

Milton Township Assessor's Office

Assessor Chris E. LeVan, CIAO.....	(630) 653-5220
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Milton Township Highway Department

Highway Commissioner, Michael H. Drew.....	(630) 682-4270
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Milton Township Staff

Shelia Beine – Director of General Assistance	s.beine@milontownship.net
Dave Sezonov – Executive Director of Food Pantry & CERT.....	d.sezonov@milontownship.net
Debbie Mrozinski - Grant Facilitator/ General Assistance	d.mrozinski@milontownship.net
Ronna Johnson – Township Administrator.....	r.johnson@milontownship.net
Abigail Sherman -Accountant.....	a.sherman@milontownship.net
Laura Schwardt – Deputy Clerk.....	l.schwardt@milontownship.net
Reception.....	reception@milontownship.net

CALENDAR 2025 FALL-WINTER

OCTOBER 2025

OCTOBER 10	Autumn Senior Bingo Luncheon.....	Wheaton VFW from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
OCTOBER 10	Columbus Day.....	Township Office Closed
OCTOBER 16	Cemetery Commission Meeting.....	Township Office @ 4:00 p.m.
OCTOBER 16	Monthly Board Meeting.....	Township Office @ 5:45 p.m.
OCTOBER 28	708 Board Meeting	Township Office @ 6:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2025

NOVEMBER 11	Veterans Day	Township Office Closed
NOVEMBER 14	Thanksgiving Senior Bingo Luncheon.....	B.R. RYALL YMCA from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
NOVEMBER 20	Monthly Board Meeting.....	Township Office @ 5:45 p.m.
NOVEMBER 25	708 Board Meeting	Township Office @ 6:00 p.m.
NOVEMBER 27-28	Thanksgiving Holiday	Township Office Closed

DECEMBER 2025

DECEMBER 18	Monthly Board Meeting.....	Township Office @ 6:00p.m.
DECEMBER 23	708 Board Meeting	Township Office @ 6:00 p.m.
DECEMBER 24	Christmas Eve	Township Office Closing @ 1:00 p.m.
DECEMBER 25	Christmas Holiday	Township Office Closed

Milton Township Supervisor

ELIZABETH “BUFFY” HIGGINS-BEARD



In this fall and harvest season, we give thanks for the support and trust shared by Milton Township’s residents, staff, and partners. It has been five months since our newly elected Township leaders took office. In this time, we have held trainings, finished past-due audits, identified inefficiencies, and increased interdepartmental collaboration. These efforts have resulted in **saving tax dollars, maximizing resources, and increasing efficiencies.**

In addition, the Township's positive and direct impact grows deeper and wider. The vital work of the 708 Community Health Board has continued, the Cemetery Commission has renewed its commitment to honor and preserve the resting places of early pioneers, and durable medical equipment has been shared at an increasing rate.

And, there’s more. CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) can boast its greatest number of hours ever offered! Because of their training sessions and frontline work, our communities are safer. Our partner, the Milton Township Food Pantry, has seen a 17% increase in need for food and sundries year over year and has met that need.

I am also proud to say that Township meetings are being operated with professionalism and transparency. **I believe transparency is the cornerstone of trust.** And, trust in your local government is earned. As Township Supervisor, I have the privilege of leading a team that is focused on serving you with the utmost integrity.

Be assured, we understand that we are here for you, with you, and because of you! I hope you’ll take time to read this newsletter. You’ll discover how you can help strengthen our community and ways the Township can help you.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE



Apps taken by Milton Twp for PY25

200+



Total LIHEAP funds distributed thanks to Milton Twp's help:

\$90,282

General Assistance in Milton Township is a locally administered welfare program which provides monthly financial assistance to persons who are not eligible for any other state or federal assistance programs, and who do not have adequate income or resources to provide for their own basic needs. Milton Township GA filled over 200+ applications resulting in over 90,000 dollars given to low income residents.

CERT



CERT Volunteer Hours

9,806

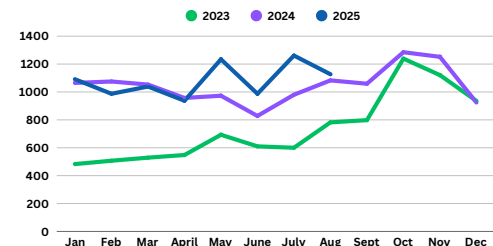


CERT Saved for Tax Payers

\$341,154

C.E.R.T. participated in over 70 events and/or trainings this year. The types of events that C.E.R.T. helps with include: assisting with the senior car inspection, various concerts, town festivals, 5k runs, and parades. The team's total volunteer hours resulted in 9,806.11 hours x \$34.79 (volunteer hourly rate) = \$341,154.56. That total is what C.E.R.T. saved the various DuPage County communities.

FOOD PANTRY



The number of food pantry clients served keeps increasing yearly with a year over year increase 2024 to 2025 of 17% to date. This is the result of our partner, the Milton Township Food Pantry charity's commitment to continue to expand partnerships, fundraise, and provide a nutritious and versatile selection.

MTFP is now feeding on average more than 1000 residents monthly. Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers and donors to MTFP, a partner 501(c)3.

WHO IS LEADING MILTON TOWNSHIP?

Read our bios on the Township website
at www.miltontownship.net



THE FIRST 150 DAYS

Our first 150 days in office has resulted in us keeping our promises. We are firm believers in doing what we say. So, we asked each of our leaders to give us a quick take on their accomplishments.



I'm so proud that today I can point to very specific actions we have taken to save tax dollars, eliminate inefficiencies and set a new standard for transparency. Most importantly, these actions have led to serving Milton Township residents with stronger services.

SUPERVISOR BUFFY HIGGINS-BEARD



I promised to make the Township more transparent and let residents know what is going on in their local government. We are now regularly sharing Board meeting packets online and have videos posted of all Milton Township meetings. We will continue to make improvements.

CLERK DAN BAILEY



The first 150 days of working alongside the new 2025 Milton Township Administration have been consistently positive, duty-driven, and reflect the true purpose of the Township – to serve and assist our local constituents honestly and selflessly.

ASSESSOR CHRIS LEVAN



Revitalized Transparency and Relevant Technology. These last few weeks, we've focused on transparent and user-friendly communications to better serve our residents and remain accountable to our community.

HIGHWAY COMMISSONER MIKE DREW



My first 100+ days as a Milton Township Trustee have been a busy time. Three cemetery events, Police Department Roll Call, National Night Out events and meetings, lots of meetings. The response of staff, volunteers and the community have been positive. The response from community gardens to our food pantry's request for vegetables was overwhelming, what a great success for the food pantry. Looking forward to the next 100 days.

TRUSTEE LARRY PITTS



My main concern coming into office was around our accounting and financial reporting. With my background in accounting and finance, my focus will always be on ensuring proper and transparent record-keeping. Happily, our staff is more than up to the task of simplifying our accounting processes to make the Township much more transparent and move us into the digital age. In this short amount of time, we have made real progress.

TRUSTEE STEVE SIEMER



It's very meaningful to help solve ongoing challenges in the Township, from updating governance practices and financial processes to studying and planning for increased community needs throughout Milton. It really is an honor to serve in this role, and I know Milton Township is making a meaningful difference for so many people.

TRUSTEE JACQUILINE MCGRATH



I am most proud of the senior programs and events we have introduced, which give our seniors more chances to socialize, build connections, and feel a stronger sense of community. It's inspiring to see the positive impact already, and I look forward to expanding those efforts further.

TRUSTEE PAULA MCGOWEN



YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED

In this digital world, the most effective way to disseminate information is online. We have been listening to all of your suggestions for a new and improved website. This website will be more straightforward to navigate, allow you to sign up for Township alerts, and deliver cost-saving newsletter content. Please keep an eye out for our new website by following our Facebook page!



NEED A RIDE?

If you are 65+ or are disabled, sign up for Ride DuPage! This program allows you to go anywhere within Milton Township, and they will pick you up. Milton Ride DuPage runs Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Never have to worry about getting to a medical appointment again. You can also get an RTA pass to ride the train or bus!



Ready to make a tangible impact on the mental well-being of your community? Milton Township's 708 Community Mental Health Board is seeking a passionate individual to join the Milton Township Community Mental Health Board-708 Board. Established in 2021, this board is providing vital resources for education and grant funding. Help us guide this crucial work. Apply today! Simply scan this QR code.





Update from Your Milton Township Highway Commissioner: Mike Drew

We are advancing the Highway Department into today's digital age to better serve our unincorporated residents. The website, miltonhighway.org, was recently redesigned to be your go-to source for applicable construction permit applications, reporting a concern, requesting a bond release, and finding resources for block parties, recycling, and brush pick up, plus more!

We are working with go.gov to build a phone app with a web-based location where you, the unincorporated homeowner, can submit complaints or issues with pictures and easily apply for permits. In addition, we have engaged Vialytcs, a company using AI for road management technology. We will have images of all our roads, a detailed analysis of those roads, and a rating using a national rating system for pavement. The program offers an estimating & engineering application to build a five-year plan for repairs & replacement with cost analysis.

If anyone has any questions about the highway department or our rules and regulations, you can call the main office at (630) 682-4270 or Highway Commissioner Mike Drew on his cell phone at (630) 918-3194. With all repair concerns use the website, call the office, or 911. Crews are available 24/7 via the Sheriff's office linking to Highway on call staff.

Report a Concern?

Use "Report a Concern" button at miltonhighway.org. Call the office or 911 in an emergency.



Update from your Milton Township Assessor: Chris E. LeVan, CIAO

Here's what we do and how we serve you:

- We determine property values for homes, businesses, farms, and other properties in Milton Township.
- We do not set tax rates or decide how much tax is collected-that's the role of schools, local governments, and other taxing bodies.
- We ensure assessments are fair and consistent, so everyone pays only their fair share.
- We review key factors like recent sales, property size, condition, improvements, and--for commercial properties--potential income.
- We maintain accurate property records, updating assessments when properties are built, remodeled, sold, or demolished.

We're here to help! If you have questions about your property value, our office will gladly explain how it was determined and ensure the process is clear and fair.

Important Update - 2025 Assessment Year

- ✓ We have turned over our 2025 Assessment Rolls to the county.
- ✓ Our County Equalization Factor for 2025 is 1.0846, nearly identical to last year's.
- ✓ It is one of the lowest factors of all nine DuPage County Townships.
- ✓ The 30-day window for assessment inquiries is projected to open in October.

Please call our office at (630) 653-5220 or visit our website at miltonassessor.com in early October to confirm the official start date.



MILTON TOWNSHIP CERT

Don't Miss your Chance to be Prepared

The truth is, during a catastrophic disaster, your neighborhood will be on its own during the early stages of an event. After such a disaster, citizens will naturally volunteer to help. Unfortunately, these people can expose themselves and others to potential injury and even death without training. Experience has shown that basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills increases citizens' chances of survival until help arrives.

In CERT training, you learn: fire safety and suppression, disaster medical operations, damage assessment, organization, terrorism and disaster psychology, and disaster preparedness. Classes occur every September and March. [Learn more at miltontownship.net/cert](http://miltontownship.net/cert)

PUTTING OUR TRAINING TO WORK!



Last month the Township experienced a Microburst (a high-speed burst of air that can topple trees, damage structures). Thank you, Ezra Cohen, Ryan Lynch, Tony Carter, Frank Carter, Rachel Miller, and James Kristof, for helping remove storm damage. The Highway Commissioner greatly appreciated all your hard work and assistance. This is what we train for. In an emergency or disaster, we can help local Cities and Villages get back to normal as fast as possible.



CERT VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Photo perfect! David Jones (pictured left) Bill Dabovich (pictured right) are exemplary CERT members volunteering for several events throughout the year donating their talent in photography to help promote the work we do. We want to thank them for all their hard work.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Not only does Milton Township CERT Team work alongside our communities law enforcement, but the Milton Township Food Pantry (MTFP) is very grateful to the SWAP participants that help keep our food pantry stocked with a variety of nutritious food our partner MTFP receives weekly. Sgt. Cogdell, oversees the DuPage County Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP).



Silver Anniversary

Next year, the Milton Township Food Pantry celebrates its 25th anniversary. Stay tuned for updates on our website and Facebook page for news and events surrounding this milestone.



MILTON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Welcoming a New Partner: The DuPage County Crisis Recovery Center

Milton Township officials and staff are excited to support the opening of the new DuPage County Crisis Recovery Center! CRC provides immediate, 24/7 support for individuals facing mental health or substance use crises. You can access the CRC by:

--> Calling 988

--> Bringing loved ones in

--> Asking EMS to drop off anyone aged 5+ to be triaged, supported, and connected with resources.

CRC will help youth and adults in crises stabilize and make a plan. They can also assist with medicated withdrawal or direct admission to area hospitals. For more information, visit: dupagecrc.org/.



708 Community Mental Health Board Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm.

Location: 1492 N. Main St., Wheaton, IL

[Check miltontownship.net for dates](https://miltontownship.net)

On a recent visit to CRC, we were accompanied by DuPage County Health Department Executive Director Adam Forker and Deputy Director Lori Carnahan, the Milton 708 Community Health Board, Milton officials, and staff learned more about this key resource. We are proud to partner with DuPage County, utilizing funding from the 708 Community Mental Health Board grant funds.

\$895,915 in Grants Made for Critical Mental Health Services in Milton Township this Year!

Funding Applications for 2027 will open in July 2026

[Check our Website for Additional Details](#)



For a detailed list of the 2025 Funding Partners head to miltontownship.net/funding/currently-funded-agencies/



OH, JOY! TOYS FOR TOTS!

It's almost Toys for Tots time! We are proud to be a Toys for Tots distribution site again this year for economically disadvantaged children. Its success really does depend on you! Donate to Toys for Tots or sign up with us for our Adopt-a-Family program. Together, we can spread more joy this upcoming holiday season!



WHERE IS THE FENCE?

Cemeteries have a long history as parks and open spaces. In keeping with that tradition, the fence at our Pleasant Hill Cemetery has been removed to encourage residents to visit those laid to rest at this active cemetery. Discover this pleasant spot at the corner of Geneva & Coventry Roads.



MILTON TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY, INC 501(C)3

Helping our Hungry Neighbors

Milton Township Food Pantry works hard to ensure that no one in need goes hungry. The Milton Township Food Pantry is a partnering 501(c)(3), supported by donations from the community and operated by volunteers. No tax dollars are used for supplies, and all donations are fully tax-deductible as allowed by state law. It is located at the Milton Township Town Hall in donated space: 1492 N. Main Street, Wheaton.

Registration requires sharing a photo ID. Residents are helped in the order they arrive, working one-on-one with a volunteer to move through the pantry. The pantry is open Tuesday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon; appointments are also available. Food donations are accepted Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.



THANK YOU FOR THE GARDEN PRODUCE

Healthy, nutritious produce is always a part of Milton Township Food Pantry. The pantry has gotten an extra boost this year from local gardeners. MTFP put out the call for extra tomatoes, zucchini, kale, and garden grown items to add to its regular produce from local grocery stores and Northern Illinois Food Bank. MTFP was delighted by your response!



FY24 TRANSFORMATION PARTNERSHIP GRANT AWARDED BY THE DUPAGE FOUNDATION.

The Milton Township Food Pantry is happy to provide over 2,200 bags of nutritional groceries that include items like milk, eggs, bread, fresh fruits and veggies, and meats monthly. MTFP recently received a FY24 Transformation Partnership Grant from the DuPage Foundation, providing funds for a pallet loader and hand carts. This gift funded important equipment, making the increased volume of donations easier to move and store. DF is transforming MTFP's ability to meet increased demand.



FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Phil started volunteering at the Milton Township Food Pantry in 2024 and has been a valuable asset to the day-to-day operation. Phil is a longtime resident of Milton Township. Known for his positive mood, ability to assess what needs to be done and take action, as well as his infectious positivity, Phil enhances MTFP. Phil and his wife are snowbirds, and when they are not volunteering in Milton, they are volunteering at another food pantry that has warmer weather during those colder months.



WANT TO DONATE TO THOSE IN NEED?

Please consider donating to our 501(c) 3 partner, the Milton Township Food Pantry! They are currently in need of canned soup, paper goods, and baby wipes. Drop off at the main office (1492 N. Main Street, Wheaton, IL). All monetary donations are appreciated and tax-deductible as applicable under state law. Donations can also be made using their QR code to the left.



MILTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE REPORT

Insight from Trustee Jackie McGrath

After 100 days of serving as a Milton Trustee, I have three insights: first, I am grateful for expert and experienced staff who work so hard on behalf of the Township and are willing to share their knowledge and point of view with me as I learn the ropes. As a new Trustee, I hope I've been able to offer critical questions in a calm, thoughtful, and respectful tone, and I appreciate that my long lists of questions are answered in the same spirit.

Second, it's very meaningful to help solve ongoing challenges in the Township, from updating governance practices and financial processes to studying and planning for increased community needs throughout Milton. I am hopeful that once we clear the decks of some of the problems from the past, I can help contribute to new ideas and initiatives in line with the Township's duties. Last, it is clear there is so much potential for improving general awareness and support throughout Milton Township for the programs and services provided by the Township—in the end, it is a very straightforward unit of government with a clear charge: "the duty of providing relief and support to poor and indigent persons in the territory" (60 ILCS 1/10-20). I will continue to ground my work as a Trustee in that duty, and it guides my vote on every motion. It is an honor to serve in this role, and I know Milton Township is making a meaningful difference for so many people.



MILTON TOWNSHIP GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Need Help with Rent, Mortgage, Utilities, Emergencies?

We have an Emergency Assistance program for basic needs for rental assistance and disconnected utilities. Appointments are required and requested documentation must be presented at the time of application. Requests for rental assistance must include a 5-day notice from your landlord for the current month's rent and a copy of your lease. There must be a Final Notice prior to Disconnection on a utility bill in order for the Township to consider it an emergency and the Township cannot assist with gas or electric bills when the LIHEAP program is in effect.

Milton Township can help with heating bills. We are now scheduling in-person appointments for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program that helps income-eligible households pay for home energy services. The LIHEAP program will run from Oct. 1 through Aug 15, 2026, or until funds are exhausted. Beginning on October 1st, residents can apply if someone in the household is 60 years or older, receiving Social Security disability benefits, has a child younger than 6 years old or has either a utility disconnected or has received a disconnection notice. Beginning Nov. 1, all other households who are income eligible can apply for energy services. Adults 55 or older can call (630) 668-1616 to make an appointment.



MILTON TOWNSHIP AT NEIGHBORHOOD ROLL CALL 2025

Neighborhood Roll Call is a community outreach initiative where police officers engage with residents in their neighborhoods to discuss safety, foster relationships, and address concerns. We had a great time participating in the Wheaton Neighborhood Roll Call at Northside Park. We raffled off gift baskets from our generous donors, and we can't wait to participate in this event next year.



SENIOR BINGO! Join the fun!

ATTENTION SENIOR BINGO LOVERS!!! Spend the afternoon on October 10th, starting at noon, playing bingo and winning prizes at the Wheaton VFW POST 2164, 0N731 Papworth St, Wheaton, IL 60187. Sign up by calling the Township office at (630) 668-1616. November's event will be a Thanksgiving Luncheon with date and location TBA.



MILTON TOWNSHIP CEMETERY COMMISSION

Our Short & Midterm Goals

Cemetery maintenance specifically of historic and pioneer cemeteries is part of Township duties outlined by The State of Illinois. As we mark 175 years in Milton Township, ongoing stewardship of the three local cemeteries where veterans, pioneers and their relatives as well as neighbors who cannot afford burial, remains a priority for the Township.

The Milton Township Cemetery Commission has set near term goals to better steward the three cemeteries it manages. At Jewel Grove Cemetery, a plat of survey was performed in anticipation of upcoming tree maintenance. Tree trimming in this forested grove will be spread over this and future years. At Pleasant Hill Cemetery, a park like cemetery, fencing on the north and west sides as well as an old shed, have been removed to offer access and beautify the area. Spring bulb planting is underway performed by Friends of the Pioneer Cemeteries. Regarding St. Stephen Cemetery and Prairie, the commission is working to create a maintenance plan for the remnant prairie.

The commission is looking for 3-4 additional members, those especially with genealogical research, or prairie and woodland knowledge. Contact Supervisor Higgins-Beard, b.higginsbeard@miltontownship.net.

S.A.L.T. *Seniors & Law Enforcement Together*

MEETINGS THAT MATTER TO YOU!

Attend SALT's informative, resource-rich meetings! Held on the second Monday of the month at 10:00 am at the Glen Ellyn Police Department, 65 S. Park Blvd, Glen Ellyn.

Our S.A.L.T. Council consists of police officers who help keep our community safe, social workers, Milton Township employees, and interested seniors who want to stay informed on different topics of interest to seniors.

Each month, we feature guest speakers who present on topics that help educate our seniors regarding potential scams and help them live safely and happily in their homes.

We welcome all seniors to attend. Remaining 2025 Meeting dates include: Tuesday, October 14th, Monday, November 10th, and Monday, December 8th.



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025
FROM 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM**



Upcoming 2025 S.A.L.T. Auto Inspection

The Free annual auto inspection for Milton Township seniors is sponsored by the Milton Township S.A.L.T. Council, and supported by AAA Wheaton Car Care Plus. This event is Oct 18th at 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Wheaton Fire Department, 1 Fapp Circle, Wheaton.

ABOUT THIS EVENT

Certified mechanics and volunteers will check your car's safety and make recommendations for the winter months ahead. Fluid levels and tire pressure will be checked and filled as required.



Refund Phishing Scams

MILTON Township S.A.L.T. COUNCIL MEETING July 14, 2025

Submitted by Arnold H. Shifrin, RPh, Director of Communications, S.A.L.T.

In refund phishing scams, fraudsters pretend to be representatives from well-known companies or government agencies to convince victims they are owed a refund. They use fake communications designed to look legitimate to trick victims into providing sensitive personal information.

How it works: Victims receive calls, emails, or text messages stating they are eligible for refunds due to overpayments for goods, services, or taxes. They are told their personal information is needed to process the refund and instructed to act quickly before the offer expires. Instead of issuing a refund, the scammers steal sensitive information, such as Social Security numbers (SSNs), bank account details, or credit card information.

Victims are often asked to click links or open attachments in emails or text messages to process a refund. These lead to fake websites designed to extract personal information or install malware.

How to protect yourself

- Do not respond to suspicious refund messages, including those in which you are told to act quickly before the offer expires.
- Do not open attachments or click links in unsolicited messages.
- If you believe a refund message is legitimate, contact the sender for verification. Use trusted contact information, not information provided in the message.
- Look for messages with poor grammar and spelling errors, as these are signs of scams originating in other countries.
- Be wary of generic greetings such as "Dear Customer" instead of your actual name.
- Do not be fooled by AI-generated voices that are used to make telephone scams sound convincing.
- Never grant remote access to your device to anyone claiming they need it to process a refund.
- Be cautious of spoofed calls. Your caller ID may have been manipulated to confirm the caller's identity.
- When offered, enable multi-factor authentication (MFA) for your online financial accounts to add an extra layer of protection.
- Use strong, unique passwords for your online financial accounts. Consider using a password manager.
- Be sure your device is protected with reliable antivirus and anti-malware software.
- Keep the operating system and web browser on your device up-to-date
- Regularly monitor your financial accounts for suspicious activity.
- Be wary of scam recovery offers. Scam victims are often exploited a second time by fraudsters who offer to recoup their losses in exchange for personal information or an upfront fee.

Notify the following agencies if you are a victim:

- Illinois Attorney General Senior Citizens Consumer Fraud Helpline: 1-800-243-5377 or seniorhelpline@ilag.gov.
- Federal Trade Commission (FTC): www.identitytheft.gov. Victims who report identity theft to the FTC receive a personalized recovery plan from the agency.
- Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), an agency run by the FBI: www.ic3.gov.
- If you are the victim of a phishing scam related to tax matters, notify the IRS: phishing@irs.gov.
- Your bank or financial institution.
- Your local law enforcement agency.

[Sources: IRS, FBI, FTC]



Chuck Smith, Chairman, S.A.L.T. (left) Arnold H. Shifrin, RPh, Director of Communications, SALT (right)

DEDICATED TO PROTECTING OUR SENIORS: THANK YOU, CHUCK SMITH & ARNIE SHIFRIN!

CONGRATULATIONS & GRATITUDE go out to Chuck Smith, and Arnold H. Shifrin RPh! After years of dedicated service, they are retiring from the Milton Township S.A.L.T. Council.

During their tenure as S.A.L.T. leaders, they collaborated with Township staff, volunteers, citizens, plus representatives from the Sheriff's Office, local police departments, fire departments, and senior service agencies. Their driving purpose: to educate and equip senior citizens to protect themselves from fraud and abuse, thereby improving their quality of life.

Chuck, as Chair for the past 8 years, was known for his aptitude at finding support for seniors, advocating for them alongside social workers and local law enforcement. We will miss his ability to select insightful speakers, organize with precision, and lead effectively.

Arnie Shifrin, as Director of Communications for the past 15+ years, has conscientiously followed up on all reports of scams by working with seniors, conducting research, and producing insightful alerts. His attention to detail, care for our seniors, and ability to translate the cryptic to clarity will be missed.



APRIL S.A.L.T. TALK: UNCLAIMED ASSETS ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE OVERVIEWS ICASH PROGRAM

Marty McCormack, spoke about the ICASH program at SALT's April meeting.

Here's what we learned:

- There is currently \$5 billion in recovered cash belonging to millions of Illinois residents that is waiting to be claimed at the Illinois Treasurer's Office!
- One in four Illinois adults discovers property to claim when they search.
- Assets can be held in safe deposit boxes of banks that have closed or life insurance policies that have unclaimed money for which an individual was named as the beneficiary.
- You can check the [Illinois Treasurer.gov/ICASH](https://IllinoisTreasurer.gov/ICASH) website to see if you have unclaimed property in Illinois.
- To check unclaimed assets in other states, visit missingmoney.com, the official Unclaimed Property website of the National Association of State Treasurers.



Marty McCormack, Senior Advisor to Illinois State Treasurer Michael W. Frerich, presented at S.A.L.T.'s April meeting.



Money found on the spot! At this meeting, Gladys J. Piper, Community Affairs Specialist for the Illinois Attorney's Office, conducted a search for interested attendees. There were two seniors for whom she found money belonging to them! Now that's a meeting worth your time!



DuPage Senior Citizens Council Rita McDonough, Prospecting & Outreach Coordinator and Zack Neuman, Volunteer Outreach Coordinator



MAY S.A.L.T. TALK: SUPPORT & SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH DUPAGE SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

DSCC PRESENTS ON THEIR MISSION, MEALS, AND MUCH MORE

At our May meeting, DuPage Senior Citizens Council (DSCC) representatives Rita McDonough and Zack Neuman highlighted the services provided to seniors. DSCC is a volunteer-driven 501(c)(3) not-for-profit that has advocated for and provided services to older adults since 1975.

DSCC's mission is to initiate, deliver, monitor, and coordinate various services that allow seniors to live their lives in dignity. **Their programs help seniors live safely in their homes by providing the resources necessary to maintain their physical and mental health.** Through DSCC, seniors can access food, prepared meals, and well-being checks, pet care and food delivery, wellness education, and minor home repairs or referrals.

To learn more about receiving these services, Contact: (630) 620-0804, website: dupageseniorcouncil.org



Wheaton Library Courtney Tedrick, Community Engagement Department Head (above) and Glen Ellyn Library Joshua O'Shea, Outreach Librarian (below)

JUNE S.A.L.T. TALK: NEED TECH SUPPORT? A MEETING ROOM? LOOK TO YOUR LIBRARY!

GEPL AND WPL SHARE WEALTH OF FREE ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND TOOLS

Our local libraries do more than build collections of books; they build skills and build community! In addition to a treasure trove of books, many offer FREE services such as:

- "Techsperts" help answer your computer and smartphone questions
- A 3D printer and other equipment (make and create)
- Use of a flight simulator (so fun!)
- Museum passes (visit a world-class museum)
- Private meeting rooms (for just you or a few)
- Engaging events (history, how-to demos, social hours, and programming just for seniors)
- Digital access to magazines, books, and online streaming services

REMEMBER: monthly deliveries of materials are also available to homebound Glen Ellyn and Wheaton Library cardholders.

JULY S.A.L.T. TALK:

SECURING YOUR HOME'S DEED

DUPAGE RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICE STANDS READY TO ALERT YOU TO MORTGAGE FRAUD

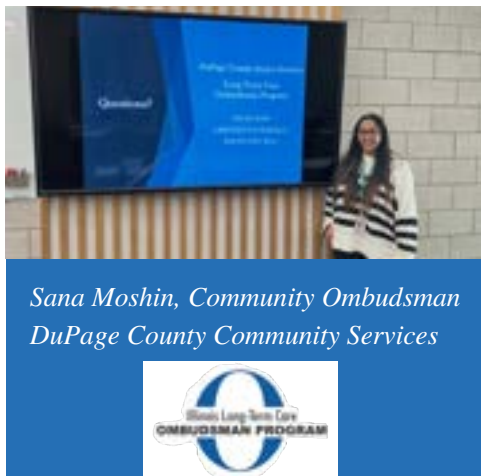
In July, the DuPage Recorder's office dispatched Jacqueline Lopez, Christianne Lewis, and Kim Gallivan to explain how to keep the deed to your home safe by accessing Property Fraud Alert, an online subscription service offered to the public. What a timely talk!

Property Fraud Alert allows you to have your name monitored within the Recorder's office to track possible fraudulent recordings that affect your property. Sign up at: propertyfraudalert.com/ILDupage.

This service does not prevent fraud from happening. However, it provides an early warning system for property owners to take appropriate actions if possible fraudulent activity has taken place.



DuPage Record of Deeds Office (left to right) Jacqueline Lopez, Recorder/Financial Analyst, Christianne Lewis, Executive Assistant to the DuPage County Recorder Liz Chaplin, Kim Gallivan, Deputy of Operations



SEPTEMBER SALT TALK:

DUPAGE COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES- ILLINOIS LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

What is a Long-Term Care Ombudsman?

- "Ombudsman" is a Swedish word meaning "citizen's representative"
- The Ombudsman program ensures that older persons and persons with disabilities receive quality services and a dignified life at the highest practical level
- The Ombudsman advocates for residents of long-term care facilities
- The Ombudsman Program is resident-directed

Long Term Care Ombudsman

Services Offered:

- Inform residents of their rights and advocate to protect these rights
- Provide community education sessions
- Provide in-service training to facility staff
- Complete regular presence visits
- Attend resident or family council meetings
- Attend Illinois Department of Public Health group interviews

Residents Have the Right To:

- Safety and good care
- Participate in their own care
- Privacy
- Manage their own money
- Safety of their personal belongings and property
- Appeal an involuntary discharge
- Participate in social and community activities
- Vote
- Participate in resident councils
- Meet with the Long-Term Care Ombudsman
- Present grievances and receive a prompt response from the facility
- Remain free from threats, punishment, or retaliation.

Should you, a family member or friend in a long term care facility be in need of an Ombudsman or need more information, please contact: Phone: 630-407-6500, Toll Free Number: 1-800-942-9412.



STICKER RENEWAL & TEMPORARY PLACARDS

Skip the lines at the DMV and renew your vehicle registration at Milton Township in minutes. Walk-in with your old registration, driver's license, and a check – a \$5 processing fee will be added. Then, walk out with your new vehicle sticker; it is that easy.

Your Milton Township Supervisor, the Board of Trustees, the Clerk, the Commissioner, the Assessor, and the entire Township Staff, are here to serve you!

NEW! WATCH OUR MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS ON OUR WEBSITE



SENIORS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND START YOUR ENGINES

FREE Auto Inspection for seniors
SATURDAY, OCT 18TH FROM 9-11:30 a.m.



Wheaton Fire Department
1 Fapp Circle Wheaton IL, 60187

Located one block north of Roosevelt Rd. on Fapp Circle, just behind the Target store near County Farm and Roosevelt Rd.

VOLUNTEER TODAY!



Milton Township CERT is a great way to help support your community. Call (630) 668-1616, to learn more.

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays
Township Board Meetings: 6:00 p.m.
on the Third Thursday of each month



1492 N. Main St, Wheaton IL, 60187



(630) 668-1616



miltontownship.net