



# River Forest Township News

## Fall, 2009

### Township Officials Staff & Volunteers

#### Trustees

Jerry Davis  
Mark Kelty  
Anna Marie Romeo  
Mary O'Brien

#### Supervisor

Veronica Krawczyk

#### Assessor

Pamela Kende

#### Clerk

Carla Sloan

#### Social Worker:

Josie Lynn

#### Mental Health Committee

Lisa DeVivo, Dir  
Helene Connolly  
Margaret Tafllaw  
Susan Klock  
Linda Gusloff  
Patti Marino  
Jim Hartzler  
Andrea Lissuzzo  
Richard Lim  
Paul Nijensohn

#### Youth Committee

John FS Williams, Dir  
John Hagensick  
Ann Pepper  
James Fitch  
Ange Davis  
Kelly Taira  
Richard Barrett

#### Senior Committee

Desiree Scully, Dir  
Donald Pochlyly  
Mary T. Small  
Peggi Mizen  
GeorgAnn Zussman  
Diana Berg  
Jim Flanagan  
Linda Ryan

As the weather changes and we approach the holiday season, there are several happenings to keep in mind in the upcoming months. First, a needs assessment survey will be mailed out in the next few weeks. We are working with the University of Illinois and the Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park to compile information that will give direction to your Township officials about programs and services for residents with mental health needs. Please take the time to complete the survey. Your response will be greatly appreciated.

Second, it is again time to brighten the holiday season for needy Oak Park and River Forest families. The Holiday Food and Gift Basket Program provides food gift certificates and holiday gifts to hundreds of local families, seniors, and single adults who otherwise would not receive or be able to afford gifts for their children. HFGB is administered by the Community of Congregations which also manages the Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry. Last year, more than 2000 people benefited, and nearly 400 individuals and groups volunteered to shop for those in need. Please see the bottom of this page for how you can help.

Third, the 2010 census will begin this spring. It is very important that every household completes and returns the census form in a timely manner. Funding is based on the information collected. Help your community receive the funds to which we are entitled.

Last but not least, I would like to announce that Carla Sloan has been appointed to replace Elizabeth "Buff" Martin as Clerk of the Township. The trustees and I, thank Elizabeth for her years of service and dedication to the Township. We wish her the very best.

~ ~ ~ *Veronica Krawczyk, Township Supervisor 708-366-2029x1*

#### • **Township office hours:**

Wednesday – Supervisor Veronica Krawczyk – 9:30am to 2pm. (Please call for appt. outside these hours.)

Thursday – Assessor Pamela Kende – 10:00am to 12pm.

- **Senior Dine-Out program** – The participating restaurants are *MAPLE TREE*, a long standing partner, and *ROBINSON'S NO. 1 RIBS*. The suggested donation for the Dine-Out coupons is \$3.50.

- **Senior Discount Metra Pass** – \$3.50 for picture ID - Wednesdays 9am to noon at Oak Park Township Offices, 105 S Oak Park Ave. - 383-8005 – Must show Driver's License, Passport or State ID.

- **Handicapped Parking** – *temporary cards* valid for up to 90 days or *permanent parking placards* - Please phone the Township Supervisor to request applications.

- **WalkIn Ministry** – referral service. Mon-Sat. 10-11am at 848 Lake St. 708.386.1946

#### Assessor's Corner

*Pamela Kende, C.I.A.O. 708-366-2787x2*

All taxpayers should have their tax bills in their own name and address. To make a name change, please go to the Cook County Treasurer's web site at [www.cookcountytreasurer.com](http://www.cookcountytreasurer.com), download the form, have it notarized and mail it in; or contact me to have a form sent out to you. The correct name and address on a tax bill aids in the process of confirming who is "in-district" for school enrollment and homeowner exemptions. A name change will NOT effect your property assessment in any way.

When you receive your 2<sup>nd</sup> installment tax bill, please be sure all the exemptions (homeowners, senior, senior freeze) to which you are entitled are listed. If an exemption is missing, please contact me.

### **HOLIDAY FOOD AND GIFT BASKET PROGRAM FORM**

#### Here's how you can help –

Fax form to 708-366-0450 or call 708-771-6159 x244 or email [holidaybasket@hotmail.com](mailto:holidaybasket@hotmail.com) to provide this information.

You will get first names, ages, genders and "wish lists" plus info on when and where to drop off your gifts. (People typically spend about \$40-\$50 per person.)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Past Sponsor? \_\_\_\_ (check if Yes)

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Org/Agency/Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #2 \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor: # \_\_\_\_\_ Family/Families \_\_\_\_\_ (Total # of family members)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Age/Gender Prefs)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Senior/Seniors

# \_\_\_\_\_ Single Adults

Can you help with organizing or delivery in Dec? \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Needs are important to us! Contact the Supervisor at 708-366-2029, #1.**

**For Property Tax Information, call the Assessor at 708-366-2787.**

Visit our site: [www.riverforesttownship.org](http://www.riverforesttownship.org)

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## Guide to Township Supported Services . . .

(All phone numbers are in area code 708.)

Meals at Home: call 485-3422 to arrange for meal delivery to the homebound - \$4.75 per meal.

### **Contact the following agencies directly to inquire about services, or call the Mental Health Committee at 358-8855.**

**Mission:** *To enhance the mental health and developmental potential of residents, establish an appropriate continuum of community support services, and manage local resources in a fiscally responsible manner.*

- NAMI (National Alliance for Mentally Ill), 524-2582 Drop-in Center - Supervised opportunities for recreation and socialization.
- Community Support Services, 354-4547 A respite service for the developmentally disabled and their families.
- Thrive, 383-7500 Marital/Family Counseling; Youth Services; 24-hour Crisis; Psychiatric Care; Medicaid, Medicare & Major Insurance accepted; Psychiatric Rehab Recovery Services.
- Oak/Leyden, 524-1050 Training program for adults with developmental disability who require vocational training and social services. Also, early intervention for children from birth to age 3 who are at risk of developmental disability. The program facilitates a normal development pattern in children who demonstrate a special or general delay in one or more abilities.
- Parenthesis/Parateen, 848-2227 Parent-child center offering support services and educational opportunities to families with preschool children. The Parateen program serves teen families including the parenting teens, their parents and children at weekly sessions which provide a shared meal, transportation, workshops on self-development and parent education on childcare.
- Sarah's Inn, 24 hour Hot Line 386-4225 Comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence. Evening counseling is available. Group treatment program for abusers.
- Sequin Services, 863-3803 Client and family support program for persons over the age of 14 with developmental disabilities. Links individuals and/or families with the services needed to prevent institutionalization.
- Aspire, 547-3550 Early intervention service for children with developmental disabilities, birth to age 3; pediatric therapies for ages 3 to 8.
- Pillars, 386-2100 Outpatient psychotherapy for children ages 3 to 18 and families who are experiencing serious emotional difficulties.
- Suburban Access, 799-9190 Individual MR/DD services, point of entry for purchase of service programs.
- Hephzibah, 386-8417 A child welfare and day care agency providing assessment services, crisis intervention, foster care, group homes and school-age childcare.
- Way Back Inn, 848-2065 Provides rehabilitation and support services to address the special needs of women who are suffering from alcoholism or drug dependence.
- For a full listing of service providers, please visit our website, click on Downloads and view the Mental Health Resource Directory.

### **Targeting Youth . . .**

**Mission:** *To enhance the social and emotional development of youth and their families, and to work for the prevention of juvenile delinquency by addressing the needs of youth at risk of becoming involved in inappropriate or illegal activities.*

- Peer Power 383-0700, focuses on the ability of youth to discuss life problems/issues and to support to each other.
- Intramural Sports at OPRF High School 383-0700, serves a diverse youth population and also engages identified at-risk youth in positive, consistent supervised activity, linked to school performance, models conflict resolution skills.
- Summer School Work Study 383-0700, for high school students, encourages responsibility while obtaining job related skills; builds self-esteem and benefits local agencies by providing volunteer support.
- ASK After School at the River Forest Library.
- I-Search 386-1841, enables elementary school students to learn about and discuss personal safety related issues with police officers and other community resource workers.
- TIME (Teen Initiative Meeting Expectations) 386-3393, early intervention program targeting at-risk youth.
- ENUF 386-393, educates teen offenders / at-risk youth on the dangers and risks associated with use of alcohol and drugs.
- Youth Connect 386-393, one to one mentoring of at-risk youth ages 12-17. Youth are generally referred to this program.
- Financial Aid Scholarship 445-2727, helps children of families within income guidelines, to participate in activities.

### **Especially for Seniors . . .**

**Mission:** *To enhance the quality of life for seniors in our community by providing a broad array of supportive services that promote the values of independence, self-esteem and dignity.*

- Transportation: Blue or Red Cab books 771-6159 x200 / Bus service 383-4806 - call 24 hours in advance to arrange pickup.
- Call Senior Services at 383-8060 or visit the office at 418 Oak Park Avenue – 6<sup>th</sup> floor for:

Information & Referral	Senior Lunch Program	Senior Advocate Program	Are You OK? TeleCare Reassurance
Case Management	Home Delivered Meals	Affordable Wills	Elder Abuse Intervention
Community Care Program	Dine Out Program	Tax-Aide	Carrier Watch
Transportation	Health/Wellness Activities	Circuit Breaker	Senior Health Insurance Program
Money Management**	Chore Program	Energy Assistance	News & Views newsletter

(\*\*assists low income older persons who have difficulty with household budgets, paying bills, keeping track of bank records, intervening with creditors, completing medical forms and other personal financial issues.)
- Senior Discount Metra Pass at 105 S Oak Park Ave., Wednesdays 9-12am, \$3.50. Identification required. Call 383-8005.
- Avoid Financial Exploitation – (The unauthorized use of an adult's funds, property or resources by a family member, friend or stranger which causes a loss - even as small as \$20 per month.) Contact Steven Smith at 383-8060 or the IL Dept on Aging at 1-888-206-1327.
- Recreational Activities: Call the River Forest Community Center at 771-6159 and / or  
The Senior Citizen's Center of Oak Park and River Forest at 848-5251.