

# PALATINE TOWNSHIP

www.PalatineTownship.com

FALL 2015



## SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER!

Stay informed of all the current events at the Township.

The sidebar on the Township website has a Quick links section. Click on the "Receive email notifications from the Township" and you'll be redirected to the sign up page.

Please Note: We take the privacy of our subscribers very seriously. We will never sell or otherwise distribute your email address to third parties.



## HOLIDAY OUTREACH IN OUR COMMUNITY - THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Last year, the generous residents of Palatine Township made it possible to distribute nearly 800 Thanksgiving baskets to needy families. Thank you! We are hoping that this year, you will once again help us provide a Thanksgiving dinner to those in need.

This program assists under-resourced families from our community. This year our goal is to increase our distribution by 10%. We help by providing them with all of the ingredients needed to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. If you would like to help, please contact us by October 26 so that we can estimate how many families we will be able to provide for. You may also sign up online at [www.palatinetownship.com/thanksgiving/2015](http://www.palatinetownship.com/thanksgiving/2015). The suggested basket contents are listed, but feel free to add a card, note, or other food items that you feel would benefit the family.

Baskets need to be returned to the Township Center between November 5-11.

### Suggested Basket Contents:

- Canned Vegetable (up to 4 cans)
- Chicken Broth (2 cans)
- Coffee, Tea or Hot Chocolate
- Cranberry Sauce (1 can)
- Cream of Mushroom Soup (1 can)
- Dessert Mix (Cake or brownie -up to 2 boxes)
- Evaporated Milk (1 can)
- Fruit (2 cans)
- Instant Mashed Potatoes (1 large box)
- Jell-O (2 boxes)
- Piecrust Mix & Pie Filling (1 can)
- Stuffing Mix (1 bag)
- Sweet Potatoes (1 large can)
- Turkey Gravy (2 cans)

Other optional food items: Cereal

All items in the basket should be non-perishable, no frozen turkeys accepted. A large laundry basket works great to package your donation!

A \$25 grocery store gift card would be appreciated. A gift card enables families to purchase a turkey and other perishable items for their meal. Please contact the Township at 847-358-6700 with questions.

## OUTREACH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Look in the newsletter for more details!

### OCTOBER

- 1 Thanksgiving Basket & Adopt-A-Family programs donor registration begins

### NOVEMBER

- 2 Angel Tree Distribution
- 5-11 Thanksgiving baskets due at Township Center

### DECEMBER

- 4 Angel Tree gifts due at Township Center

#### DONATIONS OF AT LEAST \$1,000 1/6/2015 TO 8/10/15

#### NEEDY FAMILY FUND DONATIONS

Anonymous	\$4,000
Anonymous	\$1,400
Anonymous	\$1,300

#### ADOPT-A-FAMILY

New Life Church	\$1,500
Women's Club of Inverness	\$1,000

#### APPLE TREE

Palatine Women's Club	\$1,000
Plansmith Corporation	\$1,000

**Total \$11,200**

## PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

### Please Help Families in need this Holiday Season!

The holiday season is the perfect time to lend a helping hand to an individual or to a family that is struggling economically. Please help brighten someone's holiday by participating in one of the outreach programs:

#### THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Our Thanksgiving Basket program helps under-resourced families in our community by providing them with all of the ingredients needed to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. If you would like to help a local family in need, you can register online by October 1 at [www.palatinetownship.com](http://www.palatinetownship.com) or contact us by October 26. This helps us determine the number of families we can help. Baskets and donations must be returned to the Palatine Township Center between November 5-11.

#### ADOPT-A-FAMILY

There are many families in our community whose financial situations won't allow them to experience the joy of the holiday season. You can reach out and help a family, identified by local social workers, by "adopting" them for the holidays. Register as a donor online beginning October 1 at [www.palatinetownship.com](http://www.palatinetownship.com). Gifts will be collected and distributed to the families on December 11 and 12.

#### ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

Beginning Monday, November 2, the Township lobby will be filled with special "angel" ornaments that include the name, age, and "wish" of a child or senior citizen in need from our community. Sign out an angel at the Township shop, then drop off the wrapped gifts during normal business hours at the Palatine Township Center no later than December 4, 2015.

## TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

by Ken Lopez

Greetings Palatine Township Residents,

My name is Ken Lopez, your new Township Administrator. I was recently hired by your Township Supervisor, Supervisor Sharon Langlotz-Johnson and my first day on the job was June 1st.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. First, for the past 16 years, I have resided in Johnsburg, a small community in McHenry County along with my wife, who is a teacher. We have three grown children, who serve in the public sector as well.

Secondly, I am no stranger to local government. For the past 19 years, I have served as a municipal manager in various Illinois communities. Being a public servant is a passion of mine, which I truly enjoy. I find it very rewarding helping others. Over the past several months, I have learned much about Palatine Township and the services that are provided to our residents.

I am very fortunate to be working for Supervisor Langlotz-Johnson. Supervisor Langlotz-Johnson is committed to providing quality programs such as General Assistance, Food Pantry, Senior Transportation, and Community Outreach. In addition, Supervisor Langlotz-Johnson and the Township Board of Trustees are committed to ensuring that your tax dollars are being spent wisely.

As your Township Administrator, my duties and responsibilities are to run the day-to-day operations of the Township. While serving as your Township Administrator, my goal is to ensure that Township staff is working cohesively and collectively to meet your needs and provide for the general welfare for those who are in need.

In closing, if I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me anytime at the Palatine Township Office at 847-358-6700 or at [klopez@palatinetownship.com](mailto:klopez@palatinetownship.com).

## SERVICES AT A GLANCE

### Administrative Office

847-358-6700

Cook County vehicle stickers

Temporary disabled parking placards

RTA senior reduced fare applications

Voter registration

Free notary public service

Township maps

### Assessor's Office

847-358-6164

Explanation of property  
assessment and tax bill

Property tax exemption

applications and help

Property tax appeal forms

Zoning variances

### Employment Counselor

847-358-6700

*By appointment only*

### General Assistance

847-358-6110

*(for those in need)*

Access to Care

Emergency assistance

Energy assistance (LIHEAP)

Food pantry

Mobile dental clinic

### Road District

847-358-6336

Road and bridge maintenance for  
unincorporated Palatine Township

### Transportation Services

847-358-6907

Rides for seniors and disabled

### Veterans

Benefits 847-485-2772

Counseling 847-980-1827

## TOWNSHIP IN ACTION

### TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Soon the trees will be changing color and a crisp cool breeze will fill the air. This should inspire you to sign up for our Senior Transportation Service. It is quick and easy. Once you fill out a short form, a copy is made of your driver's license and then you're all set to travel with us.

You can travel to any destination in the Township including the Senior Center, beauty/barber shops, grocery stores, Target, Walmart, library, restaurants in Palatine, doctors or dentists offices. The cost for this service is only \$2.50 each way.

We also have special shopping trips every other Monday:

September 14 – Trader Joe's, Arlington Heights

September 28 – Woodfield, Village Green, Streets of Woodfield

October 12 – Kohl's, Arlington Heights

October 26 – Joe Caputo's, Arlington Heights

November 9 – Woodfield, Village Green, Streets of Woodfield

November 23 – Kohl's, Arlington Heights

December 7 - Woodfield, Village Green, Streets of Woodfield

December 21 – Trader Joe's, Arlington Heights

Our program uses two mini buses and one van. All three vehicles are lift equipped for your convenience in getting on and off the vehicles.

For medical appointments outside of our Township, Township residents can utilize the T.R.I.P. Program. This program will take you to the five surrounding townships, in addition to North Chicago VA, Hines VA, Loyola Hospital, Stroger Cook County Hospital, University of Illinois and Rush Medical Center. Your cost for this service is only \$5.00 each way if you cross over one township border and \$10.00 each way if you cross over two or more township borders. You can register for the T.R.I.P. program when you register for our Township service.

Reservations for both programs must be made a minimum of three (3) business days in advance. If you have any questions call 847-358-6907. We look forward to assisting you.

### FOOD PANTRY

The 23rd annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive this past spring collected over 70 million pounds of food nationally for families in need. The generous residents of Palatine Township contributed to its success by leaving bags of non-perishable food items next to their mailboxes for the letter carriers to collect as they delivered mail. Heartfelt thanks to both the Palatine letter carriers who went the extra mile, donors and to the volunteers who assisted in boxing and sorting the food.

To our many neighbors with backyard vegetable gardens, we thank you so much for your donations of fresh homegrown produce. Special thanks to the teams at the Presbyterian Church of Palatine, The Chapel and the Countryside Church who donated vegetables each week during the harvest season!

The Township Food Pantry assists individuals and families in need of groceries. Our client choice Pantry allows families to choose from a variety of nonperishable food, frozen meat, fresh bread and dairy products. Please call 847-358-6110 to register to use the Pantry.



# BLUE STAR BANNERS FOR TOWNSHIP MILITARY FAMILIES

by Clerk Lisa Moran

Do you have a loved one or neighbor who is serving in the military? Palatine Township launched a program in 2011 recognizing its military families; having now recognized 39 families. Each military family is invited to attend a Township meeting where they will be part of a very special presentation. These banner presentations only take place three times a year, in February, June, and October. The Palatine Township Board honors these families with a Blue Star Banner along with a board resolution, information folder, and a moving power point presentation of their loved one serving. The respective mayor and state legislators also attend and award each family with official Letters of Recognition and plaques. It's a very special evening for all involved.

If you are interested in becoming a banner recipient or know someone who may be, please visit [www.palatinetownship.com/blue-star-banner](http://www.palatinetownship.com/blue-star-banner) for more information and to apply. You can also contact Clerk Lisa Moran's office with questions, at 847-358-6700.



Banner Recipient Eligibility includes the following family members of an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States:

- |                        |                                 |                            |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| -wife/husband          | -parent through adoption        | -children/stepchildren     |
| -mother/father         | -half brothers or sisters       | -children through adoption |
| -stepmother/stepfather | -foster parents (loco parentis) | -brothers/sisters          |

## WARNING: PROPERTY REASSESSMENT COMING

by Assessor Terry Kelly

Your property taxes are based, in part, on the assessed value of your property. Whether you are a new homeowner, or have lived in your home for many years, the value of your property is going to change when Cook County reassesses all properties in Palatine Township.

In 2016 all properties in Palatine Township will have their values reassessed by Cook County. Property owners will receive a "Notice of Proposed Assessed Valuation" letter in the mail. All properties in Cook County are reassessed every three years, or on a triennial basis.

If you have previously filed a property tax appeal, and were successful in reducing your property's value, CONGRATULATIONS! However, please note that lower value is subject to change during the reassessment process. The good news is you can once again file a property tax appeal to reduce the valuation of your property. Your Palatine Township Assessor's Office can assist in filing your appeal.

The most difficult part of putting an appeal together is finding similar properties with lower assessments, or comparables. The Township Assessor's Office has a program that will provide a listing of comparable properties, as well as the needed forms in order to file an appeal.

To be sure you do not miss any important filing dates or information on upcoming seminars, Palatine Township residents are encouraged to sign up for our email notices. Simply provide your email address and you will receive notices on dates when tax appeals can be filed, the time and place of outreach seminars, exemption information and other important information. Please call the Assessor's Office at 847-358-6164 with your email address or if you have any questions. The Palatine Township Assessor's Office looks forward to helping you reduce your property taxes.

# STIRRING CEREMONY PAYS HONOR TO THE GAR

*By Cemetery Chairman Terry Kelly*

On Sunday, August 16th a ceremony was held at Hillside Cemetery honoring the accomplishments of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The GAR was formed after the Civil War, and helped promote resting homes for soldiers and fought for their pensions. This stirring ceremony included Civil War reenactors as well as several local ladies dressed in period clothing.

Leading off the ceremony American Legion Post 690, along with Civil War reenactors from Taylor's Battery, presented our nations colors. American Legion Chaplain Tom Seick gave a moving invocation, highlighting those who have paid the ultimate price. Cemetery Committee Chairman Terry Kelly, acting as the Master of Ceremonies, held a drawing for a US flag that was flown over our Nation's Capital. The winning ticket was drawn by Supervisor Langlotz-Johnson.

Next, Township Supervisor Langlotz-Johnson gave some background on the soldiers buried in the GAR plot. Following the Supervisor's speech Palatine Historical Society President Joe Petykowski gave some further detail to the many accomplishments of the GAR.

The key note address was delivered by Palatine Mayor Jim Schwantz. The Mayor particularly noted the many young people in the crowd, and how important it is for them to embrace our local history. The ceremony concluded with a 21 gun salute from the Legion along with several firings of a Civil War era cannon by Taylor's Battery with taps then being played by Bob Kelly.

At the outset Chairman Kelly thanked the many groups that made this ceremony memorable. They are: Palatine Park District, Palatine Historical Society, Palatine Township Road District, Village of Palatine, American Legion Post 690, Taylor's Battery, Kinsch Village Florist and the Township Cemetery Committee. True hometown pride was shown by one and all.



## EMPLOYMENT

Autumn is finally here! We are looking forward to a change in the weather and a change in new employment opportunities as well.

We encourage all Palatine Township residents seeking full or part time employment to contact our Employment Counselor, Val Profit. She is in the office every Monday assisting job seekers toward that perfect opportunity. Call our office at 847-358-6700 to schedule an appointment for a personal consultation. Val will review your resume, skills and experience, and then speak with you about open positions in your area of interest, or the feasibility of transferring your skills into another area.

On the first Monday of the month Val is available, by appointment only, to meet with you at the Palatine Opportunity Center located on Rand Road. Please call to make an appointment so Val can make your transition back into gainful employment effortless. An appointment is not needed to review our Job Bank, a list of 100 jobs in the community. Come to the Township Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM and Saturday 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM to view the new listings in the Job Bank. We hope to see you soon!

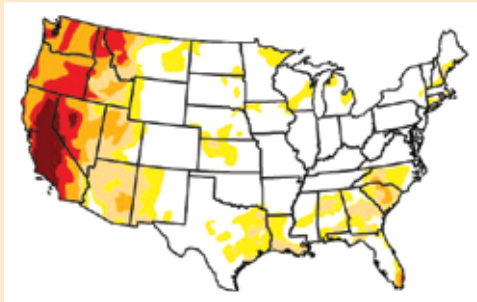


# PALATINE TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT

Thomas Kaider, Highway Commissioner

## SUMMER OF 2015

Water is necessary for human life and all too often it can be in short supply as seen in this August 2015 drought monitor report. Please see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/> for more information regarding drought conditions. In the Midwest, at the time of constructing this newsletter, we can say we were pretty fortunate to receive rainfall during the summer of 2015. For the month of June, we experienced the 9th wettest month on record with 7.12 inches, which was also the cloudiest. Numerous storm events contributed this record rainfall. As a result, Palatine Township Road District responded to alleviate blocked storm sewers, clogged storm sewer grates and downed trees. In fact, we designed and built several ditch modifications that assisted storm water from the roadways and properties due to the heavy storm events.



## SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

If the upcoming 2015-2016 winter season is anything like the recent ones, we will be in the record books once again. Winter season 2013-2014 brought us 82.0 inches of snow, 3rd overall. Last season, 2014-2015, we received approximately 50.7 inches of snow. However, during the Groundhog Day weekend we received 19.3 inches of snow at O'Hare, ranking the storm event as 5th.

Snowfall wasn't our only worry; we also tied for the coldest February on record. Whether feast or famine, the Palatine Township Road District crew will be ready to assist.

We have executed our salt contract in order to provide the Township with bulk treated road salt and have outfitted our fleet with additional ice control measures. We continue to monitor weather conditions and apply the best technique to combat inclement weather.



Help us to keep your neighbors and other motorists safe by not disposing of snow into the street, a public sidewalk or even on the parkway across from your property. Properly pile the snow from your driveway on the downstream edge of roadway plowing operations and your drive. This will reduce the amount of snow deposited into your driveway during the following storm event. If a mailbox has been compromised by our municipal plow truck, please notify us immediately so that a temporary mailbox may be installed for continued postal service. If you have any questions, concerns or need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact us at 847-358-6336. Thank you for your consideration, everyone at the Road District greatly appreciates your effort in combating the winter storms and together we will keep the roadways open and safe.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, storm water drainage is a key component to the design, function and longevity of the roadway pavement. Premature failure of the asphalt pavement and granular subbase may occur if storm water is not transferred away from the roadway. There are several ways to handle this drainage, however the two most recognizable are curb and gutter designs or open ditches with cross culverts. In years past, farmers laid miles of drain tiles which were made of clay, 6" to 8" in diameter and about a foot long. They were laid in trenches with open joints to allow groundwater to filter through the soil and thus into the clay drain tile. This drainage system is abundant within the Township. Some of them are still functioning, most are in need of replacement. As mentioned above, we designed and built several ditch modifications that assisted storm water from the roadways and properties. These modifications included connecting the clay drain tiles into a new storm sewer system. Fortunately, the Road District has an excellent staff of skilled personnel that are capable to not only build but maintain the drainage systems and all of your infrastructure needs.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR PALATINE TOWNSHIP FUNDED AGENCIES

Palatine Township supports specific programs at twenty-six local social service agencies that provide vital human services to Township residents. Here are fundraisers for some of those social service agencies.

## **CATHOLIC CHARITIES** *CatholicCharities.net*

Ayudando Nuestras Familias

Thursday, October 15, 2015, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Perillo Chicago, 834 N. Rush St., Chicago

Jr. Board Charities Royale Casino Night

Saturday, November 7, 2015, 7:30 PM - 11:30 PM  
Revel Downtown, 440 W. Randolph, Chicago

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## **CHILDREN'S HOME + AID SOCIETY**

*ChildrensHomeAndAid.org*

Lost Dunes Golf Tournament

Monday, October 5, 2015  
Lost Dunes Golf Club, Bridgman, MI

Toast to Hope

Hosted by the Associate Board of  
Children's Home + Aid  
Friday, October 23, 2015, 7:30 PM - 11:00 PM  
The Library, 190 S. LaSalle, Chicago

## **JOURNEYS/THE ROAD HOME**

*JourneysTheRoadHome.org*

Bid for Hope Masquerade Ball

October 23, 2015  
Medinah Country Club

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## **MIDWEST PALLIATIVE AND HOSPICE CARECENTER**

*CareCenter.org*

Navigating Grief Support Group

Monday, October 19, 2015 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM  
Midwest CareCenter

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## **NW CASA** *NWCasa.org*

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

Sunday, October 4, 2015, 10:00 AM  
Centennial Park, Evanston

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## **PHD** *Sphd.org*

Tip Your Hat To... fun, fashion & friends!

The Stonegate Conference and Banquet Centre  
Friday, October 2, 2015

## **SKUNKS INVADE OUR COMMUNITY**

*by Bill Pohlman*

I can speak as an expert of what not to do to keep skunks away from your home since I have a family of four living under my shed. I will share some advice, though, from a creditable source, the Palatine Village newsletter.

The best way to keep skunks away from your home is to eliminate all the things that attract skunks in the first place. Don't attract skunks to your home by feeding them. You may not think you are feeding them, but if you are leaving your pet food and water outside especially at night or allowing your bird feeders to overflow then you are providing a food source to skunks. If you can, store your garbage cans in your garage and, since even scraps of food will attract skunks, always keep your grill clean.

The next step in keeping skunks away from your home is to eliminate places where they might live. In my case,

the skunks moved in under a raised shed that I have in my backyard. Other places that skunks like to make home are underneath decks, crawl spaces, window wells and in openings under concrete slabs or porches. You will also want to keep your property free from rock piles, hollow logs and watch out for other abandoned dens such as woodchuck burrows.

If you share my misfortune and have skunks in your area keep in mind that like most wildlife, skunks will not generally spray you unless they feel they are cornered. If they are a distance away from you, a loud noise may make them scurry away. If they are in front of you, start stomping their front feet and arch their back, move away from them because their next response will be to raise their tail and spray you.

**Hours:**

Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
Saturday, 8:30 AM - noon

**847-358-6700**

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

**PALATINE  
TOWNSHIP**

**Palatine Township Report, Inc.**

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Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Palatine, IL



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**LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISOR**

*To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.*

*-Winston Churchill.*

I am into my 3rd year as the Supervisor of the Township. Time has passed quickly, and we have had many changes! We have improved both inside and out of the Township grounds, acquired a Butterfly Garden, increased the number of individuals helped in various ways, and so much more. Everything accomplished with keeping the Township/Road District portion of the tax bill flat.

The budget process has already begun with the State budget being a hot topic. Palatine Township receives approximately \$60k tax revenue from the state. In addition, we occasionally are awarded grants to complete specific projects, i.e. resurface the parking lot, fix drainage etc. Those tax dollars come from you and we do what we can to get them back to you. State receipts in all forms assist in keeping Township property tax at minimum.

Township distributes approximately 25% of the budget to charities and organization programs which offer a service the Township does not. Due to the State crises, Township funded agencies were given the option to collect the entire year's allotment at one time in order to "keep their doors open." Several of those organizations took the option and avoided additional hardship to residents. The Township takes pride in working with our community, and this was one occasion that had a weighty outcome.

I want take a minute to introduce new members of the Township family, Ken Lopez, our Administrator and Anna Chychula, Assistant Administrator. Both come to the Township with experience and energy to get the job done. We are proud of what they have already accomplished in a small period of time. Please welcome them.

Have safe holidays, enjoy your families, and we can all look forward to a new year.

