

PALATINE TOWNSHIP

PalatineTownship-il.gov

SPRING 2021



CLEAR OUT THE CLUTTER AND MANAGE YOUR "PAPER TRAIL"

Now is the time to get rid of things that are cluttering up your home! Palatine Township and the Palatine Lions Club are sponsoring two events to help you dispose of some of those items in a safe, environmentally friendly way. Both events are free for residents of Palatine Township. Get more information from our website at PalatineTownship-il.gov if you have questions.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Saturday, May 8, 2021, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Township Parking Lot
721 S. Quentin Road, Palatine**

Enter the parking lot from westbound Illinois Avenue and volunteers will unload your car. You will exit via Quentin Road. No quantity limit on items.

Absolutely no old (CRT) monitors/NON-Flatscreen TV's, dehumidifiers, light bulbs, white goods (major appliances), paint, or hazardous materials accepted. We reserve the right to refuse or limit quantities of any items. Computers, printers, mice, CD, DVD & VCR players, DVRs, batteries, phones, Christmas lights, power cords and cables, small appliances, (new version) flat screen monitors, cameras, and more can be recycled.

There is a charge of \$25 per microwave to recycle.

Visit our website at PalatineTownship-il.gov for a complete list of items.

SHREDDING DAY

Saturday, June 19, 2021, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**Township Parking Lot
721 S. Quentin Road, Palatine**

Do you have a "trail of paperwork" taking up space in your home? Now is your chance to clear out the clutter and bring your boxes to our Shredding Day.

Enter the parking lot from westbound Illinois Avenue and volunteers will unload your car. You will exit via Quentin Road. A limit of 2 cardboard boxes/paper bags. No plastic bags allowed.

Your documents will be destroyed with secure cross-cut shredding. Shredding provided by AMS Store and Shred LLC.

SAVE THE DATE!

**Annual Town Meeting and Citizen Recognition
Tuesday, April 13, 2021**

You are invited to join us at 7:00 PM at the Palatine Township Center, 721 S. Quentin Road in Palatine, for the Annual Town Meeting and citizen recognition. The Annual Town meeting is an opportunity for Township residents to participate in grassroots government. Palatine Township is committed to responding to the needs of the residents of this community by providing compassionate, efficient, and accountable government services. Historically, this meeting reflects the most fundamental type of government in which each registered voter in the Township has an equal voice. Township government is local government closest to the people.

Come and help us recognize our exemplary citizens whose generous and thoughtful contributions have greatly impacted our community.

The Annual Town meeting will also include a short presentation of the Township's improvements, services, and future projects.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The Palatine Township Food Pantry was impacted just like all other food pantries in 2020. When Covid-19 began, our shelves quickly emptied and donations slowed. In the beginning, we were worried if we could keep up with the needs for our community. In the last few months, we received more donations than we expected. The kindness and generosity of the hundreds of people who donated food and money this past holiday season was overwhelming.

We were happy to receive donations from local companies and community groups that organized both big and small food drives. Without your help, we would not be able to fill the pantry shelves with a wide selection for our clients. A special thanks to the students of Fremd High school for engaging with us every year and working hard to hold successful food drives. This year, the Rolling Meadows Police Department Holiday Food Drive brought in the largest amount of food donations to our food pantry and worked with the community to bring in additional donations. Thank you to Rolling Meadows Police Department for your support!

Special thanks to:

- Rolling Meadows Police Department
- Palatine Gymnastic Club
- Mutual Ace Hardware
- Jewel Osco Palatine
- Baird & Warner

Our Food Pantry's success would not be possible without the dedication, hard work, and kindness of our volunteers. We are fortunate to have more than enough volunteers who donate their time every week. This year is so different from any we have had in the past, and we're looking forward to continue providing for our clients!

If you live within the Township boundaries and are struggling to provide food for yourself or your family, please contact the Township for more information. Also, if you would like to make a donation or organize a food drive, please check the Township website.

OUTREACH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Look in the newsletter
for more details!

FEBRUARY

- 1 Easter Basket Donor Online
Registration Begins

MARCH

- 26 Easter Baskets Due to
Township

APRIL

- 6 Consolidated Election
13 Annual Town Meeting
17 Tire Amnesty (Smith St.)
24 Tire Amnesty (Smith St.)

MAY

- 8 Electronic Recycling

JUNE

- 19 Shredding Event

JULY

- 3 Independence Day Parade
3 Apple Tree Kick Off and Food
Pantry collection at the parade

PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

Donate an Easter Basket

Spring into action and donate to our 2021 Easter Basket Program. We are looking for donors to create a basket filled with goodies and small toys for children (10 years and younger) from financially struggling families. Please stop by the Township Office and pick out an egg cut-out which includes the name and age of child. Alternatively, you can register online at palatinetownship-il.gov/easter-basket-donor (Donor Easter Baskets.).

Suggested items for the Easter Basket include edible treats, small toys, games, hair accessories, coloring books, crayons, books, etc. The value of the basket and contents should be approximately \$25.00. All edible items must be in their original packaging. Please wrap your basket in cellophane (or other transparent material), and include your egg and return to the Township. All baskets and donations must be delivered to the Township by March 26, 2021.

Much like the Township's other outreach programs, the Easter Basket Program identifies local families in need. Help bring a smile to a needy child and donate an Easter Basket to our program. If you prefer, you can make a tax-deductible donation to our Needy Family Fund.



ICOMPETE SUMMER CAMP

ICompete provides a youth summer camp for under resourced children ages 6-11 years who live in the northeast quadrant of Palatine. The camp will meet July 13 through July 27 at Falcon Park. ICompete is a collaborative partnership with the Palatine Park District, Partners for Our Communities, Palatine High School, Community Consolidated School District 15, Palatine Township and the Palatine Police Department.

Community support is vital to ensure the camp's success. A \$70 donation will help one child attend camp, but all donations are appreciated. Checks should be made payable to Palatine Township Sponsor A Child and sent to 721 S. Quentin Road, Palatine, IL 60067. For more information on ICompete please visit their website at www.poc.news

ALL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION AUTOMATICALLY RENEW IN 2021

Assessor Terry Kelly, CIAO

Great news for taxpayers regarding your property tax exemptions. In 2021 (tax year 2020), ALL property tax exemptions you received last year in 2020 will automatically renew. This now includes the senior freeze, disabled person, and disabled veterans exemption. Your homeowners and senior exemption continues to renew automatically as well. However, the returning veteran's exemption will not renew automatically.

You should note that the senior freeze, disabled veterans, and disabled person exemptions will auto-renew if the owner of record was the same on January 1, 2020 as was on January 1, 2019.

Property tax exemptions can help you reduce your property tax bill. Currently, the senior exemption reduces your homes assessed value by \$8,000, while a homeowner's exemption reduces the value by \$10,000.

If there are any questions about your exemptions or your property taxes, please call your Township Assessor's Office at 847-358-6164. We look forward to helping you reduce your property taxes.

SERVICES AT A GLANCE

Administrative Office

847-358-6700

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
Property tax appeal forms
Zoning variances

General Assistance

847-358-6110

(for those in need)

Access to Care
Career Resources
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

Vet Center Counselor
847-980-1827

Veterans Service Officer
847-485-2772

TOWNSHIP IN ACTION TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Transportation is available for grocery shopping, medical appointments, food pantry, hairdressers, barbers, and other Township destinations. As we move through the pandemic, we are taking the necessary precautions to keep everyone safe. Call today for registration information or to make an appointment.

Your safety is of the utmost importance:

- Check your destinations for restrictions prior to scheduling a ride.
- Our buses are sanitized daily.
- Masks are mandatory on the buses.
- Practice social distancing (6 feet apart.)

Here are a few other things to remember:

- Our service is curb-to-curb, not door to door. Please meet the driver outside at the curb of your pick up point at the appointed times.
- Our drivers are NOT REQUIRED to provide assistance with bags, groceries, etc.
- The carry-on bag allowance for the bus is two (2) bags per person.
- Avoid unaccommodated ride requests. Book your trips as early as possible, but at least 72 hours in advance.
- Ride reservations should be made daily between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM. Please be sure to call to verify your pick up appointment between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM on the day before your trip. Schedules are tight so please be ready at the appropriate time!
- Taxi vouchers cards will take \$4 off your metered taxi fare (American Taxi and 303 Cab)

If you have interest in a particular destination that would be nice for the bus to go, please contact the Transportation Department at 847-358-6907.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND COLD WEATHER INFORMATION

For those who qualify, the General Assistance Office assists with applications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), a CEDA-run program that provides grant amounts toward paying down clients' ComEd and/or Nicor Gas bills. Whether the bills are up-to-date or past-due, individuals who qualify can receive assistance. For those who have yet to apply, applications can be completed through May 31, 2021 or until funds are exhausted. Applications can be completed remotely or in person. Income guidelines have been increased this program year to meet the needs of more customers.

Call the General Assistance Office at 847-358-6110 for more information on how to apply and to learn about other programs that may be available.

For those who experience disconnection from their utilities during the remaining winter days, the Township is available as a warming center during its posted office hours. No transportation is provided. For other warming centers both in the Township area and beyond, residents are advised to call 311.

OUR MOTTO: PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF PALATINE TOWNSHIP!

DONATIONS OF AT LEAST \$1,000 9/12/20 TO 12/31/20

THANKSGIVING BASKET

Anonymous \$1,000

NEEDY FAMILY FUND DONATIONS

Anonymous \$2,000
 Philoptochos Society of St. Nectarios \$1,000
 Greek Orthodox Church \$1,000
 Anonymous \$3,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 The Dodson Foundation \$10,000
 Anonymous \$2,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 The Blackburn Giving Fund Grant* \$1,000
 Anonymous \$2,000
 Anonymous \$2,000
 Pebble Creek HDA \$4,545
 Schwab Charitable \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Concord Mills Neighborhood \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,500
 Gilio Landscape Contractors \$1,000
 Fidelity Charitable Grant \$10,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,500
 Anonymous \$1,500
 Anonymous \$2,000
 Anonymous \$1,000

Total \$52,045

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Anonymous \$2,000
 New Light Christian Church \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Kourtis Gyros \$2,000
 Anonymous \$2,000
 Baird & Warner \$2,000
 Anonymous \$10,000
 Anonymous** \$1,000
 Islamic Society of NW Suburbs** \$1,500
 RIT Company Reliable Information Technology, Inc. \$1,500
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Village of Inverness \$5,000
 St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church Outreach Ministry \$2,500
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Plum Grove Estates Property Owner Association \$2,825
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,000

Total \$40,325

PAYPAL DONATIONS

Anonymous \$10,000
 Anonymous \$2,500
 Anonymous \$1,000
 SewDarnCute \$2,000
 Anonymous \$10,000
 Anonymous \$1,000
 Anonymous \$1,000

Total \$27,500

TOTAL \$ 120,870

* Made on behalf of AbbVie Employee Engagement Fund

** Part of the Rolling Meadows Police Department Holiday Food Drive



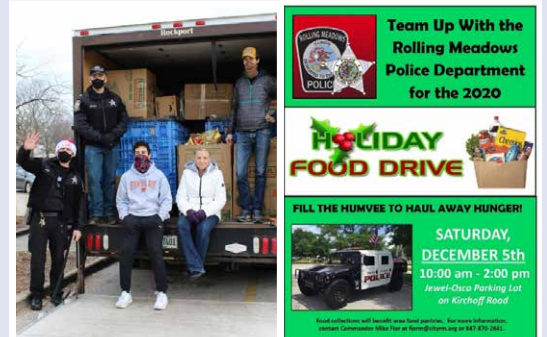
Getting ready to distribute Thanksgiving Baskets.



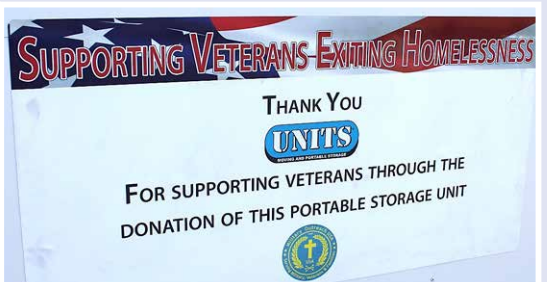
Palatine Township is now a Giving Partner with Bombas socks. We applied for and received thousands of socks that we are distributing to our Food Pantry families.



Special helpers that came to distribute Adopt-A-Family gifts.



Collecting food at the Rolling Meadows Police Department Holiday Food Drive.



We partnered with the American Legion Post 690 to help collect for Homeless Veterans.

The pod filled with items collected for the "Supporting Veterans Exiting Homelessness" Project.

WORKING TOGETHER

Trustee Bill Pohlman

The board and staff of Palatine Township are thrilled with the partnership we have with our community in all the programs that serve our residents. With the election of a new Township board in April, the existing board would like to thank the generous residents and staff of Palatine Township.

The food pantry will return to an in-person shopping "Choice Pantry" from the current pre-ordered "Choice Pantry" pick-up, once the pandemic is under control. Each month the food pantry feeds roughly 345 families with the help of our community. If it wasn't for the generosity of individuals, organizations and companies making donations of food and money, we couldn't keep up with the demand. We have the most caring, dedicated food pantry staff. In fact, during the pandemic we had the entire Township staff and bus drivers preparing and in some cases delivering our patrons orders.

Our other outreach programs also depend on the generosity of our residents. One of our largest programs is our Thanksgiving basket program. Every year we distribute approximately 1,000 baskets containing everything a family needs for a Thanksgiving dinner. All the contents of the basket including a \$25.00 gift certificate for a turkey comes from community donations. Other programs such as Adopt-A-Family, Angel Tree, and Easter baskets would not be as successful without the residents of Palatine Township.

Our Township staff, in addition to the Outreach programs, works with the community to satisfy their needs. Our Assessor's office does seminars on property tax appeals and has multiple ways that residents can file an appeal. Appeals can be filed in person, by email and by dropping off a form at the Township. Individuals can also receive disabled parking permits, discount prescription cards, notary services among other assistance.

NO COST COVID-19 TESTING

**Community Resource Center
1585 N Rand Rd. Palatine
(Entrance through Back Door Only)**

- **Testing Scheduled by Appointment Only-No Long Lines**
- **Results in 48-72 Hours Delivered via Email & Phone**
- **Insurance not required** Insurance requested for billing purposes only. No co-pay required
- **Appointments on Eventbrite through this link:**

<http://bit.ly/palatinetownshiptesting>

Specific Appointment Times Available for Symptomatic Individuals

General Questions: 847-358-6700

Laboratory Questions:

Northshore Clinical Labs
customerservice@northshoreclinical.com
773-570-6510

Testing Supported by:

Cook County Public Health Department, Palatine Township & Partners for Our Community
Northshore Laboratory—Not Affiliated with Northwest Community Healthcare or NorthShore University Health System



Working to provide services to our residents.

A PUBLIC SERVANT: NOT A POLITICIAN

Trustee Raymond Kincaid

I would like to thank the citizens of Hoffman Estates and Palatine Township for entrusting me with the honor of representing them for the past twenty-eight years. Although I was an elected official, I have always insisted on being called a public servant, not a politician. There are many hundreds of thousands of public servants that do the best they can to serve you, their constituents.

There are so many to thank and so much to share. I've worked in both the private and public sectors. My experiences include working in corporations, running a small "Ma and Pa" business, sixteen years as a Fire and Police Commissioner, eight years as a Village of Hoffman Estates Trustee, and my final four years as your Palatine Township Trustee. I am grateful for the education, experience and opportunity to learn the many areas of responsibilities of each position in my career.

I know that the services provided by the villages are different from the services provided by the Township for the residents in the eight villages within our borders. Palatine Township provides social services. We have many generous residents and companies in our Township. We also have many residents who are experiencing some very tough times. The Township helps to connect both. This past year was like no other. So many residents were pushed to their limit: depression, unemployment, drug abuse, hunger, and even frustration with finding transportation to the doctor's office was common. Distribution of food from food drives to the needy, even for not-for-profits, needed a common connection. We've all heard "Darn Cook County Property taxes are too high. "People ask, "Who will help me appeal them?" The answer is that Palatine Township will help!

The staff at the Palatine Township office are a special breed. They have a calling to help people and they give so much of themselves. They truly care for the needs of the residents. Thank you to all of them!

With retirement, I will miss being a public servant in Illinois. I wish to thank you for allowing me to work with so many other great public servants in Palatine Township and Hoffman Estates. Together, much was accomplished for you!

Thank you!

PALATINE TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT

Aaron Del Mar, Highway Commissioner



FROM THE DESK OF COMMISSIONER DEL MAR

The services Palatine Township Road District (PTRD) and every governmental body for that matter provides to you are not free. As you know, services are paid through property taxes, which are listed on your annual property tax statement from the Cook County Assessor's Office. To keep tax burdens low, local governmental agencies need to reduce their levies. As Highway Commissioner of Palatine Township, we can help to reduce your taxes by levying or asking for less money, which we have done this year. Our portion of the tax burden is further split as we receive approximately half the amount. The other half is returned to local municipalities to fund their own road improvement and maintenance programs. Such programs include patching, crack sealing, resurfacing and complete restoration of neighborhood roadways. Included are capital costs for new equipment and vehicles to maintain these roadways. It is also important to note, like surrounding municipalities, we have an excellent staff of experienced employees that are well qualified to maintain your infrastructure needs and through prudent spending, we have been able to do so effectively.

During this third, exponential wave of the corona virus disease (Covid-19) pandemic, PTRD continues to monitor the current data and mitigation response. PTRD shall remain open and staffed to serve the community's infrastructure needs; in fact, we have implemented secondary plans and back up responses. First, we expanded the radius of support by joining the Illinois public works mutual aid network (IPWMAN). This will allow PTRD to reach to other public work agencies during emergencies for aid and to provide aid. Locally, we have discussed with the Village of Palatine to share administration knowledge and maintenance work force in case of absences or quarantines. Additionally, in an effort to maintain the current level of service during the winter season, we have contracted with a local contractor to supplement any snow and ice control operations.

As winter looms heavy over us, we continue to monitor weather conditions and apply the best technique to combat inclement weather. For instance, on a bright sunny, cold morning you may see our trucks anti-icing the roadways with a salt brine before a winter storm comes through later that day. This pre-treatment forms a barrier between the roadway and frozen precipitation, preventing an icy bond to

form between the two. We began making our own salt brine used for anti-icing efforts and pre-wetting procedures, to cut distribution costs. Salt brine is the main component in liquid applications. By making a "Winter Cocktail" of 80% salt brine, 10% calcium chloride and 10% agricultural, sugar-based products, we can further enhance the effectiveness of the snow and ice control operations.

Other services that we will continue this year include our well-attended Tire Amnesty Program, yard waste collection and free compost stockpiles. Early each spring, on selected Saturdays, anyone living in Palatine Township can drop off their used tires free of charge at our garage. If you are a resident of Palatine Township, stop by and unload your old tires at the Road District Garage, located at: 530 N. Smith Street, Palatine. Bookending Earth Day, the tire amnesty program will be from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Saturday April 17, 2021 and Saturday April 24, 2021. There will be a limit of 10 tires and tires from commercial vendors will not be accepted. We will begin our annual yard waste collection for the unincorporated areas on April 5, 2021 and will continue through Thanksgiving week, November 22, 2021. Additionally, for your gardening use, we will continue to have free compost, which was last year's yard waste and is offered for anyone to pick-up at the Road District Garage and Town Hall locations.

Thank you for your continued support. Through this difficult moment, we will continue to work together with patience, consideration and understanding. If you have any questions, concerns or need any additional information regarding our services please feel free to email me at adelmar@palatinetownship-il.gov.

Sincerely,

Aaron Del Mar
Highway Commissioner

TOWNSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS DURING MY EIGHT YEAR TERM

Supervisor Sharon Langlotz-Johnson

- Developed and utilized Capitol Improvement Fund.
- Paid off pension debt (savings of over \$1 million.)
- Created exclusive deductible insurance program, saving thousands of dollars for years to come.
- Developed maintenance program for Township building and office equipment.
- Revamped General Assistance Program to ensure qualified residents receive assistance.
- Increased assistance opportunities for those qualified for items other than shelter, food, and utilities.
- Individuals seeking assistance can apply for most assistance programs through General Assistance saving time and money for the applicant.
- Developed a partnership with local police departments to provide emergency assistance for victims and transients.
- Increased staff educational opportunities and training to improve service to residents.

During the Pandemic

- Partnered with Cook County Health and Partners for Our Communities to open a Covid Testing site.
- Provided personal protection supplies to those in need.
- Continued to provide residents with a choice of food through the food pantry, delivered to the vulnerable, and adjusted the delivery system to ensure safety.
- Outreach programs all continued with the adjustments needed for safe delivery.
- Set up remote abilities for employees who were unable to be in the building every day.
- Continued all services for all residents, including transporting individuals to important medical appointments.

The Township never closed!

Equipment & Building

- Replaced 3 water heaters, 3 furnaces, 9 A/C units and established a maintenance program thereby extending equipment life.
- Installed 3 ADA Entrance Doors.
- Replaced outside doors in the Day Care area.
- Purchased Township Transportation Bus allowing for increased transportation opportunities.
- Repaved parking lot and installed resurfacing maintenance plan.
- Upgraded obsolete phone system.
- Replaced tile and carpet. Implemented maintenance schedule to extend life for carpeting.
- Computer and hardware update with a staggered purchasing schedule.
- Foam roof installed to improve insulation and waterproofing, saving on repair and utility costs.
- Improved and replaced drainage, extending the life of the foundation.
- Security Improvements include General Assistance area remodel, and the addition of a new security camera system for the Township.
- Replaced manual marquee with an electronic system.
- Replaced manual restroom appliances with automatic features. (Installed five years prior to the pandemic.)
- Purchased client software for General Assistance, as well as Transportation department, increasing efficiency.
- Replaced building windows saving energy costs and improve safety.

Palatine Township has, for the last eight years, succeeded in keeping your taxes low and provided essential services to all.

IMPORTANT VOTING INFORMATION FOR THE APRIL 6, 2021 CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

Clerk Lisa Moran

Mar 10 through Apr 5

REGISTER TO VOTE:

Grace Period Registration and Voting extends the registration period by allowing voters to register and vote until the Monday before an election. Voters must register and vote in person at an Early Voting Site of their choice (see Early Voting Info below).

Individuals wishing to vote during this grace period must bring:

- Two pieces of identification to register, one with a current address.

Grace period registrants must immediately cast their ballot after registering to vote

Mar 22 through Apr 5

EARLY VOTING:

PLEASE NOTE:

At the date of this publication, the County Clerk's Office had not secured the hours or location for the Palatine early voting site.

Please check our website for updated information as it becomes available.

Now through April 1

VOTE BY MAIL:

To complete an online mail ballot application, go to mailvoting.cookcountyclerk.il.gov

You will need:

- your driver's license or state identification number or the last four digits of your Social Security Number
- the address where you would like your ballot mailed; and
- an email address

Once you have applied, received and completed your ballot, you will be able to mail your ballot back.

Please Note:

At the date of this publication, the County Clerk's Office was still working with the State Legislature regarding drop boxes for this election.

Hours:

Monday, 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Tuesday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturday, 8:30 AM - noon

847-358-6700

PalatineTownship-il.gov



**Sharon Langlotz-Johnson,
Supervisor**

SLJohnson@PalatineTownship-il.gov



Lisa Moran, Town Clerk

LMoran@PalatineTownship-il.gov



Terry Kelly, Assessor

TKelly@PalatineTownship-il.gov



**Aaron B. Del Mar,
Highway Commissioner**

ADelMar@PalatineTownship-il.gov



Andy-John G. Kalkounos, Trustee

AJKalkounos@PalatineTownship-il.gov



Susan Kern, Trustee

SKern@PalatineTownship-il.gov



Ray Kincaid, Trustee

RKincaid@PalatineTownship-il.gov



Bill Pohlman, Trustee

BPohlman@PalatineTownship-il.gov



PALATINE TOWNSHIP

Palatine Township Report, Inc.

721 South Quentin Road, Suite 101

Palatine, Illinois 60067-6778

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 2851
Palatine, IL

***** ECRWSS *****
CAR-RT PRESORT
POSTAL CUSTOMER, LOCAL
PALATINE TOWNSHIP, IL

LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISOR

"There is no greater calling than to serve your fellow men. There is no greater contribution than to help the weak. There is no greater satisfaction than to have done it well."

– Walter Reuther

After twelve years on the Township Board, eight of those as Supervisor, I am retiring and turning the gavel over to the new elected Supervisor on May 17. I am proud of all the staff, the Board, and what I have accomplished. Every day I looked for ways to improve services for the struggling, elderly, disabled, and for you, the Township residents, without adding unnecessary costs to your property taxes. I have outlined those improvements inside this newsletter. I'd like to share some of those highlights.

I advocated and twice paid off the unfunded pension for the Township, saving over \$1,000,000.00 for taxpayers. Recent tax bills show that ONLY the Township is a 99-100% funded pension.

As a Trustee, I developed and advocated for a "Capitol Improvement Fund." Monies not spent the year prior are dedicated for Capital Projects, many of which are needed after years of neglect. The new fund preserves the Township from requesting additional levy funds.

We installed multiple systems and additional equipment, which resulted savings in utility costs, water damage, and other repairs. We improved communication by installing sound panels in the Patriot Room, an electronic marquee sign, and we've upgraded the phone system.

The General Assistance Program was revamped with strict protocols to ensure that those who were truly in need, were receiving assistance. This had not been previously enforced. Other protocols were changed allowing qualified individuals to receive additional needed assistance, including allowing for increased food pantry visits upon request.

My favorite and most meaningful changes were the additional Township Transportation Bus, which will allow more transportation options for all residents, and increased security in the General Assistance area and the entire building. We are safer knowing who is entering and in the Township Building. This could be the best savings of all, a priceless life.

Thank you to the residents for the opportunity to serve, and the most thanks to the amazing staff of Palatine Township for your assistance, guidance, support, and compassion through the years. I know that you all are very dedicated, and that you will carry on the passion of helping people through the future years.

Sincerely,

Sharon Langlotz-Johnson
Supervisor, Palatine Township

