

Spring/Summer 2024 Newsletter

Deer Park • Lake Zurich • North Barrington • Hawthorn Woods





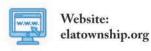




Kildeer • Long Grove • Barrington • Unincorporated Ela Township

1155 E. Route 22, Lake Zurich, IL 60047 (847) 438-7823









From Ela Township Supervisor Gloria Palmblad



Greetings -

Another fiscal year has come to an end, and very shortly the Board will be approving the next fiscal year budget ending March 31, 2025, at the upcoming meeting on May 9th. Ela Township levied \$3,945,000 in tax money this year and copies of the preliminary budget are available for viewing at Town Hall.

Currently, Ela Township mails two newsletters to all households each year – one issue for Spring/Summer and the other in Fall/Winter. Our 55+ newsletter is mailed out four times a year with the October, November, and December issue mailed to all households. As we continue to look for ways to reduce costs, we thought we'd try something new. The Township newsletter for the Spring/Summer issue would be mailed to every Ela household and the Fall/Winter newsletter would be viewed on our website. Just so everyone doesn't miss out on our riveting news, we will send out a postcard this fall with the link, etc. reminding everyone where to get the latest Township news! Plus, as a second reminder, we will also include this link in the 55+ newsletter mailed out in September.

Please mark your calendar for July 19th! Congressman Quigley's office staff, representing the 5th District, will be at Ela Township's Community Center from 10 to noon. This is your opportunity to get answers to all your questions whether it's regarding policy perspective or issues you may have about federal programs like social security, veteran benefits, tax returns, etc.

In case you have not heard, Congressman Quigley was responsible for including Ela Township as part of his 14 projects to receive Federal funding for a community project. Ela will receive up to \$150,000 which will help purchase a generator for the Community Center to serve our area as an Emergency Operating Center should the need ever arise. Also, there have been times in the past where our Center has been used as a cooling and warming center. Having this generator will allow us to operate even if our own Center is dealing with power outages. We are so thankful to Congressman Quigley for selecting our project for the FY 24 Community Funding Project Program.

Save the date! On June 1st, in collaboration with the Ela Area Public Library, we are again offering a document shredding event to be held at the Ela Library from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Shredding is limited to three boxes per household. A list of acceptable electronics will also be posted on our website later this month. We ask everyone to bring a nonperishable food donation for the St. Francis de Sales food pantry.

The Ela Township Community Center is the host of a multitude of programs, events, trips, and exercise classes for our 55+ residents. But did you know that the center comes alive with young voices on school days for children in kindergarten through 5th grade? Forty plus children spend a couple of hours each day doing homework, playing games, and working off some of their energy on a new playground that was installed last August (as pictured on the cover). The children of Homework Club are very much enjoying this new addition to the center.

Ela Township plans to host a Community Center Celebration on September 14th, with a rain date of September 15th. We are in the beginning stages of planning; however, more information will be forthcoming in our bi-monthly e-blasts. Please sign-up to receive these through our website elatownship.org.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions. We are here to help! Hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Just a reminder!
All Ela Township offices will be closed on the following holidays:















Transportation Service



Ela Township offers bus transportation service for weekday use for our residents who are 55 years of age and older, and for those with temporary or permanent disabilities. Transportation hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, within Township boundaries. In addition, we transport to the Barrington Metra station, Good Shepherd Hospital, and doctors offices in the surrounding area. Service is first come first served, hours are subject to change. The cost of transportation is \$2 for a one way ride or \$4 round trip. One additional stop can be made for \$1. For more information, or to schedule a ride, please call (847) 438-6677 or email bus@elatownship.org. Please visit our website for additional information at elatownship.org/departments/transportation.

Spotlight on Township Government

Township government is unlike any other type of government. Illinois Townships by law only requires us to do three things – provide general/emergency assistance, assess real property, and maintain all unincorporated roads and bridges. Our mission at Ela Township is to continue to enhance the quality of life for our residents by providing unparalleled and cost-effective community-based services. Ela Township is very fortunate to offer so much more to our residents while continuing to seek other ways and ideas to serve all of our citizens! Below is just a short list of services we are currently able to provide:

Supervisor and Clerk's Office:

- Notary Public
- · Voter Registration
- LIHEAP (Low Income Energy Assistance Program)
 - Vehicle Stickers
 - Temporary Disability Parking Placard
- Recycling Opportunities
- General/Emergency Assistance

Health & Wellness:

- · Mental Health Services
 - Individual Therapy
 - Couples and Family Counseling
 - Case Management
 - Consultations
 - Support Groups
- Medical Lending Closet

Youth:

- · Safe Sitter classes
- · Safe at Home classes
 - · Homework Club
- Spring Break Camp
- Winter Break Camp
- Shooting Stars Summer Camp

Assessor:

- Property Assessments
- Fieldwork to update property record cards as changes are made
- Permit visits for new construction and improvements made to the property
 - Entry of sales recorded with Lake County Recorder
 - Homeowner Exemptions
 - Senior Freeze Exemption
 - Disabled Person Exemption
 - Disabled Veteran Exemption
 - In office Assessment Inquiries
 - Assessment appeals in office at county and state level

55+ Senior Services:

- · Day trips
- Programs: Fitness classes, crafts, Lunch & learn, cards
 - Long distance travel
 - Free Tech Help
 - Baking & Cooking Classes
 - Bingo, Bunco, Cards and Mah Jongg
 - Volunteer Opportunities
 - Friendly Home Visitors
 - Alzheimer's & Parkinson's Support Groups
- · Clubs: Art, Guitar, & Ukulele
 - Discussion Groups
- Monthly In-House events with Live Music and Dinner
 - Concerts on the Patio
 - Senior Health Insurance
 - Program Counselor (SHIP)

Highway Department:

- Maintain all unincorporated roads (Both paving & pothole patching)
 - Stormwater issues in unincorporated areas
 - Maintains all Township properties
 - · Maintains all Township parks
 - Trimming & removal of dead trees in right of way
 - All signage in unincorporated areas

Transportation Service:

- Transportation services for Ela Township residents who are 55 and older or those with temporary and permanent disabilities
- Service area is limited to Ela Township boundaries with the exception of Good Shepherd Hospital and the doctors offices in the surrounding areas and the Barrington Metra Station.

Cemeteries



For those of you who do not know, Ela Township operates two cemeteries. Lake Zurich Cemetery, located at 295 Church Street, and Fairfield Cemetery located at 24375 Quentin Road. Both cemeteries have a very rich history with burials dating back to the 1800's. Lake Zurich cemetery offers not only a Scatter Garden for Township residents past and present, but it also offers three Columbaria with niches for the ashes of loved ones.

Just a quick reminder of the regulations for Township cemeteries: 1) we remove decorations that are faded, rotted, or decaying; 2) trees, shrubs, and perennials must have pre-approval prior to being planted at the cemetery; 3) please limit decorations to two per grave site. These regulations help preserve the great history and atmosphere at the cemetery. Please visit our website for additional information at elatownship.org/departments/cemeteries or email info@elatownship.org.



Ela 55+

Senior Resource Services:
Our senior resource staff assists Ela Township residents with many programs and links them with services to promote independence and a sense of well-being. Lisa Gaggiano or Laura Kulawik, our Senior Resource Specialists, will help you in any way possible; SNAP (Food stamp program), Benefit Access Program/Discount on license plates and Ride Free RTA pass, Senior Health Insurance Counseling and Education (SHIP), Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, and Medicare Savings Program Screening and Application Assistance. SHIP counseling is free! Call or email to schedule an appointment at (847)438-9160, lisag@elatownship.org or laurak@elatownship.org.





Volunteer

Our Volunteers are ordinary people with extraordinary hearts! You expect no pay, yet the VALUE of your work knows no limit. Volunteers are just ordinary people who reach out and take a hand and together make a difference that lasts a life time. Thank you! The Ela Township Community Center needs you! Volunteer help can be used at our reception desk, be a kitchen aide, a friendly home visitor, or join our card making program. Please contact Lisa Gaggiano for details at lisag@elatownship.org.

Day Trip!

SC Johnson Global Headquarters



1525 Howe St, Racine, WI Wednesday, June 26, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Register by June 12.

Fee: \$62 Resident/\$70 Non-Resident Fee includes SC Johnson admission & guided tour, lunch, deluxe motor coach transportation & gratuities.

Long Distance Travel

Costa Rica: A World of Nature January 25 - February 5, 2025 Dive deeper and engage with local life on this tour designed specifically for small groups. Maximum group size is 24.





Discovering Poland April 25 - May 7, 2025 On an all encompassing tour of Poland, uncover the country's poignant past and engaging present.

Please contact Susan Dillon for more information (847)438-9160.

Brought to you by the Ela Township Community Center



Corner Salon For Men & Women

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Haircuts & Styling are back at the Ela Community Center! Mary McCullough is here to save us from all those bad-hair days! Clients need to come with hair washed. Call ahead for appointments Men's Cut: \$10 Resident \$15 Non-Resident Lady's Cut: \$15 Resident \$20 Non-Resident



MEN-tal Health Men Only

Thursday, May 2, 9 & 16 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. 1 in 10 men will experience anxiety and depression, yet less than half of them will receive treatment for it.

What if society gave men permission to be vulnerable? Join Jim Dalbec for this 3-week course where we reassess what masculinity is, talk about emotions, and prioritize our own MEN-tal health. Registration is required.



Music Trivia Nights

Friday, May 24, June 14 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Think you know all the songs? How about who sang them? Or, when? Test your musical acumen and bring your friends. Light refreshments will be served and prizes based on number of attendees. Fee For Each: \$5 Resident \$7 Non-Resident

Sign up one week in

advance.



Pig Roast

Friday, June 21, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Roasted Pig, Baked Beans, Au Gratin Potatoes, Salad, Chef's Choice Dessert Sign Up by June 14 Fee: \$25 Resident \$30 Non-Resident

Health & Wellness Department

In a community where support and well-being are vital, the Ela Township Health & Wellness Department stands as a beacon of hope and compassion. Our mission is clear: to provide compassionate, confidential, and cost-free mental health and wellness services to residents of all ages, from children to seniors.

Our department offers a comprehensive range of services designed to meet the diverse needs of our community. Whether it's individual therapy, couples and family counseling, case management, or access to our medical lending closet, we are here to support you every step of the way. Our services extend to consultations, financial and housing referrals, and resource referrals ensuring our residents have access to the assistance and resources they need to thrive. We host a variety of support groups including our currently running Caregiver Support Group, Alcoholics Anonymous group, and Charity Knitter group. Our groups provide a nurturing space for individuals to We believe in the power of collaboration and community connect, share experiences, and find solace.

Accessibility is key to our approach. Recognizing the importance of meeting people where they are, we offer both in-person and virtual options for our services. This flexibility ensures that everyone, regardless of their circumstances, can access the support they need in a way that works for them. At Ela Township Health & Wellness, inclusivity is at the core of everything we do. We stand firmly against

For more information or to access our services, please discrimination based on any factor, embracing diversity, and contact us at health@elatownship.org or follow us on fostering an environment where everyone feels respected and valued. Facebook at facebook.com/ElaTownshipHealthWellness.



Have a recent injury or family member coming into town that requires medical equipment? Ela Health & Wellness has a Medical Lending Closet stocked with wheelchairs, crutches, toilet seat risers, commodes, walkers, and more. Call our office and speak to one of our staff to inquire about availability. All equipment is available to rent at no cost to all Ela Township residents.

partnerships. By working closely with other organizations and agencies, we seek to enhance the quality of life for all Township residents and find innovative solutions to the challenges we face together.

"You are not a drop in the ocean. You are the entire ocean

Highway Department

Ela Township provides a wide array of services that are performed year round and designed to help our residents. Each year, the Ela Township Highway Department provides services for over 100 miles of road by maintaining our own unincorporated roads plus the roads of our surrounding villages that do not have a public works department. Through Intergovernmental Agreements, the Township offers general public works operation services, road and right of way maintenance along unincorporated roads in Ela and the Villages of Deer Park, Kildeer, Long Grove and North Barrington along with snowplowing in Deer Park. Partnering with these governmental agencies is just one cost-effective way we save taxpayer dollars. Ela Township continues to be one of the smallest taxing bodies on your tax bill!

Upcoming Planned Projects:

The 2024 Pavement Improvement Program will include paving the remainder of Indian Trails subdivision and another phase in Forest Lake subdivision. Both are to be completed in late summer/early fall.

Please check our Facebook Page at facebook.com/elatownshiphighway and our website, elatownship.org/departments/highway for updated project information.



The Highway Department has partnered with SWALCO to provide our residents with a textile recycling center. The Swalco textile bin is available at the Ela Township Highway Department, which is located at 23605 Echo Lake Road in Lake Zurich. We also offer 3 recycling centers for old gym shoes, cell phones, flags, and glasses. These are available at Knox Park 1155 E. Rt 22, Knigge Park 23600 N. Echo Lake Road, and at the Ela Historical Society & Museum located at 95 E. Main St., all in Lake Zurich. We also offer a plastics recycling bin as well, for all those plastics that we cannot recycle in our bins at home such as bubble wrap, plastic grocery bags, produce wrap, and plastic overlay. Drop off your plastics in the conveniently located collection bin in the lobby at Town Hall 1155 E. IL Route 22, Lake Zurich.



On behalf of all Highway Department employees, we are proud to serve Ela Township and be part of the services that it provides in care of its residents. We want to thank all of our Township residents for their support and involvement throughout the year. The Highway Department can be reached Monday though Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. by calling our office at (847)438-2371 or email highway@elatownship.org. The Highway Department also welcomes our residents to visit us at our office located at 23605 N Echo Lake Rd, Lake Zurich.

Historical Society & Museum

Ela Township has a rich and diverse historical story to tell and celebrate dating back to the 1830's. On September 8th, 2024, from 12 to 6 pm, Ela Historical Society will present its third annual History Day and Antique & Artisan Market. We are proud to offer this historically centered, free, family-friendly event at our Historical Museum and the adjoining Lions Park in downtown Lake Zurich. We will have farming and agricultural educational speakers as well as nature inspired crafting and games for the kids. Bring a blanket, some chairs, and picnic food or enjoy food for purchase on site from the Lake Zurich Lion's Club. Take in an authentic mid-19th century live baseball game! Experience a flashback in time as you and your family learn about the founding pioneers and the history of our township. Venture into the Civil War reenactment camp and learn about the life of a Union soldier and about the many residents of Ela Township who served in the Civil War. Dress-up and costumes are encouraged and welcome for our day of Ela Township historical commemoration. If you would like to volunteer, donate, or get involved in this special day please reach out to us.

The Ela Historical Museum is open to the public on Saturdays from 12 to 3 pm, or visits may be arranged by appointment. We are located at 95 E. Main St. in Lake Zurich. Admission is always free, but donations are appreciated. To contact Ela Historical Society for scheduling a visit or for other matters, call (847)438-2086 or e-mail elahistorical@gmail.com. Please visit our website at elahistoricalsociety.com, and follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/ElaHistorcal.



Assessor's Office

From the Assessor...We're here to help!

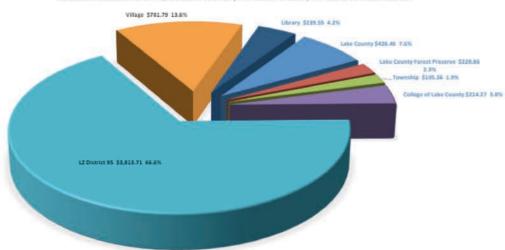
You Just Received Your Tax Bill, What Can You Do If You Have Questions or Concerns?

In early May, Ela Township residents will be receiving their tax bills. This can be a tense time for taxpayers if you feel your bill is too high. We encourage you to verify information our office has about your property. If errors do exist, then we may be able to adjust your bill in hand, which can affect the amount of property taxes you pay in this calendar year.

Last year was the general assessment year, the first year of the quadrennial assessment cycle. If you have not verified the property information, now is the perfect time to. You can verify that easily at IMSLAKE.org by address or parcel identification number or stopping by our office. You will want to verify the drawing we have for your home. If you have an open foyer and/or living room, volume area would dictate that your home be categorized as a one-story dwelling in those areas, so let us know if we have that area listed as a full two-story. You can also verify the bathroom and fireplace count. You may have also removed a deck, patio or shed in the past and did not notify us of that change.

Do you know where your property taxes go?

This is a breakdown of a 2022 tax bill of \$5,706.62 for a \$235,335 home in Lake Zurich



If you only have a partial basement, you should ensure it isn't listed as a full and verify the finished area we have on file. These are just a few examples of information that can affect the assessed value of your home. We can make corrections to the tax bill you just received for certain factual errors, but the window of opportunity is brief. Please feel free to call us or stop by our office and we would be happy to go over the information with you to ensure all the facts regarding your property are correct. Double check the exemptions listed on your tax bill. Did you receive the General Homestead Exemption which is available to any homeowner for their principal residence. Are you 65 years of age or older? Have you applied for the Senior Homestead Exemption? Low-income Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze? There is also the Senior Citizen Tax Deferral Program available through the Lake County Treasurer's Office. There are multiple ways that veterans and disabled persons can save money on their property taxes. Home Improvement Exemption defers, for four years, any increase in the assessment of the property due to an addition or other improvements to the home for which the Township Assessor would add value. Should you have any questions please call our office at (847)438-8370 or visit our website at elatownship.org/departments/assessor.

Shooting Stars Summer Camp

Ela Township Shooting Stars Summer Camp is a great opportunity for your kids to join in weekly field trips, group games, weekly crafts and activities, and socialize with other kids in Ela Township while school is out for the summer! Camp is in session from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You must be a resident of Ela Township to attend.

Who? Kids entering 1st grade through 6th grade that reside in Ela Township When? June—August 2024 Where? Knox Park in Lake Zurich. Located next to Ela Town Hall 1155 IL-22, Lake Zurich, IL





Homework Club After School Care Program

Homework Club is our after-school program offered to the youth in Ela Township. Children engage in daily activities such as completing homework, playing games, making crafts, and building friendships. The goal of Homework Club is to provide children with a safe and enjoyable environment for them to grow academically and socially.

When? After school, Monday through Friday until 5:30 p.m., when Lake Zurich CUSD 95 is in session.

Where? Ela Township Community Center, 380 Surryse Road, Lake Zurich.



SAFE@HOME

SafeSitter & Safe@Home

SafeSitter Essentials is a program designed to prepare students in grades 6 through 8 to be safe when they are home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. This class is filled with fun games and role-playing exercises. By the end of this day-long program, students will cover safety skills, child care skills, first aid and rescue skills, and life and business skills.

Safe@Home is designed for children in grades 4 through 6 to prepare them to be safe when they are home alone. This 90-minute program teaches how to practice safe habits, how to prevent unsafe situations, and what to do when faced with dangers such as power failures or weather emergencies.

For more information on youth programs and services please visit our website at elatownship.org/departments/youthprograms, or contact the Youth Department at (847)438-9160.

Summer Events

Hawthorn Woods

Concerts & Movies in the Park Community Park

June - August 16, 6:30 p.m.

July 4 Celebration

Community Park July 3, 3:00 p.m.

July 4 Parade

Lagoon Dr. to Village Hall July 4, 10:00 a.m.

Party in the Park

Community Park September 7, 4-10 p.m.

Lake Zurich

Food Truck Socials

Paulus Park, Wednesdays, June through August 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Lake Zurich Farmers Market

Paulus Park, Fridays, June 7 - September 13, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

4th of July Celebration

Paulus Park July 4, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Live at the Lake

Paulus Park, Thursdays, June 20 - July 25, 6:00 p.m.

Lake Zurich contd...

Lions Club Alpine Carnival

Main St. & Lions Dr. July 19, 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. July 20, 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. July 21, 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Rock the Block

Downtown Main Street September 14, 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Long Grove

Chocolate Fest

Downtown Long Grove May 17, 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. May 18, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. May 19, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Strawberry Fest

Downtown Long Grove June 21, 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. June 22, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. June 23, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Vintage Days

Downtown Long Grove July 27, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. July 28, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Prsrt Std U.S. Postage PAID Permit #117 Lake Zurich, IL

*******ECRWSS EDDM****

Residential Customer

Ela Township Department Directory

elatownship.org

Ela Township Supervisor's Office

Supervisor Gloria Palmblad • Clerk Lucy Prouty

Township Manager Ted Marciniak 1155 E. Route 22, Lake Zurich

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: (847) 438-7823 • Fax: (847) 438-9269

Email: info@elatownship.org

elatownship.org

Ela Township Assessor's Office

Assessor Penny Herr

1155 E. Route 22, Lake Zurich

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: (847) 438-8370 • Fax (847) 438-6880

assessor@elaassessor.org

elatownship.org/departments/assessor

Health & Wellness Department

Director Sara Marx

1155 E. Route 22, Lake Zurich

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: (847) 540-8380 • Fax: (847) 540-8390

health@elatownship.org

elatownship.org/departments/health-wellness

Ela Township Cemeteries

Cemetery Manager Jeff Thompson 1155 E. Route 22, Lake Zurich

Phone: (847) 438-7823 Email: info@elatownship.org

elatownship.org/departments/cemeteries

Ela Township Highway Department

Highway Superintendent Mike DePouw 23605 Echo Lake Road, Lake Zurich

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Phone: (847) 438-2371 • Fax: (847) 438-0457

Email: highway@elatownship.org elatownship.org/departments/highway

Ela 55+ Senior Services

Susan Dillon, Community Programs Director

Jim Dalbec, Assistant Director 380 Surryse Road, Lake Zurich

Community Center Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone: (847) 438-9160 • Fax: (847) 438-9196

Email: susand@elatownship.org • jimd@elatownship.org

elatownship.org/departments/seniors

Ela Youth Program

Susan Dillon, Community Programs Director

Joe Cacciatore, Youth Coordinator 380 Surryse Road, Lake Zurich

Community Center Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone: (847) 438-9160 • Fax: (847) 438-9196

Email: susand@elatownship.org • youth@elatownship.org

Ela Transportation Service

Bus Service Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Reservation Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hours are subject to change Phone: (847) 438-6677

Email: bus@elatownship.org

elatownship.org/departments/transportation

Ela Township Elected Officials

Supervisor Gloria Palmblad



(847) 438-7823 supervisorpalmblad@ elatownship.org

Clerk Lucy A. Prouty



(847) 438-7823 clerkprouty@ elatownship.org

Trustee Larry Bowman



(847) 438-7823 trusteebowman@ elatownship.org

Trustee Doug Samz



(847) 438-7823 trusteesamz@ elatownship.org

Trustee Tosi Ufodike



(847) 438-7823 trusteeufodike@ elatownship.org

Trustee Laurie Wilhoit



(847) 438-7823 trusteewilhoit @elatownship.org