# Lemont Township NEWSLETTER

# Updated Website Be sure to check out our

newly designed website to stay up to date!

# **Early Voting**

We are the only location in Lemont for Early Voting.

## Senior Events

There are lots of fun events planned in the next few months!

16300 ALBA ST. LEMONT, IL 60439 | (630) 257-2522

TOWNSHIP HOURS: Monday–Friday, 9am–4pm (see page 7 for Township closures)

# Letter from the SUPERVISOR



## Dear Neighbors,

In the event you were not aware, Lemont Township has completed the next phase of the Lemont Township Community Center. The additional space now houses our administrative offices, and the offices on Warner Ave. are now closed.

The transition of staff and resources has been completed. The transition was a lot of work, but the staff of Lemont Township worked hard at getting it completed, and with no disruption of services.

As I look out the window of my new office, I see our beautiful Lemont Township Open Space. If you have not been to our Open Space, I would encourage it. It is designed for passive recreation purposes. You have the ability to walk over 60 acres of restore prairie, and other natural beauty.

This spring, I am putting together a working group that I hope to be a representation of citizens, Lemont Township, Village of Lemont, and the Lemont Park District to study and recommend enhancements to the Open Space. In addition, there is currently property that has limited or no residential commercial use adjacent to our Open Space property. This working group will be tasked with looking at the property and making a recommendation for adding to the Open Space.

If you are interested in serving, or have thoughts, please contact me at the Township.

Michael G. Shackel

Lemont Township Supervisor

# **Financial Assistance**

Lemont Township offers two main types of financial assistance: General and Emergency Assistance. General Assistance is offered to residents who have no income or financial resources and are not eligible for Federal or State Assistance. This is a financial aid program that helps residents meet basic needs until employment or another source of income is obtained. Emergency Assistance is financial aid granted to gualified individuals and families to help alleviate life-threatening circumstances due to emergencies that have happened outside of their control. Emergency Assistance can help with rent, utilities, and other essentials.

Lemont Township is a service extension unit for Salvation Army which provides individual and emergency services including rent, utilities, and other essentials. The Salvation Army's Sharing Program also offers Energy Assistance for gas bills which is a one-time yearly grant towards past due gas bills.

Lemont Township partners with CEDA to offer Energy Services called LIHEAP. This program offers a one-time yearly grant towards your gas and electricity bill. CEDA's Energy Program opened as of October 1st and will remain open until August 31st or until funds are exhausted.

The Gross Income Guidelines for Emergency Assistance and Food Pantry go up to 250% of the Federal Poverty level and are as follows (Other program guidelines vary):

#### 250 % of the Poverty Level

30 Day Income
\$ 3,260
\$ 4,406
\$ 5,552
\$ 6,697
\$ 7,843
\$ 8,989
\$ 10,135
\$ 11,281

# **Food Pantry**

Lemont Township partners with two local food pantries which form the Lemont Township Open Pantries to assist our families in need. Both pantries offer non-perishable food items and gift cards to local grocery stores. Residents must complete an application to utilize these pantries.

#### **Bethany Lutheran Church**

500 Lemont Street Tuesday–Thursday: 9:30am-12:30pm

#### **Summer Lunches**

#### Lemont United Methodist Church

25 West Custer Street Tuesday–Thursday: 9:45am-11:00am

Lemont Township assists families with ensuring parents can provide lunches for their children throughout the summer months. Lemont Township knows and understands the difficulties of providing nutritious lunch meals for families especially with rising food costs. This program provides monthly gift cards to help alleviate some of these expenses.

Lemont Township residents must be registered with the Lemont Township Open Pantries to participate in this program. Registration for this program becomes available at the end of April each year and will remain open until children return to school.

# Seniors -

The Lemont Township Community Center is home to the Lemont Senior Community Café, operated by the Community Nutrition Network and Senior Services Association (CNNSSA). This welcoming space provides nutritious meals for adults 60 and older, offering a great opportunity to socialize, enjoy a healthy meal, and participate in a variety of engaging programs throughout the month. Meals are served daily at 11:30am, with a suggested donation of \$3.50 per meal. While we encourage seniors to dine in, pick-up options are available upon request. Additionally, Meals on Wheels services are offered through this location for individuals who are unable to leave their homes. For those looking for some fun, BINGO is played every Monday following lunch for just \$3. The café is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 2:00pm. To learn more about joining the Meals on Wheels program or visiting the Lemont Senior Community Café, please contact Stephanie Gasca (Site Manager) or Colleen Melchior (Program Assistant) at 630-257-0515. (Advanced meal reservations are preferred.)

#### Lemont Township Senior Association

Lemont Township works closely with the Lemont Township Senior Association. This association has been in existence since 1974. The organization's goal is to promote and provide services and activities to enrich the social lives anyone 60 and older. The annual membership fee is \$15.00. They host monthly meetings on the **1st Monday of the month at the Lemont Township Community Center**, along with many other parties throughout the year. If you are interested in becoming a member, please register at Lemont Township or at an upcoming meeting.



SPRING/SUMMER 2025 | LEMONTTOWNSHIP.ORG

#### **Discount Plate Stickers**

Lemont Township can assist residents with obtaining the Illinois Department on Aging's Benefit Access Program. This allows the Illinois Secretary of State's office to provide reduced-fee license plate stickers from \$150 to \$10 for senior citizens 65 and older and persons with disabilities who meet specific financial requirements. The total Gross Income limit is \$33,562 for a 1-person household or \$44,533 for a 2-person household.

#### Family Assistance Fund Please consider donating to our Family

Assistance Fund. This fund offers emergency assistance to our families and seniors in need. You can also donate to our Lemont Township Open Pantries. Make checks payable to Lemont Township and add a memo of who you are donating to. Please send donations to 16300 Alba Street, Lemont, IL 60439. This past year we received a combined \$15,000 in donations! Thank you to our generous donors!

If you or someone you know needs assistance or has questions, contact Stephanie Katopodis at 630-257-2522 x 117.

# Senior Events

March 17th Lucky Day Bingo

April 25th Blossoming in Time: Music Featuring Quentin Flag

May 9th Mother's Day Bingo

June 17th BING Oh It's Summer!

July 24th Sunshine Trivia Challenge

#### TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

# **PACE** Dial-a-Ride

Curb-to-curb transportation within Lemont Township boundaries. Monday-Friday from 9:00am to 3:30pm. Advanced reservations are required.

#### Rates (CASH ONLY)

**Seniors** Adults & Children 8+ \$2 per stop Children 7 & under

\$1 per stop Free w/paid adult

Reduced rates are available for lowincome residents and are approved by the Human Services Department.

Although we try to accommodate every request, there will be times it is not always possible.

To schedule any rides, contact Marybeth Nunzio at 630-754-8901

## PACE Vanpool Program (Medical)

Non-emergency, curb-to-curb, medical transportation for appointments that are located outside of Lemont Township up to 40 miles round trip for Township residents only. Passengers requiring assistance (wheelchairs, etc.) must have a companion to accompany them. One ride along

passenger/caregiver travels at no charge.

# Hours of operation

Monday-Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.

#### Rates

\$25.00 round trip 1-15 miles \$30.00 round trip 16-25 miles \$35.00 round trip 26-35 miles \$40.00 round trip 36-40 (Max 40 miles)

Cash preferred or check. Please make checks payable to: Lemont Township

Please come visit our newly renovated, easily accessible, and user-friendly webpage at **lemonttownship.org/assessors-**

office, which contains the latest news and updates as well as links to the relevant webpages from the Cook County Assessor's Office (CCAO), Cook County Board of Review (CCBOR), Cook County Clerk, Cook County Property Tax Portal, Cook County Treasurer, and the Illinois Property Tax Appeals Board. We also added a "Frequent Questions" panel on our webpage, which has direct links to the respective CCAO and CCBOR webpage links.

On March 4, 2025, First Installment Property Taxes were due. The First-Installment Property Tax Bill is exactly 55% percent of the previous year's total tax amount. Any exemptions will be applied on the Second-Installment Property Tax Bill.

The two most common exemptions are the Homeowner Exemption and the Senior Exemption. If you own and occupy your home on January 1, you are eligible to apply for the Homeowner Exemption, which is calculated by multiplying the Homeowner Exemption savings amount (\$10,000) by your local tax rate. If you reside in your home as of January 1 of the year you turn 65, you are eligible to apply for the Senior Citizen Exemption for that calendar year, which is calculated by multiplying the Senior Exemption savings amount (\$8,000) by your local tax rate. Once these two exemptions are applied, they will be automatically renewed and reflected on the Second-Installment Property Tax Bill.

In addition to the Senior Citizen Exemption, Senior Citizen homeowners may be eligible for the **Low-Income** 



Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze if

you are over 65 years of age and have a total household adjusted gross income of \$65,000 or less in the previous year. A Low-Income Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze provides property tax savings by freezing the equalized assessed value (EAV) of an eligible property from the previous year. This does not automatically freeze the amount of your tax bill; it only freezes the EAV at the fixed amount from the previous year. **Applicants must apply annually for this Assessment Freeze, as their income levels may change.** These savings are in the form of a deduction on the Second-Installment Property Tax Bill.

On February 1, 2025, Diana Groselak, Lisa Kairis, and Mario Mollo had a "Meet And Greet" at our office, where we served Folklore Coffee and answered numerous questions.

Please remember we are advocates for our residents; however, we do not process any of the applications. We highly recommend signing up for our email list, which can be done on our webpage, to receive the latest news regarding your property taxes. The assessor's office is **by appointment only**. You can visit our webpage to schedule an appointment with our team or you may call our office at 630-257-2522, who can schedule the appointment on your behalf.

#### LEMONTTOWNSHIP.ORG/ASSESSORS-OFFICE

# **Central Bark Dog Park**

Lemont Township has two parks, one for large dogs and one for small dogs, located on Alba Street approaching our Administrative and Community Center building. **Registration of all dogs is required for use of the dog park.** 

Annual Fees \$25 - Lemont Township Residents \$35 - Non-Residents

# Yard Waste Stickers

Waste Management Yard Waste Stickers are available for purchase for Lemont Township residents for **\$4.00 each.** 



# Medical Equipment Lending Closet

Gently used wheelchairs, walkers, knee scooters and



shower chairs are available on a first come, first serve basis.



For any questions about General Services contact Lisa Kairis, 630-257-2522 x 100.

## **RTA Reduced and Free Rides**

Lemont Township will assist with obtaining an RTA Reduced and Free Ride application, (You must be enrolled in the Benefit Access Program to qualify.)

# **Prescription Dropoffs**

We are a Cook County Sheriff Prescription Drug Takeback Program site. Residents can drop off unused prescription drugs in pill form only to the secured box located in our vestibule. **Pills need to be in a Ziplock bag.** 

# **Highway Department**

Which groundhog should we believe, that is the question! Our local Woodstock Willie predicts an early spring, on the other hand Punxsutawney Phil is predicting 6 more weeks of winter and with that we are in the dreaded pothole season. We at the Highway Department have been out patching potholes this winter season. Highway Commissioner Labno asks all drivers to **be alert for highway department crews patching potholes** on township roads.

The Township Road District services all unincorporated areas of Lemont Township. If you have any concerns regarding potholes, poor drainage, blocked roads, or any other issue, please **contact the Highway office at 630-257-1155**, leave a message with contact information, description, and location of problem.



# Glasses & Hearing Aids Donations

Lemont Township collects used glasses and hearing aids for the Lemont Lions Club. There is a drop box located in our vestibule.





# **Clerks Office**

The Lemont Township Office at 16300 Alba Street will be the **only Lemont location for Early Voting** for registered Cook County voters for the upcoming April 1, 2025, Consolidated Elections. Please see below for dates and times:

Monday, March 17 to Saturday, March 22 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday, March 23 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Monday, March 24 to Saturday, March 29 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday, March 30 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Monday, March 31 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

## **Township Hours**

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

## **Township Closed**

Monday, May 26 Friday, July 4 Monday, Sept. 1 Memorial Day Independence Day Labor Day

# **Event Rentals**

Residents of Lemont Township, as well as non-profit organizations and community groups, can rent out two rooms at our Community Center. Both rental spaces have modern decor, natural light, expansive views of the Woodland Sanctuary and are conveniently located by I-355. The main banquet hall is 4,200 SF with modern and simple décor. You can seat up to 125 for a sit-down dinner reception in this space. The Township board room is 875 SF and includes a customizable conference room table to accommodate meeting sizes of 10 to 35 people. The Community Center is perfect for your next event! (All use of this building is subject to approval by the Township Supervisor.)

For any questions on event rentals, or to check on availability, **contact Cindy** O'Malley at 630-257-2522 x 115.

## Lemont Township Board

Michael G. Shackel, Supervisor Barbara A. Buschman, Clerk Mark Labno, Highway Commissioner Debra A. Blatzer, Trustee Terry Lemming, Trustee David Molitor, Trustee Jeanette Virgilio, Trustee

Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 16300 Alba Street, Lemont, IL 60439 at 7:00pm

Agendas are posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting date on the township website and the township notice board. The public is welcome to attend Township Board meetings.

