



New Trier Township

# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP COURIER

Winter 2011

## A Message from Supervisor Pat Cantor . . .



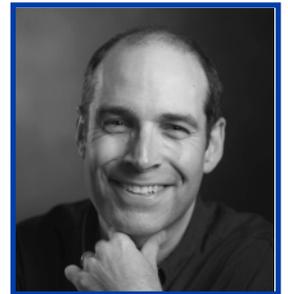
*As we begin our next fiscal year, we do so with a keen awareness of what Township government is designed to do best: provide a safety net to help those in need. While no single source can provide total relief from mounting financial pressures for food, transportation, shelter, utilities and child care, we at New Trier Township attempt to provide some reprieve.*

*Our focus continues on our most visible program, The Pantry, and the work needed to keep the shelves stocked while also introducing new programs. Our Dial-A-Ride program marked its 30th anniversary in December. This has been a long-time resource for seniors and persons with disabilities in*

*(continued on page 4)*

## You're Invited

### Tour The North Shore With Emmy-Award-Winner Geoffrey Baer



The history of the North Shore will take center stage at the New Trier Township's Annual Town Meeting on April 12th when popular host, producer and writer **Geoffrey Baer** of WTTW-Chicago (Channel 11) — expert on all things in and around Chicago — delivers the keynote presentation. Baer will show guests a side of our Township that even longtime residents may not have seen.

He is best known as the host of specials about Chicago's architecture, history and neighborhoods, such as *Chicago's Lakefront*; *Chicago by Boat: the New River Tour*; *Chicago's Loop: A Walking Tour*; and *Chicago by 'L': Touring the Neighborhoods*; as well as a series of programs covering virtually all of Chicago's suburban areas, including the North Shore. His most recent special, *Biking the Boulevards*, aired last fall.

Baer also appears regularly on WTTW's flagship nightly public affairs program *Chicago Tonight* answering viewers' questions about Chicago architecture and history in a segment called *Ask Geoffrey*.

Our annual Town Meeting will also honor recipients of community service awards and provide a recap from elected officials on accomplishments from the past year and plans for the next year.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend. The event begins with a reception at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12th, at the North Shore Senior Center located at 161 Northfield Road in Northfield. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com)

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

### What's inside...

- **Property Tax Saving Exemptions**
- **Business Accessibility Advice**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE TOWNSHIP

## **Don't Miss Out On Property Tax Saving Exemptions**

All 2010 exemptions will appear as deductions on second installment tax bills in 2011. Applications for the 2010 Homeowner, Senior Citizen and Senior Freeze Exemptions are available in the Township Assessor's office and at [www.cookcountyassessor.com](http://www.cookcountyassessor.com). Applications for the Disabled Persons', Disabled Veterans' and the Returning Veterans' Exemptions will be available in late April. Applications for the Long-Time Occupant Exemptions won't be available until late summer.

Properties that received the Homeowner Exemption last year will automatically receive the 2010 exemption. However, State legislators recently changed the law, and starting this year, seniors must apply annually for the Senior Citizen Exemption. Because they are based on income or other variables, the Senior Freeze, Disabled Persons', Disabled Veterans', Returning Veterans' and Long-Time Occupant Exemptions all must be applied for annually.

For "A Guide to Taxpayer Exemptions", visit the Assessor's page at [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com).

## **Items Sought For Time Capsule**

As part of the 160th anniversary New Trier Township is filling a time capsule. We're looking for things that will be fun to look back on in 40 years when the Township will celebrate its 200th anniversary. Residents of the community are invited to contribute artifacts and memorabilia. The time capsule will be sealed and stored in the Township Office vault located in the lower level of the historic landmark building in Winnetka. If you or your organization would like to contribute, please contact Clerk Jerome Hoynes at 847-446-8202 or bring your items to the Township Office until April 11th. Items will be on display at the Annual Town meeting on April 12th.

## **It's That Time Again To Save A Life....Yours**

Life Line Screening, in partnership with New Trier Township, is coming to our community on Wednesday, March 23rd, to perform a day of preventive screenings at the Winnetka Community House. The tests use ultrasound technology and are fast, painless and offered at low cost. They scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries, which can lead to a stroke; aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a rupture; and plaque buildup in the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease. Bone-density screenings to assess the risk of osteoporosis are also available. Allow about 90 minutes to complete the tests. Appointments are limited and pre-registration is required. Sign up now by calling toll free: 1-888-653-6441.



## Are You Open for Business?

New Trier Township’s Disability Advisory Committee is launching a public awareness campaign to turn increased awareness into positive action within the business community. As the population in our Township continues to grow, it is estimated that almost one in ten people will live with some functional limitation – and their ranks are growing rapidly as our population ages. The discretionary spending power of people with disabilities is growing, too. Nationwide, it amounts to more than \$175 billion. If you are a business owner, you

might consider whether you’re missing out on the potential business of these customers and clients.

The key message from the Disability Advisory Committee? It doesn’t have to be expensive to become accessible. Disability takes many forms, from mobility impairments to vision or hearing problems, and from developmental disabilities to mental illness. Similarly, accessibility takes a variety of forms, many of which you can implement at little or no cost. For example, it costs virtually nothing to ensure that your staff communicates appropriately with every customer, welcoming them along with their family members and service animals. Word will eventually spread, and you’ll win the loyalty of appreciative customers. That’s good business!

The group has developed a list of valuable resources available on the Resources page of the Township’s website. Informational brochures are also available at the Township office.



### If you are a business owner, you’ll find many tips for making your business accessible at these websites:

#### **SMALL BUSINESS ACCESS GUIDE**

[www.newtriertownship.com/resources/business\\_accessibility.aspx](http://www.newtriertownship.com/resources/business_accessibility.aspx)

A PowerPoint presentation explaining the accessibility requirements for small businesses and the tax credits available to help you meet them.

#### **GREAT LAKES ADA CENTER**

[www.adagreatlakes.org](http://www.adagreatlakes.org)

800-949-4232

A resource offering information, training, and assistance to help you comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **ADA GUIDE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES**

[www.ada.gov/smbusgd.pdf](http://www.ada.gov/smbusgd.pdf)

800-U-ASK-SBA

An overview of ADA requirements from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

#### **REACHING OUT TO CUSTOMERS WITH DISABILITIES**

[www.ada.gov/reachingout/intro1.htm](http://www.ada.gov/reachingout/intro1.htm)

800-514-0301

An online ADA course for businesses.

**Thanks for Holiday Sharing**

Thanks for helping us share the joys of the holiday season. This year the need was greater than ever. The response to our Caring Neighbor Program was overwhelming. From community groups and local businesses to families and individuals, many were willing to shop for local families in need. Some generous donors even asked if additional families needed assistance. The eyes of many children were a bit brighter thanks to your generosity. Beyond traditional gifts, through your financial support at the Wilmette Jewel, we were able to provide over 80 families with holiday dinners. Thanks to all that made a brighter holiday season for our fellow citizens.



**Spring Cleaning Your Pantry**

As food donations slow in the spring and summer months, the Pantry is once again challenged with keeping the shelves stocked. What can you do? Start your spring cleaning and donate any unused, non-perishable items to the Pantry. You can also rally your friends, neighbors, or civic groups to collect cleaning products for the Pantry. Laundry and dish detergent, along with cleaning supplies (such as kitchen and bathroom cleaners) are always welcome. Every donation, no matter how small, helps a neighbor in need.



**Want to Get Involved With Township Government?**

Serving on an Advisory Committee is a great way to become involved in the life of your Township. The Advisory Committees play a vital role in balancing the social service needs of the Township while serving as stewards of our tax dollars. The four Township Advisory committees are: Agency Oversight, Money Follows the Person, Special Projects/Strategic Planning, and Disabilities. Learn how to become a volunteer by visiting the Get Involved page of our website or calling the Community Services Administrator at 847-446-8203.



**Supervisor's Message**

*(continued from page 1)*

*the Township, and we are always looking for new ways to increase its effectiveness. Our goal is to make getting around easier and more accessible.*

*We are also seeking ways to collaborate with others to provide services. The best example is our long-term commitment to funding programs provided by local social service agencies. This next year we will commit \$1,164,115 to fund 48 programs that provide assistance to residents in need.*

*The Board and I will also review our Strategic Plan for progress that has been made, work that needs to be completed, and new initiatives that need to be examined. As always, I thank you for your support. As we look ahead to Fiscal Year 2012, the Board and I benefit from the experience of having managed in unprecedented economic times. We will continue to build on traditional areas of support while nurturing a culture of collaboration.*

## Township Calendar 2011

### March

- 8th Township Board Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 14th Special Projects/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.  
Deadline to apply for Summer Camp Financial Assistance Program
- 15th Township Committee on Disabilities Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 22nd Committee of the Whole Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 23rd Lifeline Health Screening @ Winnetka Community House
- 30th Agency Oversight Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 31st Money Follows The Person Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

### April

- 1st First installment of the 2010 property taxes due
- 5th Consolidated Election @ 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Township Board Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 11th Special Projects/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 12th Annual Town Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at North Shore Senior Center
- 19th Township Committee on Disabilities Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

### May

- 9th Special Projects/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 10th Township Board Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 17th Township Committee on Disabilities Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 24th Committee of the Whole Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 25th Agency Oversight Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 26th Money Follows The Person Committee Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- 30th Memorial Day – Office Closed

Meetings are subject to change. Please refer to the website for up-to-date information.

ON THE

WEB

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

### Did You Sign Up For E-News?

Check out the new Township website and sign up for E-News, which makes it easier than ever to stay in touch with important news and events. E-News is an opt-in service allowing you to tailor the service to meet your needs by selecting only those categories of information that are of interest to you. Sign up today.

### Are You Registered To Vote?

April 5th is the next opportunity for registered voters in the Township to cast their votes for local village, school, and library boards. Early voting takes place at Centennial Park in Wilmette through March 31st. Our Voter Services page allows you to check your registration status and provides information on how to locate your polling place on Election Day.

### Do You Need Social Services?

New Trier Township funds 33 social service agencies that provide valuable service to Township residents. Learn what services they provide on the Service Agencies page under the Resources section.

### New Trier Township Angel Fund

Voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations help residents who do not qualify for government programs but are in great need. Your contribution will make a difference to someone facing financial adversity.

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **Angel Fund – New Trier Township**  
Mail to: New Trier Township  
739 Elm Street, Winnetka, IL 60093

***The mission of New Trier Township is to provide leadership, advocacy, and resources to benefit the physical, mental, and social well-being of Township residents.***





739 Elm Street  
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847-446-8202  
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# TOWNSHIP BOARD & STAFF



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New Trier Township's office is conveniently located at 739 Elm Street in Winnetka. Our staff is ready to assist you Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Free street parking is usually available close to our office, or we are just a phone call away at 847-446-8202. Information on programs and services, and directions to our office are available 24/7 at

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