



New Trier Township

# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP COURIER

Spring 2010

## A Message from Supervisor Pat Cantor . . .



*The quality of life in New Trier Township means something different to every Township resident. Have you escaped the impact of the economic downturn? While some have weathered the storm, others are seeking lifeline resources that range from food to financial assistance. Yes, it may be surprising to some who read this newsletter, but in the past year we have experienced an unprecedented call for assistance. We are dealing with unscripted challenges that require creative solutions and fundamental shifts in the way we think and operate. Just as when our founding fathers formed the Township back in 1850 — although the problems were somewhat different in those days — your Township government provides the resources you need to face these challenging times.*

*(continued on page 4)*

## Honoring Our Past. Looking Forward To Our Future.

### 160th Anniversary Celebration & Annual Town Meeting

Travel the timeline of New Trier Township from its formation in 1850 — when stray livestock, dirt roads and weeds were important issues of the day — to the impact of the Great Depression and how it dramatically changed the character of the services the Township offers the community. In the early days, the Annual Town Meeting was a bedrock political institution, and helping neighbors in need was one of its foundations. Today, that tradition remains unchanged.



In recognition of this heritage, we invite you to join us for a Township event on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. Come to the Takiff Center at 999 Green Bay Road in Glencoe to begin a yearlong celebration of 160 years of Township Government. The Takiff Center is located on the east side of Green Bay Road at the site of the former North School. Parking is available behind the building and is accessible to northbound traffic by turning right just past the intersection of Green Bay Road and Vernon Avenue.

Among the highlights of the Annual Town Meeting:

- Award-winning filmmaker and Winnetka native John Newcombe, producer of the *Winnetka Story* documentary, will regale guests with historical happenings and introduce you to personalities of yesterday in the keynote presentation.
- The Historical Societies of Winnetka, Wilmette, Glencoe and Kenilworth will provide informational displays on the history of the Villages within the Township.
- Township residents will be honored for their community service (see page 4).
- Reports from Township Officials will be given on the activities and impact of Township government.



We hope you will join us and participate in this democratic process.

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

**What's inside...**

- **Stand up and be counted**
- **Meet people in your community who make a difference**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE TOWNSHIP



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

## **Are You Ready To Be Counted?**

The 2010 Federal Census kicks off on April 1, 2010. Every residence in the Township should have received a questionnaire in the mail prior to that date. As stated in the letter accompanying the questionnaire, "The amount of government money your neighborhood receives depends on your answers. That money is used for services for children and the elderly, roads, and many other local needs." Census numbers are also used to reapportion congressional seats and redraw legislative districts. These are clearly very important matters, and all residents are strongly encouraged to complete and mail their form. If you misplace yours, stop by the Township Office to pick up a new one. A Census worker will be available at our Office to provide assistance if needed. Call 847-446-8202 or visit our Website for hours of service. Beginning in late April and running through the month of July, Census workers will be visiting addresses that have not responded. Visit [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov) to learn more.

## **Building Your Business with Disability Awareness Conference**

The enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990 has had an important impact on our entire country as well as residents and businesses in our Township. One aspect of this landmark legislation pertains to the employment of people with disabilities. To inform and inspire everyone about the many positive aspects of providing such employment, the Township is sponsoring a free conference on Monday, May 24, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road in Northfield. Attendees will learn how to interact more positively with people with disabilities and how easy it is to make a business more accessible for them. For a detailed list of speakers call 847-446-8203 or visit [www.newtriertownship.com/news-and-events](http://www.newtriertownship.com/news-and-events).

## **Peer Jury Seeks Student Volunteers**

Are you between the ages of 13 and 17; a current freshman, sophomore or junior in high school; and live in New Trier Township? Do you have an interest in helping your peers? Are you willing to work objectively with the police, social service agencies, and other members of your community? Have you thought of pursuing a career in law? Volunteering as a student Peer Juror may be a learning experience in community service that is just right for you. Learn more about the program and download an information/ application package at [www.newtriertownship.com/peer-jury](http://www.newtriertownship.com/peer-jury) or call Community Services Administrator Brian Leverenz at 847-446-8203.



## Resources for Challenging Times

It's easy to get the impression in our Township — one of affluence and outward prosperity — that there may be little need for crisis-related social services. Could there possibly be a family of four in Glencoe that qualifies to use the Township's Pantry? Is there a recently widowed Winnetka senior who can't afford to pay her utility bill? Is there a single mom in Wilmette who needs financial assistance with child day care so

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***A compassionate  
commitment to the  
well-being of  
Township residents.***

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she can work to provide for her three children? Is there an upper-level manager in Kenilworth who was laid off and is now facing foreclosure? Is there a primary breadwinner in Northfield who was recently diagnosed with MS and is now stunned with the

loss of health insurance and limited employment options? The simple answer to all of these troubling questions is YES. All too often, people who thought they were secure are searching for a safety net. That's where Township government steps in.

“It's hard for people to ask for help,” notes Social Services Administrator Jeanne Winsted Rosser. But there is not a day that her phone doesn't ring when a person takes the courageous first step to ask for help. “The fear of the unknown is perhaps the greatest among the residents who call me,” Jeanne explains. “They question how they got into this position of needing a helping hand. I reassure them that we, as Township government, are here as a first responder to guide them through the process.”

“We focus on practical solutions and programs for which we provide direct services, such as the Food Pantry and our emergency financial assistance programs. We determine the Township programs for which they are eligible, then we guide them to programs others provide. We try to widen their support network and make referrals to outside agencies that can assist with appropriate services, from counseling to employment.”

“Most of us don't get through life without a helping hand,” says Jeanne. “I try to remind them how many times they have helped others. I tell them, ‘Now it's your turn.’”



### Meet

**Jeanne Winsted Rosser**  
**Social Services Administrator**

*Prior to joining the staff at New Trier Township, Jeanne Winsted Rosser, LCSW, focused primarily on areas of disability awareness and adoption issues. She has also worked as a school social worker, in program development for HIV positive families and individuals, and has presented training sessions on varied child-development topics for the Illinois Department of Human Services. Her professional interests reflect her personal experiences, and Jeanne has served — among many other activities — as a licensed foster parent for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Jeanne particularly enjoyed her work as program coordinator with an orphanage in Haiti. She even traveled to India as a volunteer for a polio vaccination project.*



Each day there are a number of quiet individuals within our Township who try to make a difference. And each year, through a number of awards, the Township attempts to recognize at least a few who have had an impact in one way or another. This year, the following individuals and organizations will be recognized at the Annual Town Meeting (see related

story on page 1). **Don Trieschmann** (left) of Winnetka, will accept the *Friend of the Township Award* on behalf of **Rebuilding Together**. The group of volunteers has built shelves for the expanding Township Pantry to hold items such as paper towels, toilet tissue, and laundry detergent — which cannot be purchased with food stamps, but are necessary items in everyday living. Pantry volunteers **Jane Gallery, Frank Craven & Jesse Marymont** of Winnetka; and **Mary Louise & Derek Schram** of Wilmette will be presented the *Supervisor's Award*. The *George E. Noyes Community Spirit Award* will be presented to **Sandra Berger** of Winnetka. The *Superior Service to Persons with Disabilities* will be presented to **Sean Clemenz** and **Julie Smith**, Special Education Faculty at New Trier High School; and the *Peer Jury Scholarship* will be awarded to **Kristina Spillers** of Wilmette. Join us to hear about their experiences with community service, and learn why they are being recognized.



Wilmette resident **Jacob Dray**, a sophomore at New Trier High School, helps collect more than 100 laundry detergent items at the Martin Luther King Day of Inspiration and Service, which was held at Am Shalom in Glencoe on January 18, 2010. The event was co-sponsored by The Volunteer Center of New Trier Township and Interfaith Housing Center.



New Trier Township Assessor **JoAnn Shrier Gordon** (left) was sworn in for a second term on January 12, 2010 by Clerk **Jerome Hoynes** (right). She was elected in 2005 and re-elected last year to a second four-year term. **Joe Fell**, (not pictured) who was also sworn into office, was appointed Collector in April of 2006 and then elected to a four-year term in 2009. Although

elected last April, the Township Assessor and Collector take the oath of office on January 1 in the following year. The Township Supervisor, Clerk and Trustees were sworn in to office in May 2009.

**Supervisor's Message**

*(continued from page 1)*

*I am pleased to introduce you to our new Social Services Administrator, Jeanne Winsted Rosser, who is at the forefront of this call for help. I encourage you to take time to familiarize yourself with her expertise as well as our many other resources. As we kick off the 160th Anniversary, I invite you to join us for our Annual Town meeting to learn not only about our current services, but about our rich history. You can also walk through pages of names and places that have made New Trier Township the place it is today.*

*I have been proud to be your Township Supervisor since 2005, but never more proud than I am today in advising you of our excellent Township staff and their strong, prompt and compassionate responses to the needs of residents, not only today, but looking ahead to tomorrow, as well.*

*Sincerely,*

*Patricia B. Cantor  
Supervisor*

## Township Calendar 2010

### April

- 5th Special Projects/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 6th Board Meeting – FY2011 Public Budget Hearing – 7:30 p.m.
- 13th Annual Town Meeting (see related story on page 1)
- 20th Disabilities Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 27th Agency Oversight Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 28th Money Follows the Person Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

### May

- 3rd Special Projects/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 11th Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 18th Disabilities Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 24th Business Disability Awareness Conference @ North Shore Senior Center 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- 25th Agency Oversight Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 26th Money Follows the Person Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 31st OFFICE CLOSED – MEMORIAL DAY

### June

- 7th Special Projects/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 8th Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 15th Disabilities Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 22nd Agency Oversight Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 23rd Money Follows the Person Committee Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### A Case of Mistaken Identity

“New Trier Township.” Does that refer only to our great high school? We’ve heard that question a lot over the years. In fact, New Trier Township government was formed in 1850. New Trier Township High School didn’t appear until 1901.

***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.***

## ON THE WEB

### Volunteer Opportunities

Townships rely on citizen volunteers to advise on areas of needed services and funding priorities and to help with direct programs such as our Peer Jury. The Township offers four advisory committees. They focus on the needs of a wide range of existing and emerging needs such as seniors who wish to age at home, advocacy on behalf of persons with disabilities, and youth services. Learn more about how they work and how to get involved at

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

### Passport Applications

The New Trier Township office processes passport applications. No longer will it be necessary for residents to wait in long lines at some remote location. Schedule an appointment by calling 847-446-8202.

Forms can be downloaded in advance at [www.newtriertownship.com/passports](http://www.newtriertownship.com/passports).

### Historical Happenings

New Trier Township is rich with history and resources. Learn about the *Winnetka Story*, a full-length documentary about Winnetka and the North Shore, at [www.winnetkastory.com](http://www.winnetkastory.com). The local historical societies also provide great resources. Find them online at:

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

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

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

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

### Mental Health Awareness Month

May is Mental Health Month. This year, the theme "Live Your Life Well" challenges us to promote whole health and wellness in homes, communities, and schools. This is also a good time to inform those who don't believe it's attainable. Learn about some of the resources available to Township residents at

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

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New Trier Township

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# TOWNSHIP BOARD & STAFF



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**Trustee**  
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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