

# NEW TRIER Township Courier

SPRING 2016

## *What Is Township Government?*

*The Township form of government was created in Illinois in 1849 to bring government closer to the people it served. It originated as the settlers' agency for maintaining order and dealing with lawbreakers. Over time, its focus has changed, and today it provides quality-of-life services that address the immediate and emerging needs of residents.*

## *In This Issue*

- Annual Town Meeting
- Announcing Text-A-Tip
- "Excellence in Aging" Event
- Triennial Reassessment Year
- "Keys to a Successful Job Search" Event

## **We Are Not New Trier High School**

New Trier Township is your local government here to serve you in a variety of ways. Staff and elected officials at the Township often encounter resident confusion with regards to the difference between New Trier Township and New Trier Township High School. It may interest you to know that New Trier Township, which was chartered in 1850, voted in 1899 to approve the creation of a high school. In February of 1901, NTHS welcomed its first class with an enrollment of 76 students. It's ironic that although the Township was here first, the high school has become the community's flagship institution. Recently the Township held a program only to find that many of our attendees went to the high school first before learning the actual location of the program was at the Township Office at 739 Elm Street in Winnetka. Try as we might, this confusion persists.

## **You're Invited to the Annual Town Meeting**



Andy Duran,  
Executive Director  
LEAD

That's one of the reasons we conduct our Annual Town Meeting, our continued hope of building awareness among our residents about the work of the Township. Just as importantly, the state of Illinois requires that every Township hold an Annual Town Meeting on the second Tuesday of April every year. We welcome this opportunity to invite residents to learn about services you might find worthwhile and opportunities to participate in local government you may find rewarding.

**Please join us on Tuesday, April 12 at 6:00 p.m. for an open house and 7:00 p.m. for the meeting at The Kenilworth Club, 410 Kenilworth Avenue, Kenilworth.** You will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from local social service agencies to learn about the services they provide and to hear reports from your elected officials including Clerk Hoynes, Assessor Churchwell and Trustee Kahnweiler as well as my Supervisor's report.

**In addition, we are fortunate to have Andy Duran, Executive Director of LEAD/Linking Efforts Against Drugs as our keynote speaker to discuss the value of Township government.** Mr. Duran will specifically discuss healthy programming for youth including our newly launched Text-A-Tip, which is described in detail on page two of this newsletter.

Lastly, but of greatest importance, we ask that you come prepared to share your feedback on the work that we do. Input from residents is invaluable in helping to set programming priorities, which is why this event is critical in affording us the forum to learn what's on your mind. We hope to see you in April for what promises to be an informative and festive event.

Paddie Brennen  
Township Supervisor

## Announcing Text-A-Tip Youth Counseling Program

A wonderful collaboration between the Township, the local middle schools, junior highs and high schools, and the social service agencies that provide critical services to our community has resulted in the implementation of a new counseling resource for our youth. This program is called Text-A-Tip.

Residents may have heard of Text-A-Tip from neighboring communities as it has been in place in Lake County since its inception in 2014 and has recently been rolled out across McHenry County. The service is a text hotline which provides 24/7 anonymous professional counseling for youth at no charge. Students in grades 5 through 12 are being introduced to this resource through the health and wellness curriculum in their schools, by local mental health professionals who work with pre-teens and teens, from youth drop-in center personnel and from the local police. Hopefully parents will discuss this resource with their children, as well.

Not all students will need to use Text-A-Tip, but they will all be informed about the number to text in case a situation ever arises in which they feel they need clinical support. Some adolescents may encounter situations wherein they want to seek assistance, but they may be afraid of the potential stigma of visiting a school social worker, or they might be unaware of the clinical support available to them through local mental health agencies. However, every student can text this line if and when a problem—big or small—presents itself.

Texts are responded to by professional counselors at Child, Adolescent & Family Recovery Center (CAFRC), and 93% of the time that response is delivered within 1-3 minutes. Clinicians will first develop a rapport with the texter and assess his/her situation, provide skills training if needed, and may suggest a referral for traditional counseling by local professionals if warranted. In some cases, an emergency intervention may be needed. In all cases, these texts are anonymous and the party texting cannot be identified without his/her decision to share his identity with the counselor.

When a texter decides to accept a referral for traditional therapeutic support, he/she will provide

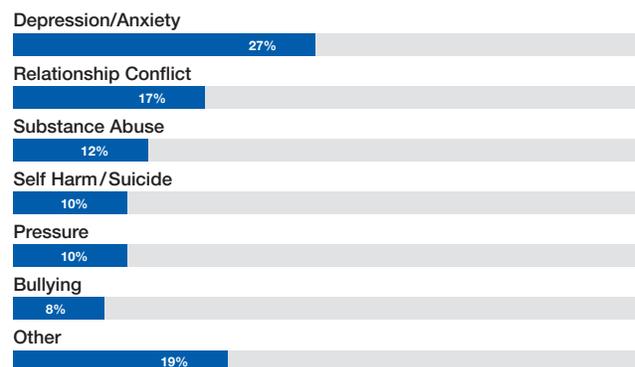
his hometown to the clinician who will then offer three referrals in his area. School social workers will receive referrals as will Counseling Center of the North Shore, Family Service Center, Family Service of Glencoe, Haven for Youth, Josselyn Center and PEER Services as appropriate based on individual situations.



LEAD/Linking Efforts Against Drugs is a non-profit drug prevention organization which developed Text-A-Tip in response to community need after a tragic series of youth suicides in Lake Forest. LEAD conducts programs and events designed to support parents and teens in building healthy relationships and finding alternatives to using drugs and alcohol. LEAD has a 29-year track record of delivering quality programs that effect community change. Learn more about LEAD at [leadingefforts.org](http://leadingefforts.org).

Executive Director **Andy Duran** has developed LEAD into a nationally recognized organization that offers trainings, workshops and technical assistance for organizations all over the country. Mr. Duran, who is passionate about the lives of young people and about the adults who serve them, has been the driving force in developing and implementing Text-A-Tip across the U.S. The Township is honored that Mr. Duran has agreed

### Reasons Pre-Teens and Teens Use Text-A-Tip



Data was collected from the Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Text-A-Tip program

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## Homeowners Take Note—2016 is a Triennial Reassessment Year

The Cook County Assessor will be mailing a notice of your proposed assessed valuation to you soon—the estimated mail date is May 2, 2016. Each year, the Cook County Assessor's Office reassesses one-third of the nearly 1.8 million parcels of property located in Cook County. This year, the Assessor's Office is reassessing properties in New Trier Township. Reassessment notices will contain the proposed value on your property that will be reflected on second installment tax bills due in the fall of 2017. However, the time to file an appeal of your assessment is when you get your reassessment notice, not when the bills come out. This is your opportunity to reduce your taxes for the next three years, but you must follow the rules and file within the deadlines.

The Cook County Assessor's website [www.cookcountyassessor.com](http://www.cookcountyassessor.com) offers simple online filing of appeals, and the Township Assessor's Office will be available to assist you, as well. The grounds for appeal and the supporting data needed for each are:

- **Lack of Uniformity With Similar Properties** – Comparables should be in your class and neighborhood, and similar in size, construction, and age.
- **Error in Square Footage of Home or Lot** – A survey is required as proof based on measurements of the exterior of the house, excluding basements, garages and unfinished attics or porches.
- **Overvaluation** – An assessment that is more than 10% of the current market value proven by a recent appraisal or open market purchase—not a short sale or foreclosure.

Meanwhile, you can still impact your 2015 tax obligation by making sure you have filed for all the exemptions to which you are entitled. All 2015 exemptions will appear as deductions on the second installment tax bills in 2016. Applications for the 2015 Homeowner, Senior Citizen, Senior Freeze, Disabled Persons', Disabled Veterans' and Returning Veterans' exemptions are available in the Township Assessor's office or online at [www.cookcountyassessor.com](http://www.cookcountyassessor.com). Only the Homeowner Exemption will continue to renew automatically once it has been established. For detailed information and qualifications for the exemptions, please visit the Township website, [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com).

*“The time to file your appeal is when you receive your reassessment notice. This is your opportunity to reduce your taxes for the next three years...”*

~Assessor Jan Churchwell

## Township Seniors and Their Families/Caregivers are Invited to Attend

**Excellence in Aging: Educate, Equip, Empower** is a series of workshops geared towards seniors and people who care about them. This informational program will be presented by NorthShore University HealthSystem on Saturday, April 16 at the Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Avenue, Glenview. Registration takes place at 8:30 a.m., and the program will begin at 9:00 a.m. and last until noon. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is requested. This first time ever event is the result of a professional collaboration of which the Township is pleased to be a part.

“I encourage all to attend the Excellence in Aging workshop to learn more about issues confronting seniors,” explained **Nancy Vaccaro**, Director of Counseling Services Unit for the Village of Northbrook. “The workshop will cover a variety of topics including scams, dealing with new technology and medical issues. So often, the golden years can leave one feeling isolated, especially when those you love and trust may live great distances or are no longer there to assist. This new program, ‘Excellence in Aging: Educate, Equip and Empower’ is a first in our local area to invite seniors and those who care for seniors to participate in the discussion. Learn how to better manage your everyday life and feel empowered with what is important to know when it comes to your own mental well-being, health and safety.”

Workshops will be held on medical information and management, scams targeting seniors, socialization and isolation, and technology. **Kimberly Hand**, Village of Glenview Senior Services Coordinator in cooperation with North Shore Senior Center

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## Township Seniors and Their Families/Caregivers are Invited to Attend

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stated that, “Excellence in Aging’ is a great opportunity for seniors and community members to learn about aging issues that affect everyone. The committee was formed in response to trends that are presenting in our communities, and we wanted a venue to address these issues in a proactive way.”

This event has been produced as a collaborative effort by a committee comprised of the following organizations:

- Chicago Jewish Elderly
- Chicago Lighthouse
- Covenant Village
- Frisbie Senior Center
- Glenview Park District
- Midwest Palliative Care Center
- New Trier Township
- Northbrook Park District
- Northfield Township
- NorthShore University HealthSystem
- North Shore Senior Center
- North Shore Village
- Peer Services
- Village of Northbrook

For event information, please contact **Hania Fuschetto** at 847-480-2630 or [hfuschetto@northshore.org](mailto:hfuschetto@northshore.org).

## “No Canned Food” Food Drive



As food donations slow in the spring and summer months, the Township Food Pantry becomes challenged with keeping the shelves stocked with a healthy variety of foods and choices. At present, we have an abundance of canned goods for which we are grateful. Although we don’t need additional canned goods right now, there are many other items of which we are very much in need. You can help by donating items on our current Priority Needs List. If you are inclined, you can also rally your friends, neighbors, or civic groups to hold a collection for the Pantry. Every donation, no matter how small, helps a neighbor in need.

Please bring donations to the Food Pantry at the Township Office, 739 Elm Street in Winnetka, on Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. If you are interested in holding a collection drive, information is available on the Township website or by contacting Community Service Administrator **Brian Leverenz** at [bleverenz@newtriertownship.com](mailto:bleverenz@newtriertownship.com) or 847-446-8203.

Food Pantry Priority Needs List:

- aluminum foil, plastic wrap, and plastic food storage bags
- cookies, crackers, granola bars, nuts, raisins and other healthy snacks
- cooking oil, salad dressing, condiments
- shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes
- tissue, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins

*ALL ITEMS ARE WELCOME, but we respectfully request no canned beans of any kind and no macaroni and cheese as we are overstocked on these items.*

## Announcing Text-A-Tip Youth Counseling Program *continued from page 2*

to speak at our Annual Town Meeting on April 12, 2016, and we hope residents interested in the launch of Text-A-Tip will join us for this exciting event. The launch is preliminarily slated for the end of February.

If you have questions about the Text-A-Tip program, you can get them answered at the Annual Town Meeting or come by the Township Office to

discuss your thoughts. Additionally, you can ask your middle school, junior high and high school children about the program as it is being introduced to all students in the Township during the month of March. We share your concern for the health and well-being of our youth, and we are pleased to implement another fine program on their behalf.

## Peer Jury Needs High School Volunteers

The Township Peer Jury consists of a group of students from public and private high schools in the Township who gather monthly to provide service to the community by listening to the cases of juvenile offenders and determining sentences. The Peer Jury is currently accepting applications.

First time, non-violent offenders who are 17 and under may be referred by the Glencoe, Kenilworth, Northfield, Wilmette and Winnetka Police Departments to the Peer Jury, which gives the offender the opportunity to avoid a criminal juvenile record. As an alternative to Juvenile Court, the Peer Jury system holds offenders accountable. Communities in suburban Cook County that have Peer Jury programs have found the system cuts down on repeat offenses. Students who serve on the Peer Jury experience the criminal juvenile justice system first hand, learn to work cooperatively, and accept the challenge to

listen to the facts and determine sentences. Most importantly, they must learn to maintain confidentiality about the cases they hear.



### HOW TO APPLY FOR PEER JURY SERVICE

Current freshmen, sophomores and juniors in high school who are available to meet once a month year round are eligible to serve. An orientation, training session and observation session are required before new volunteers become jurors. To apply, go to the Township website at [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com) and download a Peer Jury Information Packet. For more information, contact **Brian Leverenz** at [bleverenz@newtriertownship.com](mailto:bleverenz@newtriertownship.com) or 847-446-8203.

## Township Welcomes New Communications Director



**Jack Macholl,**  
*Township Director  
of Communications*

The Township would like to introduce our residents to the new Communications Director, **Jack Macholl**. He brings a wealth of experience to the role and will undoubtedly become a familiar figure regularly sharing news from New Trier Township in your mailbox and on your social media sites. Jack replaces **Debbie Van Solkema** who served as

Communications Director for the Township for almost four years before moving to Florida. Happy trails, Debbie.

Jack's career includes experience as a senior corporate marketing manager, marketing professor and communications consultant. From 1997-2004, he served Harris Bank as VP, Senior Regional Marketing Director in the north shore, and was based at Harris Bank Winnetka. Prior to Harris, he directed marketing for First Colonial Bankshares, GreatAmerican Federal Savings and LaSalle

Northwest National Bank in Chicago.

He received his Masters degree in Integrated Marketing Communications from Roosevelt University in 1993 and went on to teach graduate marketing courses there from 1995-2006.

Jack launched his company Wisdom Bridge Marketing in 2004, advising clients as a consultant in the financial services, professional association management, healthcare and non-profit sectors. His recent client work includes brand strategy and donor development communications for the Shriners Hospitals for Children and CURE Epilepsy. Jack also serves as Public Relations Manager for Niles Township.

Jack resides in Barrington with his wife Mary. He has two adult children who also reside in the Chicagoland area.

Jack welcomes resident feedback on communications from the Township. He can be reached at [jmacholl@newtriertownship.com](mailto:jmacholl@newtriertownship.com) or 847-446-8202.

## Summer Camp Child Care Assistance Deadline Approaching

Financial assistance for summer camp is available through the Township's Child Care Assistance Program for working parents who are income eligible. Applications are available at the Township Office and on the website at [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com). The deadline for application submission is April 29, 2016.

The Township also provides financial assistance for families seeking help with Daycare and Before/After school program costs. While the 2016-2017 Daycare grant cycle begins July 15, residents seeking assistance can apply at any time during the year. Daycare applications are reviewed and grants made available while funds last. 2016-2017 Before/After school grant applications will be available in June, 2016. Deadline for submission is July 29.

### Determining Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance, a resident must have lawful custody of a child under the age of 13 who receives care in a licensed facility. Both child and parent (or legal guardian) must reside within the boundaries of New Trier Township. Both custodial parents or the child's

legal guardian must be working (full or part-time), attending school, or participating in a job training program during the hours of the child care program. Finally, eligibility is based upon meeting specified income guidelines. Extraordinary medical expenses or circumstances will be taken into account.

Guidelines for income eligibility are as follows:

Family Size	Gross Income
2	\$46,000
3	\$49,000
4	\$52,000
5	\$56,000
6	\$60,000

### Application Process

Interested parties should submit a completed Child Care Financial Assistance application with required documentation prior to the deadline.

For more information, please visit the website or contact Social Services Administrator, **Jeanne Winsted Rosser** at [847-446-8201](tel:847-446-8201) or [jwinstedrosser@newtriertownship.com](mailto:jwinstedrosser@newtriertownship.com).

## Residents Needed to Serve as Elected Officials

The New Trier Citizens League is seeking interested residents to serve as elected officials for New Trier Township. Trustees serve a four-year term during which



*From left to right Trustee Stefan Mozer, Supervisor Paddie Brennen, Trustees Hamilton Chang, Jan Gargula and Gerri Kahnweiler.*

time they sit on the Board of Trustees, which meets monthly during the period September through June. They oversee the work of the Township in conjunction with the Supervisor,

and they participate on Advisory Committees to allocate grant funding to social service agencies that meet the needs of residents. The process of exploring a fit begins now in order that candidates may be slated on the ballot in November, 2016 for the April, 2017 Consolidated Election. The only requirement is that elected officials must be registered voters who reside in New Trier Township.

Interested parties or those wishing to nominate an acquaintance are encouraged to contact League President **Peter Tyor** at [847-446-2217](tel:847-446-2217), [847-924-8457](tel:847-924-8457) or [ptyor@ripco.com](mailto:ptyor@ripco.com) for more information.

The New Trier Citizens League is a non-partisan community organization made up of volunteers who function as a caucus to slate candidates to serve as Township officials.

# Township Calendar

## MARCH

- 7 Mental Health Committee Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 8 Township Board of Trustees' Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 23 Agency Oversight Committee @ 7:30 PM
- 24 Money Follows the Person Committee @ 7:30 PM

## APRIL

- 4 Mental Health Committee Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 5 Township Board of Trustees' Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 12 Annual Town Meeting @ 6:00 PM, The Kenilworth Club, 410 Kenilworth Avenue, Kenilworth
- 27 Agency Oversight Committee @ 7:30 PM
- 28 Money Follows the Person Committee @ 7:30 PM
- 29 Deadline at 5:00 PM to apply for Summer Camp Financial Assistance Program

## MAY

- 2 Mental Health Committee Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 10 Township Board of Trustees' Meeting @ 7:30 PM
- 25 Agency Oversight Committee @ 7:30 PM
- 26 Money Follows the Person Committee @ 7:30 PM
- 30 Office Closed—Memorial Day

All meetings are held at the Township Office located at 739 Elm Street in Winnetka unless otherwise noted. Meetings are subject to change. For the most up-to-date schedule visit [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com).

## Follow Us

Staying connected with New Trier Township is easy at our website: [www.newtriertownship.com](http://www.newtriertownship.com). Our E-news provides custom-selected items of interest to you in a timely manner. Stop by for a visit or sign up online. You can also find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.



## Unemployed? Returning to the workforce? Making a change?

**Jan Leahy**, Executive Director of Career Resource Center, will be presenting “Keys to a Successful Job Search” on Thursday, March 10 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. at New Trier Township, 739 Elm Street in Winnetka.

Most job candidates begin by going it alone. But the job search process has changed dramatically and employers' expectations are higher than ever. Do you know what it takes to get noticed, how employers source candidates, and what it means to conduct a proactive job search? Ms. Leahy will touch on how the process has changed and what you can do to improve your results.

Career Resource Center can guide and support you through your search. Learn how to best market yourself—gain an edge against the competition. CRC, a non-profit career transition center, has been helping job candidates for 26 years and is supported by New Trier Township.

For more information, go to [www.CareerResourceCenter.org](http://www.CareerResourceCenter.org) or call 847-295-5626.



New Trier Township  
739 Elm Street  
Winnetka, IL 60093-2524

NONPROFIT ORG  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #21  
WINNETKA IL

POSTAL CUSTOMER, LOCAL  
NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP  
ILLINOIS

## Township Board & Staff

**Paddie Brennen**, *Supervisor*  
pbrennen@newtriertownship.com

**Jerome Hoynes**, *Clerk*  
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**Jan Churchwell**, *Assessor*  
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**Hamilton Chang**, *Trustee*  
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**Brian Leverenz**, *Community Service Administrator*  
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**Lois Cross**, *Deputy Assessor*  
847-446-8200 • lcross@newtriertownship.com

**Sandy Forrester**, *Deputy Clerk*  
847-446-8202 • sforrester@newtriertownship.com

**Jack Macholl**, *Communications Director*  
847-446-8202 • jmacholl@newtriertownship.com

**Lorrecia Pearson**, *Administrative Assistant*  
847-446-8202 • lpearson@newtriertownship.com

## Township Partners with National Able Network to Provide Career Workshops for the Unemployed



New Trier Township recently began hosting orientation sessions presented by National Able Network to benefit unemployed persons on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 10:00 a.m. The orientation sessions are free and open to the public. Attendees are asked to arrive fifteen minutes early. No advance registration is necessary, and participants need not be residents of New Trier Township to attend.

National Able Network orientation sessions provide information on how those who have been laid off or who are currently unemployed can take advantage of the free job placement assistance that National Able Network offers. That assistance includes career workshops and coaching, career training assistance and connections, job search work teams and the provision of information regarding a multitude of resources.

Participants will be asked to provide proof of birth date, social security number and authorization to work in the United States, proof of current address, Selective Service compliance for males born on or after January 1, 1960, latest pay stub, lay-off letter if applicable, DD-214 if applicable and college degree/transcript if applicable. These documents are not collected at WIOA Orientation, but will be requested at a later date if individuals are interested in applying for services. For more information, please call [855-994-8300](tel:855-994-8300).