

Free Shred Day at Vernon Township

When: Monday, September 26, 2011

Where: Vernon Township Administration Office, 3050 N. Main St., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Time: Noon until 2:30 p.m.

Secure shredding services will be provided by Secure Eco-Shred. All materials are used in recycling efforts. One way to prevent identity theft is to shred your personal documents. PLEASE NO MAGAZINES OR NEWSPAPERS

In order to accommodate as many residents as possible we are limiting each resident to two boxes.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the township at (847) 634-4600.

From the Supervisor's Desk

Senior Ride Free Program

In February 2011 Governor Pat Quinn signed legislation changing the requirement of the Senior Ride Free Program. The Senior Ride Free Program will be limited to low-income seniors who meet the income requirements set by the Illinois Department on Aging Circuit Breaker program. Seniors that are approved for the Circuit Breaker will receive Ride Free permits, and those who do not qualify will receive Reduced Fare permits. In either of the above cases if you have not applied for the card, you can still apply at Vernon Township.

If you have a Free Ride permit now, you should have gotten a letter from the state explaining this new program.

Currently the annual income limits for the Circuit Breaker Program are:

- \$27,610 or less for an individual
- \$36,635 or less for a two-person household, and
- \$45,657 for a household of three or more people

August 1, 2011, The RTA will begin mailing new magnetic stripe cards for fixed-route service for all seniors currently enrolled in the RTA's Senior Ride Free program. Depending on your eligibility, seniors will receive either a Circuit Ride Free card or a Reduced Fare card.

If you have any questions you can reach the RTA in Chicago by calling (312) 913-3226 or visiting their website at www.rtachicago.org.



William Peterson
Township Supervisor

The Vernon Township Newsletter is published periodically by Vernon Township Reporter, Inc. as a public information service for Township residents. Free copies are available at the Township Administrative Center.

Supervisor

William E. Peterson
wepeterson@vernontownship.com

Highway Commissioner

Bryant Schroeder
bschroeder@vernontownship.com

Assessor

Gary Raupp
graupp@vernontownship.com

Town Clerk

Barbara Barnabee
bbarnabee@vernontownship.com

Trustees

Jennifer Steininger
David M. Nelson
Krystyna Luby
Philip Hirsh

Vernon Township Administrative Center

3050 Main Street
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Business Hours

Monday through Friday

Administrative Center . . . 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Assessor 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Assessor 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon, Saturday

Town Board Meetings

Monthly board meetings are held the second Saturday of each month. For more information, call (847) 634-4600. The Annual Town Meeting is held on the second Tuesday in April at 7:00 p.m.

Notice

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), Vernon Township requests that persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to attend and/or participate in these meetings, or have questions about the accessibility of the meetings or facilities, to please contact the ADA coordinator at 634-4600, 48 hours prior to the meeting to assure that reasonable accommodations will be made for them.

Township Phone Numbers

Township Administrative Center . . . 634-4600

Assessor's Office 634-4602

Highway Department 634-4600

Senior Services. 634-1542

Dial-A-Ride 634-4600

Township Park & Recreation 634-1542

Township Fax 634-1569

Assessor Fax 634-0654

Give Hope to those in need...

Sponsor a family for the holidays

Each year, Vernon Township's Sponsor-A-Family program helps needy families within the township. The holidays are a wonderful time of year to celebrate and to reach out to help a family that might not otherwise be able to afford gifts or a special Thanksgiving dinner for their family.

Vernon Township offers the following holiday programs to help less fortunate families in Vernon Township:

Thanksgiving Dinner Basket Program

The Thanksgiving Baskets provide township families with a non-perishable Thanksgiving dinner. A gift card can be included for the purchase of the turkey. Vernon Township will assign a family to you and supply you with a list of suggestions for the basket.

Holiday Gift Program

The holiday gift program provides families an opportunity to receive gifts during this wonderful time of the year. The township will provide you with the family's wish list that can be used to purchase the family's gifts.

If you and your family wish to Sponsor a family or you feel your family would benefit from these programs please contact Kathie at (847) 634-4600 by October 3, 2011.

Attention All Prairie View Station Commuters

For your convenience Vernon Township will be installing new "Pay Stations" at the Prairie View Train Station. These Pay Stations will be cash, credit and debit card friendly. Vernon Township anticipates the new stations will be available late summer or early fall.

Meet Your Vernon Township Officials



William Peterson
Supervisor



Bryant Schroeder
Highway
Commissioner



Gary Raupp
Assessor



Barbara Barnabee
Clerk



Jennifer Steininger
Trustee



David Nelson
Trustee



Krystyna Luby
Trustee



Philip Hirsh
Trustee

The Assessor's Report

Fairness – it's what we all want. How often as your Assessor, have I heard, "I don't mind paying my fair share..." We understand that our local services cost money. We know that we have to pay for them. But we want the process to be fair; we want "a level playing field".

This demand for "uniformity" is a recurring principle in our democratic society. In 1818 Illinois was the first state to specifically require "uniform and equal taxation" of property in the State Constitution. By 1845, statutory law, including Illinois tax law, agreed with and expanded on the constitutional requirement of "uniformity" and since then, case law has repeatedly upheld it. Today the concept of "equal treatment" is the central theme of our property tax system and "uniformity" takes precedence. Layers of protection are built into the property tax system to ensure "fairness", "equal treatment" and "uniformity".

So, it follows that the primary goal of the assessment process is to distribute the collective tax burden created by our local taxing bodies in a fair and equitable manner. Assessments perform a distribution function, *not a taxing function*. And the job of the Assessor is to value all property at one third of market value in a *uniform* and *equitable* manner. Yet, while assessments are determined by local assessors, they are subject to revision and review by the Chief County Assessment Officer, the Lake County Board of Review and ultimately the Illinois Department of Revenue.

The Illinois Property Tax Code requires that all taxable real property be assessed at 33.33% of "fair cash" value, as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue's sales ratio studies for the 3 most recent years proceeding the assessment year. (35 ILCS 1-55) The Assessor's "fair cash" value is not necessarily the current market value but rather a median value based upon sales from the previous three years. Both the county and the state use the same methodology to monitor and adjust township and county assessments, so that values throughout the county and state are uniform; a process called equalization. During equalization a uniform percentage increase or decrease is applied to all assessments in the target area - neighborhood, township or county - to bring assessment levels, on average, to a uniform level. At any point in the assessment process, if the overall level of assessment is not 33.33%, an equalization factor may be applied. The Township Assessor can equalize *within* the township, the Chief County Assessment Officer and Board of Review can equalize *between townships* and the Illinois Department of Revenue equalizes

between counties. Equalization ensures that the correct overall level of assessment is maintained and that, from neighborhood to neighborhood, township to township and county to county, everyone pays "their fair share" based upon the value of their property.

This year, after equalization by the Township Assessors and the Chief County Assessment Officer, Lake County's tentative state equalization factor was 1.0 – in other words, no factor. However, the assessment cycle was not complete. The Lake County Board of Review, the official government entity before which property owners may file an appeal contesting their assessed value, had not finished their work. Even though Assessors are required by law to use sales data from the three years prior to the assessment date to compute individual assessments, the Lake County Board of Review is able to consider current data, if applicable. Their method of determining "fair cash" value is different. According to the 2010 Board rules "it is preferable to select the best three comparables which have closed as close to the lien date, January 1, 2010, as possible" in a market value argument. In the current declining market, this method of looking at the most recent sales to determine "fair cash" value was generally beneficial to those property owners who took advantage of the appeal process. The result, when changes at the Board of Review level were complete, was a drop in the County's total assessed value significant enough to trigger a state equalization factor. The overall County median level of assessment fell below 33.33%, as mandated in the Property Tax Code and so, the Illinois Department of Revenue is required to equalize Lake County's assessments to maintain assessment equity across county lines and within taxing districts that lie in more than one county.

And this is why, for the first time since 1992, you found a "State Equalization" factor other than 1.0 on your property tax bill this past May. Because Lake County's overall level of assessment was not at 33.33%, a state equalization factor of 1.0199% appeared on your tax bill, increasing your assessment. This will affect tax rates, but will have no affect on most tax bills, since all assessments will increase in unison. However, since the purpose of state equalization is to ensure assessment equity between counties, there will be some affect on those areas with taxing bodies whose boundaries cross county lines. If assessment jurisdictions are not at the same level of market value, some taxpayers have an unfair tax advantage over others, and...

The singular purpose of Assessments is to ensure a fair distribution of the property tax burden among all property owners.

Highway Department Briefs

Electronic Recycling Program

Vernon Township Highway Department (VTHD) has once again teamed up with the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) to provide an invaluable service to the residents of Vernon Township. VTHD has been chosen to be a seasonal electronic recycling drop off site. This means that between April 1 and October 31 VTHD will be accepting used or unwanted electronics for recycling. The items can be dropped off in the designated area at the township located at 3050 N. Main St, Buffalo Grove Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. If you have any questions regarding this program please contact Tracy at (847) 634-4600

Accepted items include:

Personal Computers, Monitors, Computer Drives, Keyboards, Modems, Mainframes, Scanners, Printers, PDA Organizers, Cellular Phones, Televisions, Stereos, MP3 Players, CD Players, DVD Players, VCR's, Cameras, Video Games, Fax Machines, Shredders, Batteries, and Small Household Appliances.

Items NOT Accepted:

Broken Glass, Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Large Household Appliances, Electric Fixtures, Fluorescent Light Bulbs, Compact Disks, Software Disks, Tapes, Liquid or Chemical Waste, and Packaging Materials

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed

September is National Preparedness Month. Make sure that your family is prepared for an emergency by implementing the ideas and suggestions available at the Department of Homeland Security website www.ready.gov



Highway Commissioner Bryant Schroeder and his crew are building a retaining wall for the new sidewalk on Inverrary Lane.

Secretary of State Mobile Unit And Senior Rules of the Road

The Illinois Secretary of State Mobile Drivers License Facility will be at the:

Vernon Township's Prairie View Park

16652 Buffalo Grove Rd.

Prairie View, IL 60069

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Senior Citizen Rules of the Road Class - 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Moble Unit - 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

The following services will be offered:

- License plate sticker renewals only (renewal notice required)
- State I.D.'s - (No additional I.D. required if you have your current state I.D. with you, otherwise see the I.D. requirements stated below)
- New State I.D. - (I.D. required: Original Social Security card and birth certificate along with proof of residency)
- Vision Screening
- Driver's license renewal

Passports

Are you traveling this winter?

Check your passports to make sure they are still valid. If you are traveling outside of the country you must have at least 6 months remaining before it expires. At the present time it is taking 4-6 weeks for passports to be processed and returned to your home.

For further information please visit www.travel.state.gov. Their website will have updated processing times and all the new forms.

Important New Information

If you are using a parental consent form # 3053, please remember the parent's signature must be notarized and a copy of the parent's ID submitted with the form. If the parent is using a driver license, they need a copy of the front and back.

As of April 1, 2011, all US birth certificates submitted for minor **and** adult passport applications **must** contain the name of the parent(s). All US birth certificates must meet all of the following criteria:

- Show the full name of the parent(s);
- Be issued by the office of vital statistics of the state, county, or city where the birth occurred;
- Show the full name of child at birth;
- Indicate the date and place of birth;
- Indicate a registration or file date;
- Bear the embossed, impressed, multi-colored, or raised seal and signature of the issuing authority;
- Be an original and certified document.

Flu and Pneumonia Shot Clinic

Vernon Township in conjunction with CVS Pharmacy will be hosting an onsite flu and pneumonia clinic on Monday September 26, 2011. CVS certified pharmacists will administer the vaccines at the township administrative office on 3050 N Main St in Buffalo Grove.

Appointments are required. We will be scheduling appointments every 15 minutes between 9:00 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. on the 26th. CVS personnel will process your insurance and Medicare if you bring the information with you.

Call the township at (847) 634-4600 to set up your appointment. Please specify if you are interested in receiving the flu vaccine, pneumonia vaccine, or both.

Temporary Handicapped Placards

Vernon Township issues temporary handicapped placards valid for up to 90 days. The Township can issue only one placard for 90 days in a year period. If your physician states that you need the placard longer, you will need to take your application to one of the Secretary of State offices for processing. The Secretary of State offices can issue a placard up to 6 months.

If you need a Permanent placard, Vernon Township can issue a temporary placard for 90 days, make a copy of your application and then you will mail the application to Springfield for the permanent placard.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the township at (847) 634-4600.

Vernon Township Food Pantry

Every year around the month of May, our food pantry shelves start getting low. This year, because of the thoughtfulness of the Vernon Township community, the pantry shelves have been stocked with enough food to last through the summer and into the fall.

The Vernon Township food pantry is very lucky to have a group of hard working, wonderful volunteers who take care of new donations, stock shelves and pre-make over 300 bags of food each month to be distributed.

The food pantry has grown so much in the last couple of years that Vernon Township would not be able to keep up with the demand without their help. The township wishes to say a very special thank you to all the food pantry volunteers (pictured below left).

Lora (pictured below right) had a “Around The World” birthday party. In lieu of gifts Lora asked her guests to bring food items that were either domestic or items that would represent other countries around the world. Lora then donated the food to the Vernon Food Pantry. Thanks Lora for helping the Vernon food pantry feed the hungry.



The Vernon Township Food Pantry was very excited to be the recipient of a \$2,500 check and over 12,000 pounds of non-perishable food products from Roundy's Supermarket, Inc. The donations were in celebration of the Grand Opening of Mariano's Fresh Market located in Vernon Hills. In addition to the donations Mariano's supplied seven of their employees to unload the food to our food pantry. Vernon Township wishes to thank Roundy's/Mariano's and its employees for the donations and hard work.



Vernon Township Supervisor William Peterson, surrounded by Mariano's employees, accepts a check for the food pantry.



Mariano's employees stand ready to unload 12,000 pounds of food for the food pantry.

Recreation Programs

(Program Registration forms available online at www.vernontownship.com or at the township offices.)

Prime Timers

We are looking for people 55 or older to join our fun loving group. We meet on Mondays; from 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Typically we share a pot luck lunch and head straight into an afternoon of card playing. Occasional in-house entertainment or field trips are offered. For more information, call Beth at (847) 634-1542

AARP Driver Safety Program

The AARP Driver Safety Program is an eight hour program designed to help you understand the effects of aging on your driving and learn driving strategies that take into account the changes we experience as we age. Completion of this program may entitle you to receive discounts on your auto insurance. Attendance on both days is required to receive a certificate that may reduce your auto premiums. Checks should be made payable to AARP. Registration must be received by August 19, 2011.

Date: Aug 25 - Aug 26
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Days: Thursday & Friday
Place: Prairie View Park
Fee: \$12 Non-AARP: \$14
Min: 15

Magic Class

Age: 5 - 12

Children are guaranteed to have a great time as they learn fascinating tricks from a professional magician! Amaze family and friends with tricks that involve cards, ropes, coins, mind-reading, and more! While the tricks may appear difficult, you'll discover they are quick to learn and easy to perform. All materials are provided and each child receives a magic kit to take home. Children are grouped by age and always learn tricks that are age-appropriate. Additionally, you can sign up for this class again and again since brand new tricks are taught at each session! (Instructor: Magic Team of Gary Kantor)

September 21 (Wednesday)
Time: 5:00 - 5:55 p.m.
Place: Prairie View Park
Fee : \$20 Non-Res: \$30
Min/Max: 5/40

Soccer and Tee Ball

Age: 3 - 4

This program is perfect for a child who is full of energy and parents who are looking for an introduction to soccer and tee ball. Socialization, teamwork, following directions, key motor skills and having fun will be the focus of this noncompetitive environment. The first 2 weeks of class will focus on soccer and the second 2 weeks we will work on tee ball. A fun game will be played at the end of each class, as time allows. The last class will be a fun game of each sport. Please bring a water bottle to class.

Sept.7 - Oct. 12 (6 Weeks)
Day: Wednesdays
Session 1: 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.
Place: Admin. Playing Fields
Fee (per session): \$45 Non-Res: \$67.50
Min/Max: 10/20

Lil Pint Soccer

Age: 4 - 6

Kick in some excitement with this instructional program perfect for the first timer. Players will learn the basic skills of dribbling, passing, shooting and goaltending. Instructors will work with participants on good sportsmanship, participation and teamwork. This is a great class for both boys and girls! Please bring a water bottle to class.

Sept.7 - Oct. 12 (6 Weeks)
Day: Wednesdays
Session 1: 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.
Place: Admin. Playing Fields
Fee (per session): \$45 Non-Res: \$67.50
Min/Max: 10/20

Flag Football

Age: 7 - 9

Good old American classic! Not yet old enough for the helmet and pads? We use junior size footballs and flags just right for grabbing. Enjoy the sport of football as we learn how to pass, catch, simple positions, how to put on flags and teamwork. This is a non-contact game and a great introduction class for your future football star! Please bring a water bottle to class.

Sept.7 - Oct. 12 (6 Weeks)
Day: Wednesdays
Session 1: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Place: Admin. Playing Fields
Fee (per session): \$45 Non-Res: \$67.50
Min/Max: 10/20



Vernon Township

3050 N. Main Street
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No.22
Lincolnshire, IL
60069

ECRWS POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL

Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicapped Status The Vernon Township Government does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to , or treatment of employment in, its programs or activities. Kathie Dey-erler, of 3050 Main Street, Buffalo Grove, Illinois has been designated to coordinate compliance with federal nondiscrimination requirements.

Public Safety Phone Numbers

(Emergency 9-1-1 / police / fire / paramedic (All phones, including cellular))

Non-emergency / Police

- Lake County Sheriff's Police (847) 549-5200
- Buffalo Grove Police Department (847) 459-2560
- Lincolnshire Police Department (847) 883-9900
- Riverwoods Police Department (847) 945-1130
- Vernon Hills Police Department (847) 362-4449

Non-Emergency / Fire

- Buffalo Grove Fire Department (847) 537-0995
- Countryside Fire Protection District (847) 367-5511
- Long Grove Fire Protection District (847) 634-3143
- Lincolnshire / Riverwoods Fire Protection . . (847) 634-2512

For Road Conditions

- IDOT (800) 452-4368
- Tollways (800) 865-5394

Other Numbers

- Illinois Poison Center . . . (800) 222-1222**
- Commonwealth Edison . . (800) 334-7661
- NICOR (888)-642-6748
- Peoples Energy (847)-336-7400

Bridge Class

All classes are instructed by Joy Eckerling, Silver Life Master and Member of the ACBL (American Contract Bridge League).

Beginning Bridge (Tuesday Evenings) - is for the novice who has never played bridge.

Intermediate / Advanced Bridge (Wednesday Evenings) - a mini lesson is combined with supervised play. Commonly used conventions are reviewed and newer conventions are introduced.

Advanced Intermediate Bridge (Tuesday Mornings) - For the player who is familiar with the basic concepts/conventions and wants to improve their play of hand, defense, bidding and to review and learn more about conventions.

Continuing Beginning Bridge (Wednesday Mornings) - For the player who is familiar with the fundamentals and wants to expand their knowledge of play of the hands, defense and bidding. This is the perfect class for the former/current players to learn modern bridge concepts and conventions.

Beginning Bridge (Evenings)

Sept 13 - Nov 8 (8 weeks)
No Class 10/25
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Day: Tuesdays
Place: Prairie View Park
Fee: \$99 Non-Res: \$148.50
Min/Max: 8/13

Adv. Intermed. Bridge (Mornings)

Sept 13 - Nov 8 (8 weeks)
No Class 10/25
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Day: Tuesdays
Place: Prairie View Park
Fee: \$99 Non-Res: \$148.50
Min/Max: 8/13

Intermed./Adv Bridge (Evenings)

Sept 14 - Nov 9 (8 weeks)
No Class 10/26
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Day: Wednesdays
Place: Prairie View Park
Fee: \$99 Non-Res: \$148.50
Min/Max: 8/13

Continuing Beg. Bridge (Mornings)

Sept 14 - Nov 9 (8 weeks)
No Class 10/26
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Day: Wednesdays
Place: Prairie View Park
Fee: \$99 Non-Res: \$148.50
Min/Max: 8/13