



THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP FOCUS



SPECIAL EDITION



Paul O'Grady
Orland Township Supervisor

Food Pantry, Financial Assistance, Prescription Drug and Grocery Delivery, and Other Critical Services Available for Eligible Local Residents

Message from the Supervisor

Dear Orland Township Resident,

Orland Township is dedicated to providing valuable and essential services to our community. In this extraordinary time, with local residents and seniors in particular requiring additional supports, we remain wholly committed to that mission.

Township facilities are closed to the public as a precaution to help mitigate the spread of Covid-19, but our critical operations are full speed ahead. Indeed, the Township Food Pantry, available now for drive-thru pickup, in recent weeks ramped up the distribution of pantry goods – serving, on one recent Friday, nearly 300 families.

Volunteer Appreciation: We are grateful for the contributions of volunteers who stepped forward to assist at the Food Pantry as we worked to meet demand while rebooting the service model. The volunteers included Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau and Trustee Michael Milani, realtor Dave Shalabi, Olympic ice hockey player Kendall Coyne Schofield and her husband Michael Schofield, an NFL offensive guard, both Orland Park residents, school officials and teachers, and numerous students. (We have since, in deference to the statewide stay-at-home order, discontinued volunteer participation.)

The Township also is actively accepting applications for General Assistance, which can help residents meet basic financial needs until employment or another source of income, such as Social Security, disability or public aid, is obtained, and for Emergency Assistance, which grants financial aid on a short-term basis to alleviate life-threatening circumstances or to assist residents in returning to self-sufficiency.

Looking ahead, we are coordinating a mask-making project to help generate protective face masks for first responders, healthcare workers and others on the front line of fighting this pandemic. We will provide to individuals who wish to participate, while sewing from home, the materials and directions necessary to produce the masks. If you would like to join this effort that we are calling Operation P.P.E.P. (personal protection for essential personnel), or have any questions, please contact the Township at (708) 403-4222.

Advocating for Vulnerable Residents: We have shifted our resources to help the most vulnerable residents maintain continued access to necessities by offering transportation services for seniors to reach medically necessary appointments such as for cancer treatment or dialysis. Pickup and delivery of prescription medication for seniors also is available upon request. And if seniors are running low on groceries, the Township will deliver non-perishable and pre-packaged food. To help protect residents, we discontinued congregate events for seniors and also cancelled programs, classes, trips and other activities.

We look forward to restarting our robust calendar of intergenerational programs, classes and other initiatives that enrich residents' lives. But for now, local public health and safety is paramount.

Meeting the Challenge: The Covid-19 pandemic has presented sudden challenges for our community. Healthcare professionals, first responders, and other essential workers are going to heroic lengths to serve and protect us every day. We will get through this together and, I believe, emerge as an even more cohesive and resilient community.

If you need help, please call us at (708) 403-4222 and we will work to connect you with our services. If you require other assistance, we will try to identify a solution.

We're your Township, and we're working for you.

Sincerely,
Paul O'Grady



*****ECRWSSDDM****

Postal Customer



Celebrate the Class of 2020!

Please join our Township-wide effort to celebrate the graduates from the Class of 2020 by placing the enclosed poster in a window of your home.

Congratulations to all 2020 graduates!





Orland Township is on Facebook.

Like our page and receive updates and the most recent Township news: [facebook.com/OrlandTownshipIL/](https://www.facebook.com/OrlandTownshipIL/)



SPRING NEWSLETTER

2020



Elected Officials

Paul O'Grady
-Supervisor-

Cindy M. Murray
-Clerk-

Patrick Feldner
Maria Sanfilippo
Antonio Rubino
John Lynch
-Trustees-

Rich E. Kelly
-Assessor-

Brian H. Younker
-Highway Commissioner-

Office Locations Main Office

14807 S. Ravinia Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462
Phone: (708) 403-4222
Fax: (708) 403-4260

•Administrative Office•
•Assessor's Office•
•Youth & Family Counseling Services•
Phone: (708) 403-4001

•Highway Department•
16125 S. Wolf Road
Orland Park, IL 60467
Phone: (708) 403-5148
Fax: (708) 403-5165

www.orlandtownship.org

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT
WORKING FOR YOU

Board Meetings

The Orland Township board meets on the third Tuesday of the month. During the state's stay-at-home order, individuals wishing to participate in a meeting should visit orlandtownship.org or call the Township office at (708) 403-4222 for more information. Agendas and minutes also appear on the Township website. In-person meetings will resume when the state's restrictions are relaxed.

THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP

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Orland Township
14807 S. Ravinia Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462

When we can welcome residents back to our buildings...

We want to remind residents of the services available through Orland Township once the COVID-19 stay-at-home order has been lifted. Below is a snapshot of what residents can look forward to when we can all get together again.

Senior Services

The Orland Township Senior Services department produces supportive services and programs to help the seniors of our community remain active and healthy, improve their overall health and well-being, and stay independent.

Senior Drop-In

Orland Township opens its Activity Center twice a week for seniors to "drop-in" and make new friends, socialize, and play cards and bingo. During Drop-In, seniors are treated to refreshments (and the occasional light lunch) courtesy of the Township. Senior Drop-In is on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Orland Township Activity Center, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.

Senior Reading Program

To help seniors begin or maintain a good reading habit, Orland Township has partnered with the Orland Park Library. Two weeks a month, library personnel will join Senior Drop-In from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. to provide seniors with the opportunity to sign up for library cards, and borrow books and DVDs.

Silver Tones

Do you have an appreciation for music and enjoy singing your favorite tunes? Come and check out Orland Township's senior choir, the Silver Tones! The Silver Tones meet on Tuesday afternoons in the Orland Township Activity Center, to practice and prepare for performances throughout surrounding communities.



There is no cost to join the Silver Tones and all singing levels are welcome.

Knit One, Purl Two

The Orland Township Knitting Club meets once a week for an afternoon of knitting and crocheting at Orland Township. All levels of experience are welcome and everyone is encouraged to work at their own pace. There is no cost to join, but you must bring all of your own supplies. The Knitting Club meets on Tuesdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Orland Township Activity Center.

Movie Day

Once a month, it's show time at Orland Township! Sit back, relax and enjoy a movie in the Orland Township Boardroom. Freshly popped popcorn and refreshments are served during each movie. All shows begin at noon at Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave. Shows are free, but reservations are required.

Orland Township Senior Luncheons

At various times throughout the year, Orland Township hosts luncheons for seniors. The luncheons are held in the Township's Activity Center and consist of a hot catered meal and an afternoon of entertainment by fantastic performers – singers, musicians and comedians.

**Senior Dinner Dances**

Eight themed dinner dances are held every year, offering seniors the opportunity to enjoy a delicious family-style meal and an evening of live entertainment with family, friends and neighbors. Dinner dances are held at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Rd., Orland Park.

**Senior Trips**

Orland Township offers a variety of day and overnight trips, which are cost effective and enjoyable and appeal to diverse interests and expectations. Previous trips include plays and luncheons, tours and overnight trips to out-of-state attractions.

Health Services**Immunization Clinics**

Orland Township administers vaccines provided through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program during monthly immunization clinics. Eligibility requirements include being a Township resident 18 years of age or younger, uninsured, underinsured (vaccines not covered under current medical plan), insured by Medicaid Title XIX (19) or are Native American (American Indian / Alaskan Native). There is a \$10 administrative fee per vaccine. Non-residents meeting all other requirements will be charged a \$20 administrative fee per vaccine.

**Wellness Wednesday**

Orland Township's registered nurse will be available the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, by appointment, to provide free blood pressure screenings, total lipid profile cholesterol tests, glucose screenings and adult vaccines. Some fees apply.

**Podiatry and Hearing Screenings**

Orland Township is proud to partner with local podiatrists and hearing centers to provide free screenings for residents. Screenings dates are scheduled by the organization and are by appointment only.

Counseling Services

Orland Township Youth and Family Counseling Services strives to empower local youth and families to communicate more effectively, make good decisions and choose positive behavior by offering educational programs and services, guidance and support. Our programs help teach and build social and problem-solving skills, lend assistance during difficult times and provide information on additional resources in the community. Appointments resume following the expiration of the stay-at-home order. For more information, call (708) 403-4001.

**Assessor**

The Orland Township Assessor's Office provides residents with assistance with property-related concerns, such as property name and address changes, applying for a variety of exemptions and property assessments.

Highway Department

The Orland Township Highway Department serves as a recycling drop-off center. While recycling bins are currently unavailable, when access is available to the public, residents can deposit their recycling items – paper, cardboard, bottles, cans and cartons – in the proper bin at the Highway Department. Electronic recycling is also available; some items require the purchase of a coupon prior to being accepted for electronic recycling. Please visit orlandtownship.org for details.

**Classes**

All classes are held at the Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave. Fees apply and must be paid at registration unless otherwise noted.

**Ageless Grace**

Ageless Grace utilizes anti-aging exercises that are based on everyday movements and are natural and organic. All exercises are done while seated in a chair.

CPR

Orland Township is proud to partner with the Orland Fire Protection District to provide free CPR, AED and choking education classes for residents. Classes are held quarterly at Orland Township.

**CPR AED & Safety Education**

"Just in CASE you need to save a life"

**Dakim BrainFitness**

Dakim BrainFitness is the only clinically tested brain fitness software designed specifically for active adults over the age of 60. This program is designed to help improve your memory, focus and concentration in just

20 minutes a day with interactive games and integrated mind exercises. There is no fee to use Dakim BrainFitness, however residents must register to receive a user name and login. Dakim BrainFitness is available in the Orland Township computer lab.

Health Coaching

If you need to get back on track after the stay-at-home order has been lifted, make an appointment with Orland Township's certified health coach who will help you create an action plan to achieve your personal health goals.

"Joints in Motion" ("J.I.M.")

The Arthritis Foundation's "Joints in Motion" ("J.I.M.") class is designed to help those who have arthritis enjoy a more active lifestyle. Exercises can be done while sitting in a chair or standing.

**Line Dancing**

This beginner class will teach basic dance steps and build them into some of today's popular line dances.

Meditation

Regular meditation can help lower stress levels and have a positive effect on the mind and body.

Senior Driving

Orland Township in combination with AARP hosts classes on driver's safety and on the rules of the road for seniors who will be renewing their driver's license.

**Strong & Fit**

This class of simple movements and light weight lifting will increase your strength, improve bone density, and enhance your mood. Participants should bring a mat and a set of hand weights, from 1 to 5 pounds each.

Tai Chi

Considered "meditation in motion," this graceful class emphasizes deep breathing and mental focus while utilizing slow speed styles to create balance, calmness and flexibility.

Yoga

Yoga can help you maintain your mental clarity and increase your energy level while improving sleep, balance and strength.

**Chair Yoga**

Chair Yoga offers all the wonderful benefits of traditional yoga without having to move up and down off the floor.

Orland Township is still working for you...

The following Orland Township services remain available during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. For more information or to request a service, please call the Township at (708) 403-4222.

Food Pantry

The Township Food Pantry is still operating, but has moved to a drive-thru format. Residents accessing the Food Pantry are asked to stay in their vehicles. Forms and groceries will be brought to their vehicle by Township staff. Identification with proof of residency is required. Food Pantry service is available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Senior residents, 60 years of age and older, who are self-quarantining and in need of basic grocery necessities should call the Township to arrange a delivery to their residence. Please call the Township at (708) 403-4222, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for guidelines and to schedule a delivery.

Financial Assistance

Orland Township strives to support residents, especially in the difficult times that we are now facing. In addition to the Food Pantry, the Township may be able to offer financial assistance to residents through our General Assistance or Emergency Assistance programs.

General Assistance is a financial aid program that helps residents meet basic needs until employment or another source of income, such as Social Security, disability or public aid, is obtained. Eligibility is determined by established guidelines based on income, assets and household size. Applicants should have no other potential means of income and should have applied for all possible benefits to be eligible.

Emergency Assistance is financial aid granted to qualified individuals and families on a short-term basis to alleviate life-threatening circumstances or to assist residents in returning to self-sufficiency. If an individual or family is eligible, they may receive assistance once in a 24-month period to meet basic expenses.

For information on eligibility requirements for either program, please visit the Township's website orlandtownship.org. Township residents interested in either program should call (708) 403-4222 for more information.

Highway Department

To report issues or concerns with a road, street light or right-of-way, residents should contact the Highway Dept. at (708) 403-5148.

Senior Transportation

Senior Transportation services, for medically necessary appointments only, are still available, Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Senior Transportation is also available to pick-up and deliver prescription medication to Township seniors. Seniors must first order their medication and pay the pharmacy, over the phone, with a credit card. Once their order is complete, they should call the Township at (708) 403-4222 to request a delivery. Seniors must provide the pharmacy location and time the prescription will be ready for pick-up when they request a delivery.

Nurses' Closet

Township residents in need of medical equipment, such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes or incontinence products can call the Township at (708) 403-4222 to borrow items and arrange a time to pick up items or schedule a delivery.



SNAP/LINK recipients have the following options to inquire about available benefits:

- Visit ABE.Illinois.gov
- Call (800) 843-6154 (Dept. of Human Services Helpline)
- Call (773) 843-5416 (Greater Chicago Food Depository Benefits Hotline)

Food Pantry Donations

The Township Food Pantry relies on the generosity of the community to keep the shelves stocked. Residents can donate the following ways:

- The Food Pantry is accepting in-person donations, utilizing a drive-thru format. Please follow Food Pantry signs in the parking lot and do not leave your vehicle. Township staff will unload your donation.
- Participate in the **Township's Virtual Food Drive**. Visit MyFoodDrive.org/#orland_township_pantry. Whether you make a financial donation or shop for and donate specific food items, every \$1 can help provide three meals!
- Support the Food Pantry while shopping on Amazon. The Food Pantry is part of the Amazon Smile program and when you select Orland Township Food Pantry as your charity, Amazon donates 0.5% of every purchase made through Amazon Smile to the Food Pantry. Simply go to smile.amazon.com, sign in using your Amazon account information, select **Orland Township Food Pantry Fndn** as your charity and begin shopping.



Stock the Pantry

Pantry Needs:

- Boxed Stuffing
- Cake Mix
- Canned/Boxed Broth
- Canned Chicken
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Tuna
- Cereal
- Dry Potatoes
- Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Rice
- Side Dish (ie: RiceaRoni, Great Grains)
- Soup
- \$25 Gift Card from Your Favorite Grocer

Date & Time
Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

No Expired Food

When the call went out, you stepped up! Orland Township was overwhelmed by the generous spirit of everyone who volunteered in the Food Pantry as we worked to meet demand and reboot the service delivery model in late March. To everyone who spent time with us — students, village officials, local school board members, an NFL player, a gold medal Olympian, local business leaders — you have our heartfelt appreciation for everything you did!

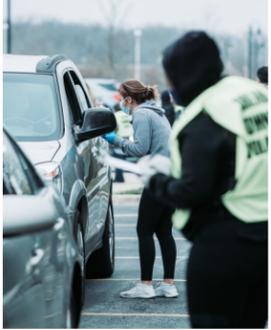


Nearly 300 Families Receive Free Groceries During One-Day Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru

Orland Township's largest ever, one-day food pantry distribution served nearly 300 families, totaling nearly 1,000 people, who, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, were facing financial hardship.

In six business days, the drive-thru distribution went from conception to inception. Township staff members, volunteers and elected officials worked together to take inventory, acquire additional supplies, sort, package and set-up for distribution, 350 boxes of groceries and other needed items.

Each family received a large box packed with perishable and non-perishable items. Items in the boxes included soups, pasta, pasta sauce, dry beans, cereals, side dishes, snacks, poultry, dairy items, eggs, breads, peanut butter, and pastries. Additionally, each family received a case of water, toilet paper, paper towels, pet food if needed, and a \$20 gift card to either Mariano's or Aldi food stores.



"As soon as we had the idea for the grocery distribution, everything started falling into place," said Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady. "During the planning and preparation, from inventory to packaging, Township staff and volunteers worked like a well-oiled machine to make this event happen and I can't thank everyone enough for all their generosity and hard work."

Supervisor O'Grady thanked fellow elected officials, Trustees Antonio Rubino and John Lynch for their hard work during the grocery distribution. Additionally, O'Grady thanked all the volunteers including those from Parkview Church, Orland School Board member Dave Shalabi, Angela Greenfield from @properties and officers from the Cook County Sheriff's Police. O'Grady also expressed his appreciation for the generous contribution of grocery store gift cards from the Orland Park Lions Club, the Orland Park Kiwanis Club and John Doria/Christopher Burke Engineering.



Orland Township's Food Pantry grocery distribution was held on Friday, April 24.

Thank  You

To all the frontline workers taking care of us during the COVID-19 pandemic!

- Doctors • Nurses • Hospital Administrative Staff • Pharmacy Staff
- Hospital Custodial Staff • First Responders • EMTs • Fire Fighters
- Police Officers • Scientists • Grocery Employees • Delivery Drivers
- Restaurant Workers • Waste Management • Janitorial Workers
- Postal Workers • Utility Workers • Hardware/Home Improvement Store Employees • Essential Retail Store Employees • Government Workers

We can't thank you enough for all you continue to do to keep us safe and well during these difficult times!

Orland Township Scholarship Foundation Awards

Prior to students finishing their school years from home, more than 100 high school seniors applied for Orland Township Scholarship Foundation awards. After a meticulous review process, the Orland Township Foundation Board of Directors awarded 22 students with scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,000. Factors that were considered in the decision process included leadership skills, dedication to community service, academic focus and participation in extracurricular activities throughout their entire high school careers.

"Unfortunately, the Class of 2020 had a very anti-climatic end to their high school careers, unable to have proms or graduation ceremonies," said Township Supervisor and President of the Scholarship Foundation Paul O'Grady. "We are happy to present these scholarships as a positive start to the next chapter of their academic careers and want to wish all the graduates of the Class of 2020 the best of luck in their future endeavors."

Students receiving scholarships were:



Carl Sandburg High School
Michael Bonaminio, Jalen Harris, Therese Jaeger, Elizabeth Kenes, Hannah Mallo, Kayla Snidauf

Marist High School
Angelina Marino, Abigail Ruzevich, Eliza Shroba

Providence Catholic High School
Margaret Hurley, Kathleen Johnson, Victoria Quinlan, Kathryn Rost

Victor J. Andrew High School
Jack Ballard, Joseph Dehaan, Madison Devine, Jonathan Laxamana, Noah O'Connor, Nicholas Persha, Logan Radgowski, Abigail Skarbek, Gia Yetter

**CELEBRATE
CLASS OF
2020**

Congratulations to all the graduates of the Class of 2020!



THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP
FOCUS

2020 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Additional copies are available at the Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.

For more information on Township programs and events, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit www.orlandtownship.org