



THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP FOCUS



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR



Paul O'Grady
Orland Township Supervisor

Dear Orland Township Resident,

For many of us, filing our tax return is simply a matter of buying the latest software or online package and plugging figures into the appropriate fields. Or for those with the financial means, tax filing is a job left to a professional accountant.

But for older adults who live on fixed income, have difficulty navigating technology or who lack access to a computer, filing taxes can be a daunting task. The good news is that Orland Township seniors will soon have a new resource to help ease their burden.

We are recruiting volunteers to assist senior residents with filing simple tax returns online. And by guiding them through the steps, we can help seniors keep more of their money by identifying tax breaks and deductions they might have otherwise missed.

If you or somebody you know would like to volunteer, or if you have questions about this program, please contact Orland Township at (708) 403-4222. Tax professionals are welcome, of course, but volunteers need not have any formal training in accounting. All we require is familiarity with the elements of an individual tax return, computer literacy, and the desire to support seniors in our community. We will arrange the necessary training.

After all the pandemic-related challenges of the last two years that have too often kept us apart, let's again come together in this New Year to enjoy one another's company and embrace opportunities to help our neighbors!

New Events & Scholarship Applications

We are excited to launch this year a series of new events for local seniors and families including Bingo Fest, Senior Karaoke Nights and Car Shows. Details are forthcoming; check orlandtownship.org and future issues of the Focus for updates.

For high school seniors, scholarships from the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation, which awards funds to local students based on academic achievement and community service, will be available beginning Friday, Jan. 14 at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., from guidance counselors at area high schools, and from orlandtownship.org.

Bolster Immune System Strength with a COVID-19 Booster

Thanks to the efforts of Township staff and volunteers, and all the health care workers, public officials, businesses and other groups who have rallied over the last two years to help their neighbors in the fight against COVID-19, we have made great strides in protecting our community and mitigating the spread of the virus. But our efforts are not finished.

Per the latest guidance from the federal Centers for Disease Control (Nov. 19, 2021) for those who are at least six months past their initial vaccination: People age 18-49 years and older who received Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may get a booster shot. Those 50 and over, or those 18 and over who live in a long-term care setting, should get a booster. Anyone, regardless of age or housing status who is at least 18 and received Johnson & Johnson's Janssen one-shot vaccination, should get a booster. Any of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized in the United States can be used for the booster dose and mix-and-matching (selecting a booster that is different from your original shot is acceptable).

If you are eligible for a COVID-19 booster and have not yet received it, we encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience. Orland Township continues to partner with Jewel-Osco to offer booster clinics in the Township Activity Center at 14807 S. Ravinia Ave. in Orland Park. Please call or visit the township's website for dates of upcoming clinics.

Looking Ahead

All of us at Orland Township offer our best wishes for a great 2022!

We look forward in the New Year to continuing our commitment, through our programs, services and events, to enriching the quality of life for local residents. If you need help, have questions, or want to offer suggestions for new ways we can better serve our community, please call us at (708) 403-4222.

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

Sincerely,
Paul O'Grady



EVENTS
FEEL FABULOUS FEBRUARY
FEB. 10

BINGO FEST
MARCH 26



*****ECRWSSDDM*****

Postal Customer

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

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Orland Township is on Facebook.

Like our page and receive updates and the most recent Township news: facebook.com/OrlandTownshipIL



WINTER NEWSLETTER

January - March

2022



Elected Officials

Paul O'Grady
-Supervisor-

Cindy M. Murray
-Clerk-

Patrick Feldner

Maria Sanfilippo

John Lynch

Michael Maratea

-Trustees-

Rich E. Kelly

-Assessor-

Antonio Rubino
-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•

(708) 403-4712

•Youth & Family Counseling Services•

•Highway Department•

16125 S. Wolf Road
Orland Park, IL 60467

Phone: (708) 403-5148
Fax: (708) 403-5165

orlandtownship.org

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT WORKING FOR YOU

Board Meetings

Orland Township board meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of the month in the Orland Township Boardroom, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.

Board meetings are open to the public and meeting agendas and minutes may be found on the Orland Township website, orlandtownship.org

THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP

FOCUS

Special thanks to our Pet-Palooza Sponsors! These organizations go above and beyond to help make a difference, one paw at a time.

TOP DOG SPONSORS

Minnie's Memorial Fund
 at P.A.W.S. of Tinley Park
 For Shelter Dogs with Special Needs



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 Professional Reptile Handling
 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS • FILM & PRODUCTION

crosstownexotics.com
 Colin Langenderfer
 815-715-4815
 Mike Levins
 815-603-6889

BIRTHDAYS EVENTS SCHOOLS FUNDRAISERS



CAT'S MEOW SPONSORS



THE SHEEP'S FOOD DISTRICT **SUBARU** **CAMP BOW WOW** **MARQUETTE BANK**
 Love where you bank

HOT DOG SPONSORS

COOL CAT SPONSORS



Fetch! PET CARE **Joy's Best Friends, Ltd. BEST BITES** **EXIT REALTY REDEFINED** **Midwest ANIMAL HOSPITAL** **FRIENDS OF ROBERT "BOB" RITA** **MOBILE MakeROVERS**
 We've got your tail covered. Quality care for your pet. Portable Pooch Pampering

Pooches N' Purrs Pet Salon
 Tinley Park, Illinois



PUPPY CHOW SPONSORS



Aurelio's PIZZA **BARRACO'S** **Winston's Market** **Mo's CHINESE KITCHEN** **Papa Joe's** **Rubino's ITALIAN IMPORTS Market & Deli** **Little MILANO'S WOOD FIRED PIZZA** **Culver's** **MILLER'S ALE-HOUSE** **BoccoVino's** **Salina's PIZZA** **Nothing Bundt Cakes** **PEPE'S Mexican Restaurants**





NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK
CINDY M. MURRAY

**If You're Not Registered to Vote,
Please Do So at Your Earliest Convenience**

2022 Primary Election Moved to June 28

Orland Township Clerk's Office
Cindy M. Murray, Clerk

This spring ordinarily would feature a primary election. But Illinois lawmakers postponed the 2022 primary to Tuesday, June 28 to accommodate the delay last year of census results used to redraw the maps of legislative districts once every decade.

For any eligible voter not yet registered to vote, this means more time to get registered before the election. But please do not wait to register to vote. If you are not already registered, now is the time to do so — and registering to vote in Orland Township is easy and convenient.

Details appear below. Call Orland Township at (708) 403-4222 or the Cook County clerk's office at (312) 603-0906 for more information.

Cindy M. Murray
Orland Township Clerk

How to Register to Vote

You may register online, by mail, or in person. You must:

1. Be a U.S. citizen.
2. Be 17 years old on or before the date of the next primary election and turn 18 on or before the date of the general or consolidated election.
3. Live in your election precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day.
4. Not be serving a sentence of confinement in any penal institution as a result of a conviction.
5. Not claim the right to vote anywhere else.

If you have an Illinois driver's license or state ID, online registration is available via the State Board of Elections website (ova.elections.il.gov).

To register by mail, you may download an application from the State Board of Elections website, complete it, and then return it.

You also may register in person at any of the Cook County clerk's locations, including those in Bridgeview, at 10220 S. 76th Ave., or in Markham, at 16501 S. Kedzie Ave. Or register with a deputy registrar or at a village, city or township clerk's office, an Illinois Secretary of State's driver's license facility, or certain other state government offices.

If registering to vote in person, you must display two pieces of identification. Neither needs to be a photo ID, but one must include your current address. Acceptable forms of ID include:

- Illinois driver's license
- Illinois state ID
- Employee or student ID
- Credit card
- Social Security card
- Birth certificate
- Utility bill
- Postmarked mail
- U.S. passport
- Lease or rental contract



Automatic Voter Registration

Eligible adults in Illinois also may have their voter registration information updated automatically when they interact with the Illinois Secretary of State. If visiting an office of the Secretary of State to obtain or update a driver's license or state ID, individuals are encouraged to inquire as to whether they may be eligible for automatic voter registration.

Sources: Cook County Clerk; State Board of Elections

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

VOLUNTEER

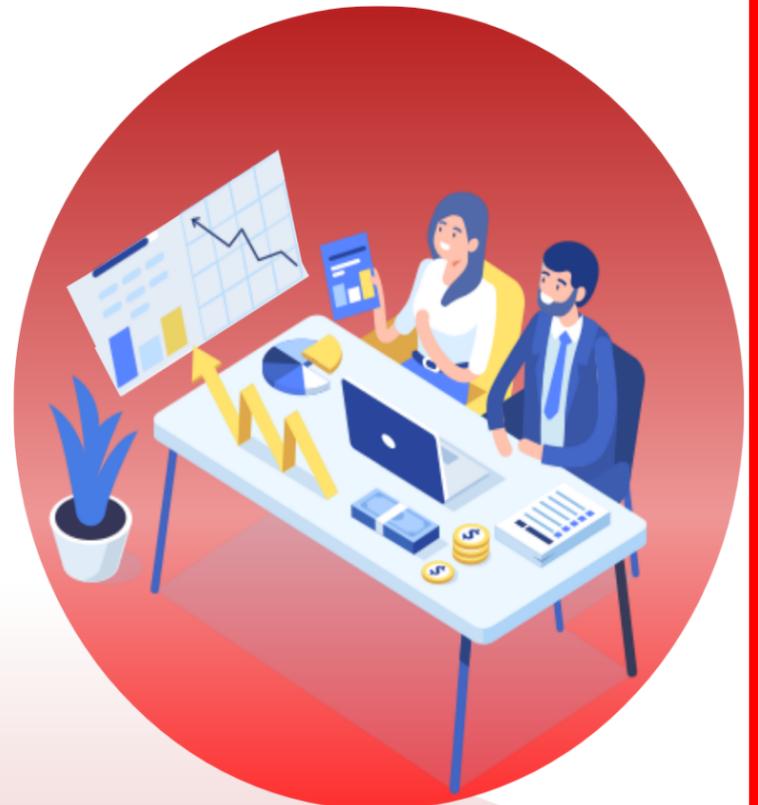
Orland Township is recruiting volunteers to assist local senior residents with filing simple tax returns online. If you are looking for an opportunity to help older adults in our community, we hope that you will join us.

Volunteers need not have any formal training in accounting. All that is required is familiarity with the elements of an individual tax return, computer literacy, and the desire to support friends and neighbors in need of some assistance. The Township will provide necessary training for volunteers.

Our volunteers will be responsible for guiding these individuals through the necessary steps.

If you or somebody you know is experienced and would like to volunteer, or if you have any questions about this program, please contact Orland Township at (708) 403-4222.

orlandtownship.org/VITA



The mission of the Township Assessor is to provide information and services that are accessible, prompt and accurate. This is possible, in part, because township government is so close and responsive to the local property owner.

Assessor's Office Phone Number: (708) 403-4712



NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR
RICH E. KELLY

**NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR
RICH E. KELLY**

The 2021 First Installment Property Tax Bill will be due March 1, 2022. This is an estimated bill based on exactly 55% of the prior year's (2020) total taxes. No exemptions appear on this First Installment Bill.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant change to the tax code has been extended for an additional year to once again allow for the automatic renewal of the senior freeze, persons with disabilities, and veterans with disabilities exemptions. This extension will cover the 2021 Tax Year (payable this year in 2022). These exemptions will appear on the 2021 Second Installment Property Tax Bills in the summer of 2022.

Anyone who had filed a Certificate of Error in 2021 for a correction of an exemption should contact our office in February 2022 to reapply for the exemption(s), as these will not automatically renew. Also, any senior taxpayer born in 1956 should call our office regarding filing for the Senior Exemption or Senior Assessment Freeze for the first time. Please contact me or one of my staff, Mary Ellen Colletti or Lea Sullivan, at (708) 403-4712 to make sure that the 2021 Exemption Forms are available before visiting our office.

As of the writing of this Focus article, according to the 2021 Assessment and Appeal Schedule appearing on the Cook County Assessor's Office website, assessment rolls have not been certified or published for any of the townships. At a recent meeting of the Cook County Township Assessors' Association (CCTAA), it was mentioned as a possibility that all townships may open up for the Cook County Board of Review at the same time. For updated 2021 appeal filing dates and deadlines information, visit cookcountyassessor.com or cookcountyboardofreview.com.



The Orland Township Assessor has a direct dial phone number: (708) 403-4712

Assistance Programs Help Residents Experiencing Financial Hardship



Managed by Supervisor Paul O'Grady

Orland Township strives to support residents in as many ways as possible by providing valuable services and programs, ranging from our Food Pantry and Pet Pantry to health seminars and senior transportation. As part of our

commitment to the local community, the Township offers a year-round General Assistance program that helps residents meet basic needs until employment or another source of income, such as Social Security, disability or public aid, is obtained. The Township aims to help residents experiencing economic difficulty get back on their feet as quickly as possible so that a temporary setback does not become a more detrimental and permanent challenge.

"There are people in our community who are struggling financially," said Supervisor Paul O'Grady, who manages the program. "It's important they know we are here to help."

The Township also offers the Emergency Assistance program, which grants financial aid to qualified individuals and families on a short-term basis to alleviate life-threatening circumstances or to assist residents in returning to self-sufficiency. The Emergency Assistance program offers many relief options, including but not limited to rent/mortgage assistance and energy/utility bill assistance.

"When one of us falls behind, we all fall behind," O'Grady said. "Orland Township wants to help those in need get back on their feet so our community can remain strong."

In addition to ongoing assistance, the Township offers annual support options such as the Holiday Program intended to help families struggling financially during the holiday season. Through the Holiday Program, Orland Township each year helps hundreds of families put food on their tables and share gifts with their loved ones.

To apply for any of these programs, residents must complete an application and provide verification of household size and proof of residency and income. Applications may be obtained at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.

For more information on Orland Township's services, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit us online at orlandtownship.org.

NICOR GAS 'SHARING' PROGRAM



The Nicor Gas Sharing Program provides qualifying households with monetary relief for their natural gas bills. Eligibility is based on several factors, including household size and income.

Any residential customer can apply for a one-time annual Sharing Grant, which does not need to be paid back. The grant program is administered by The Salvation Army and funded through direct contributions from Nicor Gas customers and employees.

For more information on income requirements for a Sharing Grant, and other assistance programs available to residents, please contact Alexis at (708) 403-4222.

Shop Amazon & Support the Orland Township Food Pantry

Support the Orland Township Food Pantry while shopping on Amazon. We have joined the Amazon Smile program to make it easy for individuals to support the pantry, at no extra cost, while purchasing goods through Amazon.

Simply go to smile.amazon.com and sign in using your Amazon account login information. Select **Orland Township Food Pantry Fndn** as your charity and start shopping. Amazon will donate 0.5% of every purchase made through Amazon Smile on behalf of the Food Pantry back to us.

Thank you for helping the Orland Township Food Pantry assist our neighbors in need..



For more information on the Orland Township Food Pantry, visit orlandtownship.org.



The Highway Department maintains the residential streets and public right of way in unincorporated Orland Township. This includes repair and construction of streets, storm sewers, sidewalks, curbs and street signs.



REPORT FROM HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
ANTONIO RUBINO

A message from the Highway Commissioner...

TAX LEVY

ORLAND TOWNSHIP - ROAD & BRIDGE DISTRICT

My office proposed a 0% property tax levy for 2022 which would result in the Orland Township Highway Department property tax bill remaining flat, with no increases. The current tax levy for the Orland Township Highway Department is \$1,196,151.00. 52%, or \$621,998.52, of the tax levy is allocated for the Orland Township Highway Department and 48%, or \$574,152.48, is allocated to the municipality share between Orland Park, Tinley Park and Orland Hills.

SPRING CREEK STUDY

My office is working towards an agreement with Cook County for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). This grant will allow for a study in Spring Creek between 155th and 159th Street with the following objectives aimed at reducing flooding:

- Collect topographical data
- Conduct a storm water modeling effort
- Prepare a proposed scope of corrections
- Conduct feasibility studies as well as address wetland and permit impacts for the project

Once the situation has been properly studied and analyzed, a program can be developed that will help resolve the flooding issues.

HOSPITAL BEDS

Orland Township residents in need of a hospital bed for in-home care are encouraged to call my office at (708)-403-5148 to check availability and arrange delivery.

GRANT UPDATES

In the 2022 Fiscal Year Budget, my office is slated to receive two \$50,000 grants from the State of Illinois. One will go toward capital improvements and the other will cover costs associated with infrastructure improvements. In addition, I have applied for a grant called Green Infrastructure Partnership Opportunity Program through the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District.

ROAD EVALUATION

My office is in the process of having all unincorporated roads evaluated. Please be patient during this process and updates will be disseminated as they are received.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! <<<<



I am seeking grant opportunities to improve our roads and drainage. I am asking for your help with this matter by providing my office with any specific records (information, photos, insurance claims) regarding damage to your property due to flooding, storm-water, drainage, roadway and/or ditch issues on or near the roadway. Please call my office at 708-403-5148 or email your photos/records to highway@orlandtownship.org

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE
FREE ADMISSION FOR SHOPPERS!
SATURDAY APR. 23
8AM - 12PM (RAIN OR SHINE)
Orland Township Highway Department
16125 S. WOLF ROAD
ORLAND PARK, IL



RECYCLING QUICK TIPS

Local businesses within your town will help you recycle with convenient, hassle free acceptance of items.



USED HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES



USED RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES



USED OR DISCARDED TIRES



USED MOTOR OIL CAR BATTERIES



USED OR DISCARDED PAINT, APPLIANCES & CHEMICALS



Your local Batteries + Bulbs will safely recycle old or unused batteries and bulbs.

BATTERIES

- Lead Acid
- Household
- Specialty
- Lithium Ion
- Polymer
- Nickle Cadmium
- Nickle Metal Hydride

BULBS

- LED
- CFL
- Incandescent
- Fluorescent
- Ballasts
- Plastic Coated
- Germicidal/UV
- Mercury Vapor
- Cold Cathode
- Halogen
- Metal Halide
- High Pressure
- Sodium

Visit your nearest store to drop-off items!

2021 E-RECYCLING INITIATIVE TOTALS



- 40,575 lbs - TV Peripherals
- 36,999 lbs - CRT Televisions
- 30,415 lbs - Flat Screen TVs
- 24,134 lbs - Computers/Laptops
- 19,471 lbs - Printers/Scanners/Fax
- 13,892 lbs - Projection TVs
- 6,744 lbs - Monitors
- 834 lbs - Computer Peripherals
- 460 lbs - Wires
- 135 lbs - Broadcast Peripherals

HELP OUR FIRST RESPONDERS OUT

Street lighting helps emergency vehicles find their way throughout the Township. Please take time to ensure your address is visible from the street so first responders can locate your home in the event of an emergency. We recommend that the numbers are at least 3 inches high and that the color of the numbers contrasts with the surface. Trees or other landscaping should not block the numbers. Remember that emergency personnel can lose time in responding to your call if first responders cannot find your home.



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 Services Chair Maria Sanfilippo

ORLAND TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Senior Program Registration Information

Senior residents are encouraged to register with Orland Township to receive a permanent identification number. Identification numbers are used to purchase event tickets, utilize senior transportation services and keep updated emergency contact information on file with the Township. There is no cost to register. Proof of residency is required.

Orland Township Gift Certificates

Need a gift for someone special? Orland Township sells gift certificates that can be used toward the purchase of trips, dinner dance and luncheon tickets, or any other event or class sponsored by the Township. For more information, contact Senior Services Coordinator Marie Ryan at (708) 403-4222.

HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Are you unsure of how to find someone to hire to handle your minor home improvement project or repair? Orland Township has compiled a list of local, professional handymen and their specialties to aid in your search. The individuals and companies on the Home Repair program are not affiliated with or endorsed by Orland Township, but they are all licensed, bonded and insured. To view the list, go to the Township's website, orlandtownship.org.



SENIOR PHONE PROGRAMS

Free Amplified Phone Program

The Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC), as part of a mandated program, provides free amplified telephones to those who qualify. To be eligible, you must be a resident of Illinois, have active phone service (home, cellular, pre-paid) and have a physician certification stating you are unable to use standard phone services. There are no age or income requirements.

Cell Phones for Seniors Program

Orland Township, in partnership with Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart's office, sponsors the Cell Phones for Seniors program. This program provides seniors with free cell phones that are programmed for emergency use only. There is no service plan with the phones; they can only be used to dial 911.

Applications for both phone programs are available at the Township office.

RULES of the ROAD

Rules of the Road

This is a review test for seniors required to take the written or driving test in order to renew their driver's licenses. This **FREE** class is offered three times a year.

Sessions

All on Mondays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

April 25
Aug. 22
Nov. 28

Curb-to-Curb Senior Transportation

Orland Township provides curb-to-curb transportation service for Township seniors, 55 and older. Rides to shopping areas, senior centers, restaurants, nursing homes, libraries and service providers, or for home-to-home visits, are available within Orland Township boundaries. Transportation to doctor appointments may extend beyond Township boundaries.

Rides are available from 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. A one-way ride within the Township is \$3 and a one-way ride outside of the Township is \$5. Due to current economic conditions, Orland Township is able to make special financial accommodations for seniors in need.



To schedule a ride, please call (708) 403-4222 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Please note: Orland Township services will continue to follow the State of Illinois & Cook County Covid-19 guidelines for all public events and trips. Face masks and social distancing are still strongly encouraged.

Senior Drop-In Center

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 will resume on Jan. 13, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Orland Township Activity Center, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave. Seniors **MUST** pre-register before attending Drop-In by calling (708) 403-4222



SENIOR LUNCHEONS & DINNER DANCES

Throughout the year, Orland Township hosts luncheons and dinner dances for seniors. Luncheons consist of a hot catered meal from a local restaurant while dinners are served family-style. Both feature fantastic live performances with the opportunity to meet and socialize with new and old friends.

Tickets for events go on sale at 8 a.m. on the date specified and are sold on a first come, first served basis. Luncheon tickets are limited to two per person; dinner dance tickets are limited to 10 per person. All tickets are non-transferable.

In the event of a cancellation, a full refund will be given prior to the refund deadline on the ticket. After the deadline, refunds will be given only if the ticket can be resold to an individual on the waiting list.

Orland Township encourages seniors to participate in these cost-effective and enjoyable events!

February Luncheon

Join Orland Township for a senior luncheon provided by Roccovino's Italian Restaurant Catering. The menu will include Mostaccioli with Marinara, Garlic Bread, Sausage and Peppers, House Salad with Italian Dressing. Blake Alexander will perform music from your favorite artists like Frank Sinatra, Michael Bubl , and more!

Place: Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.
Date: Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Doors Open at 10 a.m.)
Fee: \$15 / Residents Only (On Sale Now)



March Luncheon

Join Orland Township for our St. Patrick's / St. Joseph's celebration! Each guest will enjoy Winston's traditional Irish menu of corned beef and cabbage, parsleyed potatoes, carrots, rye-bread, dessert, and a beverage. Gerard Haughey will entertain you with Irish ballads and nostalgic songs from the past.

Place: Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.
Date: Thursday, March 10, 2022
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Doors Open at 10 a.m.)
Fee: \$15 / Residents Only (On Sale Jan. 27)

Valentine's Dinner Dance

Love is in the air! The Michael Walters Band will entertain you as you dance the night away! Fresh from their triumphant performances, this will be a night to remember! Michael Walter's Band performs a wide variety of music, featuring favorite songs from James Brown, Al Green, Smokey Robinson to Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross and Etta James! After enjoying a delicious meal from the Orland Chateau, get your groove on, dancing while the band plays your favorite hits!

Place: Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Road
Date: Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022
Time: 5 to 10 p.m.
Fee: \$27 / Residents (On Sale Jan. 6,) \$32 / Non-Residents (On Sale Jan 7)



WANTED:
Choir Director
For more information & inquiries, please call Marie:
708-403-4222

Pathlights Pathlights, formerly known as **PLOWS Council on Aging**, helps navigate and celebrate aging in the Southwest Suburbs of Cook County.
Enriched by experience. Empowered in life.

For more than 45 years, we have guided individuals, caregivers, families, and friends along the best path to aging – providing resources, advocacy, programs, and services needed to live with independence and dignity in the community.

Call us at 708.361.0219
www.pathlights.org

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.

Trip escorts are provided by Orland Township. All escorts should be made aware of any medical conditions that participants may have. In the event of an emergency, trip escorts will arrange for transportation to the local health facility but must remain with the group unless a participant is traveling alone.

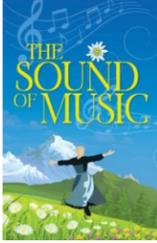
All participants are required to provide an alternative emergency contact name and phone number upon ticket purchase. Orland Township requests that all travelers keep important medication and health information with them at all times.

Trip tickets go on sale at 8 a.m. on the date specified and are sold on a first come, first served basis. All tickets purchased include Deluxe Motor Coach reserved seating, are limited to two per person, and are non-transferable. Refunds will not be given but trip insurance is available.

Buses leave from the north side of 151st Street directly between Bank Financial and Robert Morris College.

Senior Trip at Fireside Theatre

Join Orland Township for a wonderful afternoon as we travel on a Deluxe Motor Coach to Fireside Theatre. There will be movies and bingo with prizes while traveling along the way.



Rodgers & Hammerstein's last Broadway show turned out to be their most enduring and popular of them all. Based on a true story set in Austria in 1938, THE SOUND OF MUSIC tells of a detour on Maria Rainier's journey to become a nun. Recognizing that Maria is not yet ready for religious life, Mother Abbess sends her to be the governess for the seven children of a widowed naval officer.

Finding the household strictly run like one of his ships, Maria reintroduces music and warmth and quickly charms both the children and their father. Favorite songs such as "Do Re Mi" and "Climb Every Mountain" fill this time-honored show that practically invented the term "family entertainment. The Fireside's menu is always a crowd pleaser! Choose your favorite Beef Tenderloin, Steamed Salmon, or Chicken Alfredo, with all the delicious sides included!

Place: Fort Atkinson, Wis.
Date: Thursday, March 3, 2022
Time: 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Fee: \$105 / Residents (On Sale Now)
 \$110 / Non-Residents (On Sale Now)

Island Resort & Casino (Harris, Mich.)

Enjoy a 3-day, 2-night stay at The Island Resort & Casino! Located near Escanaba in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the hotel now features two towers of rooms with an indoor pool and sauna. Michigan allows craps, let it ride, and table poker, slots, blackjack and of course "Bingo."



Includes motorcoach transportation, accommodations for two nights at the Island Resort & Casino, \$5 voucher towards food per night, and an optional trip into Escanaba, Mich. For shopping and lunch. At Island Resort, \$20 each day good towards slots only for NEW members only. Existing members will receive \$10-200+ per day based on past play.

Place: Island Resort & Casino
Depart: Wednesday, April 27 at 8 a.m.
Return: Friday, April 29, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Fee: Single Occupancy - \$331
 Double Occupancy - \$250
 Triple Occupancy - \$245
 (On Sale Feb. 2, 2022)

The Hills are Alive – Vermont and New Hampshire

Join Orland Township for a fun-filled week in beautiful Vermont!

This amazing 7-day, 6-night trip will include tours that will introduce guests to many of the northeastern state's favorites, including The Winnepesaukee Scenic Railroad, a narrated cruise on Squam Lake, and Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream!



Guests also will visit the Quechee Gorge, Vermont's "Little Grand Canyon." A short nature walk on the paved path at "The Basin" uncovers the beauty of the water-filled, basin-shaped natural rock pothole. Once in Lincoln, board the four-passenger gondola sky ride and enjoy extraordinary scenery as the gondola carries you to the 3,050' foot top of Loon Mountain, in the heart of the New Hampshire's White Mountains. This trip includes six nights of lodging, including four consecutive nights in Vermont, and 10 meals.

Place: The Hills are Alive – Vermont and New Hampshire
Date: June 19, 2022 to June 25, 2022
Time: TBA
Fee: Single Occupancy - \$1,450
 Double Occupancy - \$1,150
 Triple Occupancy - \$1,090
 Quad Occupancy - \$1,050
 (On Sale Feb. 8, 2022)

The SENIOR Dating GAME

Orland Township is seeking interested seniors, ages 55 and older, who are looking for companionship and are willing to do it blindly in front of a live audience.

Modeled after the hit television game show "The Dating Game," Orland Township's Senior Dating Game contestants will be escorted to private screening rooms before appearing on stage to be asked a variety of questions by a potential match.

Winning couples will be treated to a complimentary night on the town.

INTERESTED? CALL (708) 403-4222

EVENT DATE & AUDITIONS TBD



ORLAND TOWNSHIP AROUND TOWN



Thirteen talented seniors showcased their vocal skills before a live audience as they competed for the title of 2021 Orland Township Senior American Idol.

The event, sponsored by Evergreen Senior Living and Bickford Senior Living, took place on Thursday, Oct. 21 at Georgios Banquets in Orland Hills. Over 500 guests flocked into the dazzlingly decorated ballroom for dinner and a night of friendly competition between this year's contestants.

After three rounds of singing their favorite tunes, Edward Swanson, took home the trophy and title of 2021 Orland Township Senior American Idol. Swanson, 80, was raised on the South Side of Chicago. His love for music began in high school with voice lessons, and the passion followed him into the Army. He joined the 7th Army Chorus and performed throughout Europe. After returning home, he began singing in clubs on Rush Street in Chicago, where he met his wife. Since starting his family, Ed assumed his singing days were behind him, until he saw the "Senior American Idol" ad and thought "Here's my second chance!"

Ed started off the night with "Misty" by Johnny Mathis, continuing in the second round with "That Old Black Magic" by Frank Sinatra. In the final round, Ed impressed the audience and judges with "Unforgettable" — a performance that helped him win first place.

Musician Blake Alexander and award-winning choreographer and instructor Maria Villari of American Dance Center participated as the celebrity judge panel, along with former Senior American Idol winner Laura Alberts, who took home the trophy in 2016. Comedian, author, and Tinley Park Trustee Bill Brady served as emcee for the event. A week after the event, Ed appeared on WGN Morning News LIVE to perform one of his winning songs.

"We're lucky to have so many talented seniors who are willing to come out, show off their talents, and compete to benefit the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation," said Supervisor Paul O'Grady. "We take pride in offering opportunities like this to our seniors, and we're glad to have found a way to help benefit local youth in the process. I want to thank everyone who came out and supported their favorite singer, and of course, our Scholarship Foundation."

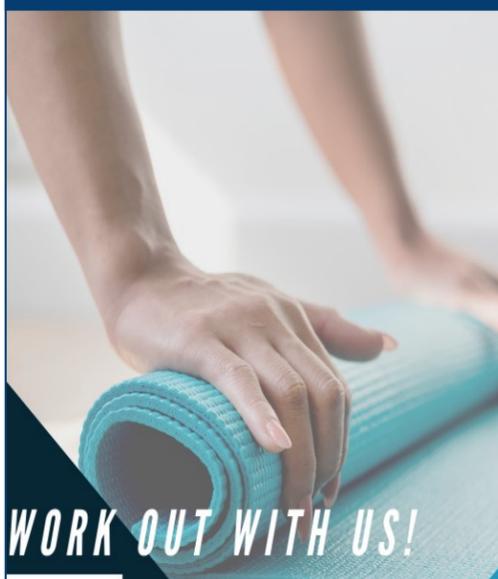
ORLAND TOWNSHIP CLASS SCHEDULE



Orland Township offers a variety of classes to improve and maintain residents' overall health and fitness while appealing to a wide range of interests.

Classes are held in a safe environment with certified instructors trained to recognize the needs of each individual. These instructors are available, through the Township office, to answer any questions or concerns.

Trustee John Lynch



WORK OUT WITH US!

SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES

Both registration and fitness classes are held at the Orland Township Activity Center 14807 S. Ravinia Ave.

EXERCISE REFUND POLICY:
REFUNDS WILL BE PROVIDED ONLY WITH PRESENTATION OF A DOCTOR'S NOTE, WHICH MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE THE SESSION ENDS.

Joins in Motion

The Arthritis Foundation exercise program, Joins in Motion, is an exercise program designed to help individuals living with arthritis enjoy a more active lifestyle while improving their health. Joins in Motion is intended to assist individuals who have joint and/or muscle problems achieve improved joint mobility, muscle strength and endurance.

Exercises are done while sitting in a chair or standing and classes are led by an instructor certified by the Arthritis Foundation.

Joins in Motion Session Fee
8 weeks – \$14 residents (\$18 non-residents)

Joins in Motion Classes
Tuesdays, Jan. 11 to March 1 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Registration Available Now

Tai Chi

Tai Chi is a great form of exercise that reduces stress while strengthening your muscles. The graceful, slow speed of the class, coupled with an emphasis on deep breathing and mental focus, creates balance, flexibility and calmness. This "meditation in motion" relieves stress and allows for the integration of mind and body. Tai Chi also is known to strengthen the immune system and help with arthritis, high blood pressure and osteoporosis. This class has many mental and physical health benefits. Classes are led by certified instructor and Tai Chi master, Sam Johnson.

Tai Chi Session Fee
8 weeks - \$30 (\$40 non-residents)

Tai Chi Classes
Mondays, Jan. 3 to March 7 from 3 to 4 p.m.

Registration Available Now

Yoga / Chair Yoga

A number of studies show that yoga may help reduce stress and anxiety, but more importantly reduce the risk of chronic conditions such as heart disease and high blood pressure. This class will include plenty of modifications to accommodate all levels of experience and practicing from a mat or a chair. The class will focus on movements to bring the body through all ranges of motion to help improve mobility and strength. It also will focus on breathing and meditation to alleviate tension and stress.

Yoga Session Fee
4 weeks – \$48 (\$53 non-residents)

Yoga Classes
Tuesdays, Jan. 4 to Feb. 22 from 2 to 3 p.m.

Registration Available Now

Strong & Fit

This class of simple movements and light weight lifting will increase your strength, improve bone density, and enhance your mood – the three components to slowing down the aging process and living a healthier life. Participants should bring a mat and a set of weights between 1lb and 5 lbs. Class will be led by certified instructor Barbara Cachey.

Strong & Fit Session Fee
4 weeks – \$20 (\$25 non-residents)

Strong & Fit Classes
Wednesdays, Jan. 5 to Feb. 23 from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.

Registration Available Now

The Orland Township Health Services department provides quality health services that meet the needs of our residents, focusing on wellness, prevention, education and safety.

For more information about all our services, please call (708) 403-4222.



Health Services Chair Patrick Feldner

ORLAND TOWNSHIP HEALTH SERVICES

Immunization Clinics

Health Services administers vaccines provided through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program to Orland Township residents, age 18 and under, who are uninsured, underinsured (vaccines not covered under current medical plan), insured by Medicaid Title XIX (19), or are Native American (American Indian/Alaskan Native).

Township children meeting the above requirements are charged a \$10 administration fee per shot. Children residing outside the Township, but who are otherwise eligible, are charged a \$20 administration fee, per shot, that is applied at the time of service. Cash or charge only are accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: Orland Township's Health Services department can no longer accept Medicaid Title XXI (21).

You can visit cdc.gov for information about the VFC program and guidelines for eligibility.



Upcoming Clinic Dates

Times

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. |
| Tuesday, March 8, 2022 | 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. |
| Saturday, April 9, 2022 | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. |

Immunization clinics are held at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave. **Please note that clinics are by appointment only. Call (708) 403-4222 to schedule an appointment.**

In accordance with CDC guidelines, anyone entering the Township building must wear a face mask. Additionally, we are asking that only the child receiving vaccines, along with one parent or legal guardian, enter the facility for the appointment.

Vaccinations will be administered **ONLY** to those children who bring an up-to-date U.S. immunization record and a Medicaid Title XIX (19) card (if applicable).

Wellness Wednesdays

Orland Township's registered nurse is available the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 8:30 to 11 a.m., by appointment, to provide the following services:

- Free blood pressure screenings
- Total lipid profile cholesterol test* without glucose (\$40 for residents, \$50 for non-residents)
- Total lipid profile cholesterol test* with glucose (\$50 for residents, \$60 for non-residents)
- Glucose screenings for diabetes prevention (\$5 for residents, \$10 for non-residents)
- Adult vaccinations

In coming months, the nurse will be available the following Wednesdays:

Jan. 12 & 26
Feb. 9 & 23
March 9 & 23

*Note on Total Lipid Profile Testing

This simple, 5-minute, finger stick test is a complete cholesterol analysis that measures total cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL (bad cholesterol) and HDL (good cholesterol) levels, and an overall ratio. A 9 to 12-hour fast is required and patients should drink water during their fasting period for optimum results.

Adult Immunizations

Vaccines and TB tests for adults are available at Orland Township, by appointment, on Wellness Wednesdays.

Please call the Township at (708) 403-4222 to schedule an appointment, or visit orlandtownship.org for information on available adult vaccines and applicable fees.

Hearing Screenings

Free hearing screenings (air and bone conduction testing) by South Suburban Hearing Health Center are available **at the Orland Township office** on the first Wednesday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m.

In the coming months, South Suburban Hearing will have appointments available on the following Wednesdays:

Jan. 5
Feb. 2
March 2

Separately, Orland Hearing Aid Center provides free screenings **at the Orland Township office** on the third Tuesday of every month from 9 to 11 a.m.

In the coming months, Orland Hearing Aid Center will have appointments available on the following Tuesdays:

Jan. 18
Feb. 15
March 15

To schedule an appointment, please call (708) 403-4222. Hearing screenings are open to non-residents for a \$10 fee.

Nurses' Closet

Residents needing medical equipment such as wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, shower chairs, and canes can utilize the Nurses' Closet and borrow items at no cost for a 60-day period. The Nurses' Closet also provides disposable pads and adult incontinence products to residents in need.

To donate or borrow medical equipment or supplies, please call (708) 403-4222.

Coast2Coast Rx Card

The Coast2Coast Rx Card is a free discount prescription card provided to residents of Orland Township. The program includes U.S. pharmacies and provides annual overall savings of up to 55%. Savings on a single prescription can range from 1% up to 95% off the retail price of the drug.

The card is FREE to use and can be used immediately by any family member. There is no age, income or other exclusion, and there are no forms to fill out. Cardholders save on both brand name and generic drugs – and may save as much as **60% on their dental needs, an average of 10% to 50% on their vision needs, and 35% on their hearing needs, diabetes supplies and lab and imaging tests.**

Simply take the card to one of the 59,000-plus participating pharmacies, including Walgreens, CVS, Costco, Sam's Club, and Target, and the savings start immediately.

Visit coast2coastrx.com to print your card.

State of Illinois Temporary Disability Parking Placard

Temporary disability parking placards (valid for three months) may be obtained at the Orland Township office. You must bring in a copy of your completed **Persons with Disabilities Certification for Parking Placard/License Plates form** from the Illinois Secretary of State's office and proof of residency to receive a temporary parking placard while waiting for your permanent one to arrive from the state. Those needing a temporary parking placard (valid for up to six months) for a temporary disability **must** obtain those placards from the Secretary of State's office.

For more information on disability parking placards, visit cyberdriveillinois.com.

Medication Drop Box

Do you have old, expired or unwanted medications in your home and do not know how to dispose of them? Bring them to Orland Township and place them in a secure drop box for proper disposal by the Cook County Sheriff's Office.

There is no fee to use the drop box but some restrictions do apply. Medications can be placed in the drop box, in or out of their original containers, but can only be in pill or dry form. Liquids and syringes will not be accepted. Please use Orland Township sharps containers to dispose of used syringes. Please visit the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's website, fda.gov, for information on proper disposal of liquid medications.

Homebound residents can call the Cook County Sheriff's Office at 1-84-GOT USD RX (1-844-688-7379) to request a free, pre-paid, pre-labeled envelope to mail their unwanted pill and dry medications directly to the Sheriff's Office for disposal.

Sharps Containers

Five-quart sharps containers are available at Orland Township for \$15 each (the price includes disposal fee). In order to use Orland Township's sharps disposal service, you may purchase a container from the Township and return it when full for proper disposal. For a \$10 fee, the Township will dispose of a sharps container purchased elsewhere.

For more information on proper sharps disposal, please visit orlandtownship.org.



Access to Care

FILLING THE GAP FOR THE UNINSURED

Access to Care is a non-profit primary healthcare program for low-income, uninsured and underinsured individuals living in suburban Cook County and northwest Chicago (north of North Avenue and west of Pulaski Road). The Access to Care program is administered by the Suburban Primary Health Care Council.

Access to Care serves those individuals who are not eligible for public health programs (i.e., CountyCare, All Kids, FamilyCare, Medicaid and Medicare). This includes individuals who do not meet the immigration status requirement of being a legal resident for five years or more. It serves individuals with family incomes under 300% of the federal poverty guidelines. It may be used as a supplement to high-deductible insurance plans.

The program is a unique public/private partnership making primary healthcare and the ancillary pharmacy, laboratory and radiology services available to low-income individuals. Access to Care provides affordable diagnosis and treatment for illness to individuals and families for a small co-payment per doctor visit, procedure or prescription medication. Public funding and private providers form the public/private partnership.

Access to Care contracts with local providers throughout Cook County and pays them a discounted rate to provide services. Participating physicians choose the number of patients they will add to their practice. They are nominally compensated.

For more information on Access to Care visit accesstocare.org or call (708) 531-0680.

To be eligible for Access to Care, you must:

- Live in suburban Cook County or northwest Chicago (north of North Ave. and west of Pulaski Rd.).
- Have family income of less than 300% of the federal poverty guidelines (\$79,500 for a family of four).
- Have no health insurance (or a deductible of \$500 or more per person) and be ineligible for Medicare, Medicaid, All Kids or FamilyCare.
- Not be enrolled in CountyCare.

Access to Care provides enrollees with:

- Visits to your assigned Access to Care doctor for \$5.
- Basic lab and X-ray services for \$5 per draw or procedure.
- Prescription medication for \$15 (generic), \$30 (preferred brand) and \$40 (non-preferred brand). Brand name medications are available only at Walgreens.

Those who meet the eligibility requirements and wish to enroll should call the Orland Township office at (708) 403-4222 to schedule an appointment with the Health Services Coordinator.



ORLAND TOWNSHIP HEALTH SERVICES



7 Smart *New Year's Resolutions* For Seniors

- ### 1. Get Enough Sleep

Even as an older adult, you should aim for seven to nine hours of sleep per night. This amount of rest helps to maintain your immune system and improves memory and concentration.
- ### 2. Eat Well & Stay Hydrated

A healthy diet is one of the simplest health goals for seniors.
- ### 3. Exercise

Studies have shown that regular exercise has many benefits for seniors, including:

 - Alleviation of depression
 - Better sleep
 - Improved balance, strength, and fall prevention
- ### 4. Kick Your Bad Habits

One of the most popular new year's resolutions for seniors involves quitting smoking and/or drinking.
- ### 5. Get Social!

Some great ways for older adults to get connected:

 - Volunteering
 - Joining a local organization
 - Become more involved with local organizations

REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG/GIVE.HTML/FIND-DRIVE

ORLAND TOWNSHIP:

GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LOVE

Blood drive by
American Red Cross
Blood Services:

• Sunday, February 27, 2022
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wellness Program

Orland Township's Wellness Program continues to provide quality services to our residents at the lowest cost. Our medical services are discounted as much as, if not more than, 50% per medical service. Please visit the Orland Township office located at 14807 S. Ravinia Ave. to purchase a voucher for services. Proof of residency is required at the time of voucher purchase. Residents must schedule appointments with the healthcare provider directly.

MEDICAL

Physical Exam - \$75

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|---|---|
| <p>Silver Cross Medical Group Dr. Farooq Hussain Dr. Reshma Relwani</p> <p>1890 Silver Cross Blvd. Pavilion A, Suite 265 New Lenox, IL 60451 (815) 727-4292</p> | <p>Silver Cross Medical Group Dr. Omar Akhtar Dr. Tiffany Groen</p> <p>1890 Silver Cross Blvd. Pavilion D, Suite 120 New Lenox, IL 60451 (815) 462-3259</p> |
|---|---|

Please note: physical examination vouchers may not be used in the case of illness.

DENTAL

Dental Screening, Cleaning and Full Set of X-Rays-\$100
 Routine Dental Exam & Cleaning - \$50
 Dental Screening Only - \$15 (does not include cleaning or x-rays)

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|---|--|
| <p>Dr. Stephen Heaney 64 Orland Square Dr. Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 403-3393 <i>(pediatric dentist)</i></p> | <p>Dr. Dimitri Tsoukalas 14624 John Humphrey Dr., Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 349-6606 <i>(no new patients)</i></p> |
| <p>Ridge Dental, LTD 14540 John Humphrey Drive Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 349-5800 <i>(new patients must purchase x-rays)</i></p> | <p>Dr. Richard Holba 15300 West Ave. Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 349-3637</p> |
| <p>Dr. David Rocco 14265 S. Wolf Rd. Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 403-5055 <i>(no x-rays)</i></p> | <p>Silver Lake Family Dental Dr. John Canning Dr. Joseph Gradowski 9611 W. 165th St., Suite 14 Orland Park, IL 60467 (708) 403-0071 <i>(new patients must purchase x-rays)</i></p> |

VISION

Pediatric/Adult Ophthalmology Exam - \$45 **OR** **\$55

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|---|--|
| <p>The Eye Specialists Dr. Benjamin Ticho Dr. Birva Shah Dr. Cassie Koutnik Dr. Megan Allen Dr. Yi Pang, O.D. 18210 S. LaGrange Rd., Suite 210 Tinley Park, IL 60487 708-873-0088</p> | <p>**Insight Family Vision Care, Inc. Dr. Mark A. Alles Dr. Margaret Cullen-Regan 9501 W. 171st St., Suite C Tinley Park, IL 60487 (708) 403-8300</p> |
| <p>10436 Southwest Hwy. Chicago Ridge, IL 60415 (708) 423-4070</p> | <p>Davis Eye Care Dr. James Sanderson 600 Ravinia Place Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 349-7571</p> |
| <p>Kirschner Vision Group Dr. Ken Kirschner Dr. Paul Kirschner Dr. Genine Graff Dr. Lisa Wilson 7026 W. 159th St. Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 687-0600</p> | <p>Eye Was Framed Eye Care Dr. Dawn Tuminello 11319 W. 143rd St. Orland Park, IL 60467 (708) 460-2020</p> |
| <p>Orland Eye Dr. Gloria Docherty 15410 S. Harlem Ave. Orland Park, IL. 60462 (708) 633-0011</p> | |

PODIATRY

Routine Podiatry Screening - \$30
 Senior Podiatry Screening - \$25

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Dr. Mark Gagnon 8600 W. 159th St. #5 Orland Park, IL 60462 (708) 403-7250</p> | <p>Dr. Wayne Tillman 13011 S.104th Ave., Ste.201 Palos Park, IL 60464 (708) 923-0400 <i>(makes house calls)</i></p> |
| <p>Dr. Cynthia Sink 10760 West 143rd St. Orland Park, IL 60467 (708) 301-5600</p> | <p><i>(voucher not applicable)</i></p> |

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| <h3 style="text-align: center;">HEARING</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Audiological Evaluation - Free</p> <p>Orland Hearing Aid Center Kristen Connors, Licensed Audiologist 12910 S. LaGrange Road Palos Park, IL 60464 (708) 448-1234</p> | <h3 style="text-align: center;">CHIROPRACTIC</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Exam - \$45</p> <p>So. Suburban Chiropractic Center Dr. Mark Grennell, D.C. 14277 S. Wolf Road Orland Park, IL 60467 (708) 403-3252 <i>(exam only)</i></p> |
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Orland Township Youth & Family Counseling Services provides programs and services to support the social-emotional health of residents.



ORLAND TOWNSHIP YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES

Youth & Family Counseling Services Chair Michael Maratea

Orland Township Youth & 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 available in the community.

All clinical services are supported by Orland Township tax dollars. Services included are listed below.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Counseling services are by appointment only and are offered with sliding scale fees. Sessions are tailored for individuals (adult and youth), couples, families or groups. Please call (708) 403-4222 for more information or to schedule an appointment.



ANGER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

Anger is a normal and unavoidable feeling that can adversely affect many different aspects of life, including friendships, family, school and employment. Orland Township Youth & Family Counseling Services offers anger management workshops to help navigate this powerful emotion. These workshops, available for adults and teens, are tailored for individual or group meetings.

CHARACTER BUILDING / LIFE SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Workshops are available to help individuals become better community and family members. Whether looking to communicate more constructively with peers, or develop more effective parenting skills, workshops produced by Orland Township Youth & Family Counseling Services are designed to help individuals develop the foundation and skill set to manage personal relationships.

PREVENTION / AWARENESS WORKSHOPS

Orland Township Youth & Family Counseling Services offers workshops for teens to discuss the consequences of potentially harmful behaviors. Workshop topics include drug/substance use and abuse, responsible risk taking and conscientious social media use.



COPING SKILLS / SUPPORT GROUPS

Major life changes such as the death of a loved one, divorce or moving can create feelings of grief, fear and anger that may influence behavior. Orland Township Youth & Family Counseling Services offers programs to help residents navigate such challenging circumstances. Sessions are tailored to meet the specific needs of the group or individual and meet as needed.

For more information on any of the listed programs, including applicable fees, please call Orland Township Youth & Family Counseling Services at (708) 403-4222.

Orland Township Youth & Family Services Presents...

**FEEL
FABULOUS
FEBRUARY!**



Please join us and more than 30 local vendors for a relaxing evening of "retail therapy"!

Date: Thursday, Feb. 10

Time: 6 - 9 p.m.

Where: Orland Township

14807 Ravinia Avenue, Orland Park

\$5 Entrance Fee

Questions? Please contact Gina Chigaros:
708-403-4222 or ginac@orlandtownship.org

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: ORLAND TOWNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



Local students graduating high school in 2022 and heading to college are encouraged to apply for an Orland Township Scholarship Foundation award. Over the past several years, Supervisor Paul O'Grady — who also serves as the President of the Foundation — and the Board of Directors have awarded over 130,000 dollars in scholarships, helping well over 150 students receive financial aid towards college.

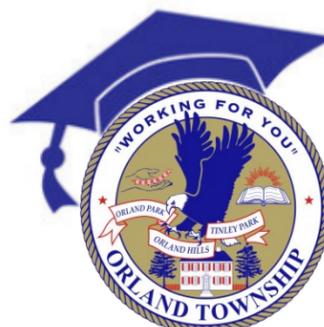
"These students exemplify the credo of the Scholarship Foundation by giving back to the community in a significant way," said Supervisor O'Grady, "It is our hope that the scholarship program will express Orland Township's appreciation, as well as motivate these future leaders to continue to give back to their own communities."

Applications will be available on Friday, Jan. 14 at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., from guidance counselors at area high schools and from the Township's website, orlandtownship.org.

Completed applications must be returned to the Township or postmarked by Thursday, March 31.

The Scholarship Foundation will select finalists after reviewing each application. It will then award scholarships based on a combination of factors including the applicant's commitment to community service, academic focus, recommendations from school representatives, volunteer supervisors or employers, and an essay. Students faced with financial hardship will be given strong consideration.

Please call Orland Township at (708) 403-4222 with any questions.



**ORLAND TOWNSHIP
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION**

The Orland Township Food Pantry, located at 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., provides emergency food supplies to residents in need of immediate assistance. After completing a brief application, recipients leave with bags of non-perishable items, frozen and refrigerated food, and bakery goods.

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



ORLAND TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY

Volunteers Kathy Miller and Barb Van Howe with Food Pantry Assistant Gianna O'Malley at the 2021 Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution.

Support the Orland Township Pet Pantry

Please help keep the Pet Pantry shelves filled!

The Orland Township Pet Pantry provides food and supplies for pets whose families are in financial crisis and it relies on the generosity of the community. The Pet Pantry, in conjunction with the Orland Township Food Pantry, is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Your contribution will help ensure that a family pet does not go hungry. For more information, please call Orland Township at (708) 403-4222.



In high need for dry cat food!
Please consider donating.



USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program



Putting Healthy Food Within Reach

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)

Non-perishable food items can be donated **Monday - Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Please check expiration dates before donating.



CAT'S PRIDE LITTER FOR GOOD

Join the Cat's Pride Club to nominate Orland Township's Pet Pantry. Every nomination will help Orland Township's Pet Pantry receive cat litter for the cats in the Township.

1. Go to catspride.com
2. Click "Litter for Good"
3. Click "Join the Club"
4. Sign up with your name and email
5. After you register, click "Nominate"
6. Enter "60462" in zip code search bar
7. Choose "Orland Township Pet Pantry" to nominate



You can also participate by purchasing a green jug of litter and entering the promo code from the jug on the website.



Easter Basket Donations

Easter Baskets may be donated to the Food Pantry, where they will be distributed to local low income families. Starting Monday, March 21, baskets may be dropped off at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The final day for drop off is Wednesday, April 6. Please label each basket "boy" for "girl" along with the age. Community service hours will be provided for those who assist with this program. For every basket collected, one hour of community service will be provided. Up to five baskets will be accepted from each student. Please check with your school to confirm eligibility. Residents can sign up to receive baskets by visiting the Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., and filling out an application. Residency and income requirements apply. Please go to orlandtownship.org, and visit the "About the Food Pantry" page in the Food Pantry section for more information. For guidelines and additional information, call Orland Township at (708) 403-4222.

To apply for an Easter Basket, you **MUST** provide the following at registration:

- Proof of Orland Township residency
- Verification of household income
- Birth certificates OR medical card / school verification for each child



Promote Your Business, Support Local Youth Heading to College.

Orland Township encourages area businesses to consider advertising in the Focus, our quarterly newsletter to Township residents. All proceeds benefit the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation, which awards college scholarships to local high school seniors based on academic achievement and community service.

The Focus, with a circulation of 41,500, is printed and shared by mail with every household in Orland Township, which covers a 36-square-mile area that is home to more than 100,000 residents. The Township stretches from 135th Street on the north to 183rd Street on the south, and from Harlem Avenue on the east to Will Cook Road on the west.

We serve the communities of Orland Park, Tinley Park, and Orland Hills, as well as the unincorporated areas within these boundaries.

FULL AD
10" x 16"
\$1,000

HALF AD
10" x 8"
\$800

1/4 AD
5" x 8"
\$400

1/8 AD
5" x 4"
\$200



IF YOUR BUSINESS WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN THE FOCUS, PLEASE CONTACT ORLAND TOWNSHIP AT (708) 403-4222.

ORLANDTOWNSHIP.ORG/ADVERTISE

ORLAND TOWNSHIP: YEAR IN REVIEW



Even frigid February temperatures could not keep Orland Township seniors away, as they happily entered the Orland Chateau. After dealing with strict pandemic guidelines and stay-at-home orders, seniors were ready to reconnect with friends at Orland Township's first senior drop-in of 2021.

Following CDC guidelines, bingo attendees were required to wear masks except when eating or drinking. Tables were spaced for social distancing and had no more than six individuals at a table.



In March, nearly 500 local seniors received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at Victor J. Andrew High School, thanks to the joint effort of Orland Township and Jewel-Osco. Over the course of one week, the Township managed the registration process for all the seniors, relieving them of the burden of navigating a system that for some was overwhelming. Another 200 received their first COVID-19 vaccine at the Township office, thanks to the partnership with Parkview Christian Church. We also assisted senior residents with registering for the COVID-19 vaccine through Cook County's portal.

Orland Township held its third drive-thru meal distribution, handing out packaged meals to low-income residents on March 13. Through a long standing partnership with the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD), the "Grab & Go" meal distributions featured meals that had been prepared by the GCFD. In addition to the prepared meals, residents received bags of non-perishable pantry staples and gift cards to local grocery stores.



In April, Orland Township and Jewel Osco pharmacy held our third and largest vaccine distribution event, administering the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to more than 2,000 residents at Georgios Banquets.

This vaccination event initially scheduled residents in Phase 1B and with underlying medical conditions or otherwise eligible under Phase 1C. When most of Illinois opened up vaccination to Phase 2, Orland Township followed suit and opened up appointments to Phase 2 individuals, as well. The addition of Phase 2 eligibility resulted in the 2,300 appointment slots quickly filling up.

In honor of April's Volunteer Appreciation Week, Orland Township hosted a dinner to celebrate the contributions its many volunteers. "Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Township," said Supervisor Paul O'Grady. "Even in the middle of a pandemic, you still came out to help and support the community. If it wasn't for all of you, we would never be able to accomplish everything we do at the Township. On behalf of a grateful community, thank you."



Orland Township held a scholarship awards dinner on May 20. The students, who reside in the Township, were awarded a total of \$13,500 from the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation. Over the past several years, the Scholarship Foundation has awarded more than \$130,000 in scholarships, helping well over 150 students receive financial aid towards college.

Read more about the Orland Township Scholarship Foundation on page 12

ORLAND TOWNSHIP: YEAR IN REVIEW



In June, excitement filled the air as residents flocked to Orland Township. Seniors were able to finally partake in their normal activities at the Township once again after the pause initiated to protect the health and welfare of residents, employees, and volunteers.

"It was heartwarming seeing our community come together again, in ways we were once used to," said Supervisor O'Grady. "Here at the Township, we value our local seniors, and we're happy to have them back!"

Senior Luncheons, one of Orland Township's most popular reoccurring events, were finally back in full swing by July! More than 175 guests poured into Orland Chateau (located at 14500 South LaGrange Road, Orland Park) for an afternoon full of food, socializing, and fun entertainment. At the venue, local contemporary artist Blake Alexander was present to provide entertainment, dazzling guests with his vocal abilities and covers of artists like Sinatra, Maroon 5, and everything in between.



Orland Township's annual Back-to-School Health Fair, presented by Supervisor Paul O'Grady and the Board of Trustees, was a hit in the community. The event, which was held on Aug. 14 on the Township grounds, focused on the health and wellbeing of children in the area as they got ready to go back to school.

"We understand how important it is that families have access to affordable health services in Orland Township, especially during the back-to-school season," said Supervisor O'Grady.

Residents raised the 'woof' at Orland Township's 9th annual Pet-Palooza in September. Among the variety of local vendors, which ranged from bakeries and other local businesses to animal hospitals and rescue organizations, was an exciting new addition to the event: International Subaru of Orland Park. Subaru, a "Cat's Meow" sponsor, proudly displayed two brand-new cars adorned with pet-friendly accessories at Pet-Palooza, including an extendable ramp that makes travel easier for pups in need.

Read more about Pet-Palooza on page 2



Continuing our efforts to protect the health of our local community, Orland Township residents had the opportunity to receive their seasonal flu shots on select days throughout the fall. In conjunction with the 'Fight The Flu' initiative, Orland Township's annual drive-thru flu shot clinic was held on Oct. 2 and it attracted over 100 residents.

"With the CDC recommending that everyone older than six months receive a flu shot each year, I encouraged all residents, however healthy they may be, to attend one of our clinics." said Supervisor Paul O'Grady. "We need to do our best to protect ourselves and our community as we continue to navigate through the pandemic. Orland Township will continue to offer these opportunities."

In October, 13 talented seniors showcased their vocal skills before a live audience as they competed for the title of 2021 Orland Township Senior American Idol. Of the contestants, Mark Bateman and Rod Marino took home second and third place. First place winner Edward Swanson took home the title of 2021 Senior American Idol.

Read more about Senior American Idol on page 9



WISHING YOU A SAFE & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to 2022!

Here's to another chance at making it great.

To keep up with Orland Township in 2022, like us on Facebook at facebook.com/OrlandTownshipIL

ORLAND TOWNSHIP'S BINGO FEST

GAMES & PRIZES!
FOOD & CASH BAR!

ONLINE VIEW SPONSORSHIP
OPTIONS \$



LIVE MUSIC!

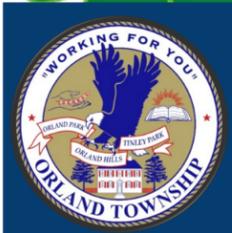
Hosted by Supervisor Paul O'Grady & the Board of Trustees!

BENEFITTING THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

SATURDAY MARCH 26 | 6 - 9 P.M.
ELEMENTS CONFERENCE CENTER
16235 SOUTH LA GRANGE ROAD,
ORLAND PARK, IL 60467

TICKETS \$30
ON SALE TUESDAY, FEB. 1 @
ORLAND TOWNSHIP & ONLINE

• MORE INFO: ORLANDTOWNSHIP.ORG •



THE ORLAND TOWNSHIP
FOCUS

WINTER NEWSLETTER
January – March 2022

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