

# FOCUS

ON  
THORNTON  
TOWNSHIP



WINTER 2017

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333 E. 162nd Street • South Holland, IL 60473

708-596-6040 • www.thorntontownship.com

# HOLIDAY EDITION

## Why Township Government Is More Necessary Than Ever



Perhaps you've heard me talk about this before. A number of newspapers across this state and other self-anointed guardians of the 'public trust' have taken up the cause of eliminating township government. They claim it is antiquated, duplicative and no longer necessary.

But these critics simply do not understand the role of township government because they are not affected by the problems and concerns so many people have today.

Their children never go to bed hungry. If they don't like their local public school, they can afford to send their child to a private center for learning. These opponents of township government never face having their utilities shut-off, or having to make a choice between paying the rent, refilling a prescription or putting food on the table. If they get sick and need a doctor, they have complete access to public transportation 24-7, or can get into one of their own cars and drive to the doctor's office. But hundreds of residents of Thornton Township can no longer drive because of a physical disability or perhaps because they can't afford the insurance and cannot walk a mile or two – especially during winter months – to the nearest public bus stop.

These self-proclaimed citizen advocates aren't really affected much if state government is paralyzed by personal political agendas. I would like to know for example, how the state's delinquency in passing a budget for two years actually impacted these elitists or their families. Were they all of a sudden unable to purchase prescription medicines, or pay college tuition, or unable to pay their mortgage or feed their families?

Thousands and thousands of Illinois residents have not only witnessed the dysfunction of state government during the past two years, they and their families became victims of it.

The overwhelming majority of Illinoisans are touched directly and personally when government is ill-managed or when it places petty, political agendas above the real problems people face.

There is a desperate need for the critics of township government to make an honest assessment of the problems facing thousands of families and apply it to the failures of government, before they rush to judgment about what is working and what is not.

Here in Thornton Township we provide food for more than 3,500 township families every month. We help hundreds of seniors and others on fixed incomes avoid utility shut-offs.

Our General Assistance Department has helped find gainful employment for over one hundred families – moving them off General Assistance into purposeful, long-term jobs and saving taxpayer dollars. Each year Thornton Township aids more than one thousand senior residents no longer capable of physically doing yard work, to maintain their property – beautifying neighborhoods and creating over one hundred summer jobs for township youth in the process.

In collaboration with South Suburban College, we've initiated programs to help residents without a high school diploma, earn their G.E.D. and go on to complete college-level certificates, Associates Degrees and build the skills required to get a quality job.

Each week we provide transportation services to hundreds of township seniors to shop, seek medical treatment or simply to visit friends and family and we do much more on a daily basis to help pick up the ball that has often been dropped by Washington and Springfield.

Finally, I want the critics of township government to look at what we're doing here in Thornton Township. Put simply, we are doing more, with less.

I believe that elected officials and government at every level have a special responsibility to understand the real problems people face and to address those needs. But government must also be run in a competent, efficient and manageable way so that the services people so badly need can be provided.

Thousands of individuals and families in Thornton Township are dependent on government to help them live a decent life and we're helping to do that while refunding millions of dollars in property taxes to homeowners over the last ten years.

Thornton Township is doing more with less and we're proud of it.

Sincerely,

Frank M. Zuccarelli  
Thornton Township Supervisor



### Upcoming Board Meetings

- November 28, 2017
- December 12, 2017
- December 26, 2017

### The Township buildings will be closed:

- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday November 23, 2017
- Day After Thanksgiving – Friday November 24, 2017
- Christmas Day – Monday December 25, 2017

### Office Locations

- **Thornton Township Town Hall**  
333 East 162nd Street  
South Holland, IL  
708-596-6040
- **Senior Center**  
1420 Huntington Drive  
Calumet City, IL  
708-596-6040 Ext. 3190
- **Senior/Youth and Family Services Center**  
14323 Halsted  
Riverdale, IL  
708-596-6040 Ext. 2000
- **The Food Assistance Center**  
15340 Page Avenue  
Harvey, IL  
708-596-6040 Ext. 3180
- **ZAP**  
16910 Westview  
South Holland, IL



People working with people.

Joyce M. Washington,  
Trustee

Gerald "Jerry" Jones,  
Trustee

Frank M. Zuccarelli, Supervisor

Norbert Cipowski,  
Trustee

Stafford C. Owens,  
Trustee

Jacqueline E. Davis-Rivera,  
Clerk

Cassandra Holbert,  
Assessor C.I.A.O.

Geary DePue,  
Highway Commissioner

Presorted Std  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
South Holland, IL  
Permit No. 618

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CUSTOMER

## CLERK'S CORNER: JACQUELINE E. DAVIS-RIVERA



As we approach the Holiday Season, we reflect on the many things we have done over the year and the many people that have played an important part in our lives. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support by your prayers and attendance at our Annual Town Meeting, our Senior Luncheons and various Township events. We look forward to providing occasions where we can spend time with the residents and the youth in Thornton Township.

This summer my staff and I had the opportunity to participate in the Summer Enrichment Program hosted by our Youth and Family Service Department. We visited three sites and had the pleasure of interacting with young people between nine and thirteen years old where we introduced and enlightened our young people of the importance of voting, the difference that one vote can make and duties of the Clerk's Office. I truly enjoyed the dialog we shared and am looking forward to more opportunities to interact with the young people who reside in our Township. We also participated in some of the Assessors Outreach Programs. We also enjoyed seeing you at those meetings and hearing your issues and your appreciation for the services that we've provided.

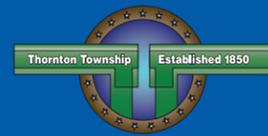
I'd like to remind everyone that the Primary Election is March 20, 2018. You may register to vote, purchase Fishing Licenses, Hunting Licenses, and your Cook County Vehicle Stickers in our office. We also have informational publications and Pace Bus schedules in our office. Temporary Handicap Parking Placard can be issued by our office with a completed application from your physician.

If you have any questions on the services we provide, or if we may be of any service to you, please contact our office at **708 596-6040 ext. 3123 or 3118**. Blessings in all ways.



## General Assistance

The General Assistance Department has been busy at work with the start of the new LIHEAP enrollment period. LIHEAP stands for Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program and is locally administered through CEDA. Several years ago, due to budget cuts CEDA was forced to outsource the processing of LIHEAP applications to community partners. Ms. Tannika Hughes quickly recognized that there was a lack of suitable locations for families within Thornton Township to apply for these services. Supervisor Frank M. Zuccarelli quickly jumped into action and began working with CEDA officials to get the General Assistance Department trained and equipped to become a community partner for CEDA. Now in our third year Thornton Township has a processing site and is serving more clients than ever before. The 2017-2018 LIHEAP period began on October 1, 2017 with this priority period being open to just seniors and people with documented disabilities. When our offices opened on Monday, October 2nd we had over 100 families waiting in our lobby to apply for LIHEAP benefits prior to 9am. In the month of October the General Assistance team has served nearly 1,500 area families and helped them apply for this much needed assistance.



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

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thorntontwp

## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: CASSANDRA HOLBERT

# Property Tax Workshops Help Thousands of Homeowners



More than four thousand township homeowners seeking help in filing a property tax assessment reduction, attended eighteen taxpayer assistance workshops, held throughout Thornton Township recently.

The forums sponsored by Thornton Township Assessor, Cassandra Holbert, provided taxpayers with assistance in completing property tax assessment complaint forms, along with offering information and help in applying for various exemptions available to them to reduce property tax bills.

"No homeowner should ever have to pay more than their fair share in property taxes," Cassandra Holbert said. "That is why my staff and I are deeply committed to doing all we can to get homeowners the help and information they need in correcting assessment mistakes. We want to do all we can to ensure accuracy, fairness and to help cut their property tax burden."

Holbert went on to say that, "Thornton Township Supervisor, Frank Zuccarelli has made doing more with less and accountability to taxpayers, the cornerstone of his administration. That is how the Township has been able to provide high quality services to residents in need, while at the same time refunding millions of dollars in property taxes paid to the township, back to homeowners."

More than 4,400 property tax appeals were submitted to both the Cook County Assessor and the Cook County Board of Review for re-examination and evaluation for tax assessment cuts.

Nearly 350 residents attended the Thornton Township Taxpayer Help workshop alone, with other communities requiring more than one forum to accommodate all residents seeking help.

Those taxpayers who attended the workshops also received free information on

property fraud protection and free estate planning on how to keep their home out of Probate from representatives of the Cook County Recorder of Deeds Office. In addition, George Brown, of Legal Shield was on hand to provide free legal advice and planning.

"I want to personally thank County Assessor Joseph Berrios, Cook County Board of Review Commissioner, Larry Rogers, Jr. and County Recorder of Deeds, Karen Yarbrough for their critical help in sending representatives from their offices to share information and augment my staff in assisting taxpayers," Assessor Holbert continued. "These workshops would never have taken place without their valuable assistance and expertise. I also want to thank South Suburban College, the mayors of all the villages and towns within Thornton Township, local area Park Districts, schools and numerous churches, for offering their facilities to hold the community events that helped so many.

Finally, I want to extend to my staff in the Township Assessor's Office and those caring volunteers who donated their time, my gratitude for their tireless efforts, hard work and enthusiasm. They all went the extra mile in helping taxpayers. Every homeowner in Thornton Township owes each of these individuals a debt of gratitude for their dedication."

**Note:** If for some reason you were unable to attend one of the Property Tax Help Workshops or missed the filing deadline with the Cook County Assessor, there is still time to file an appeal with the Cook County Board of Review by coming to the Thornton Township Assessor's Office at the Thornton Township Hall located at 333 E. 162nd Street, South Holland, Monday thru Friday, 9AM to 4PM.

For more information on filing deadlines or Property Tax Exemptions that may be available to you, call the Thornton Township Assessor's Office at **(708) 596-6040 ext. 3175**.



# Hurricane Harvey

Living by their motto of People Working With People, Thornton Township employees went down to Houston to deliver supplies to the devastated areas in the 5th ward affected by Hurricane Harvey. Once township officials saw the images of people affected, Thornton Township Supervisor Frank M. Zuccarelli soon organized an areawide donation campaign throughout September. Volunteer drivers delivered supplies in trucks donated by Blue Island-based W & W Towing. Along with various other organizations and municipalities such as Lansing, Riverdale, Phoenix, South Holland and South Suburban College, they provided supplies in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, which included water, diapers, baby formula, blankets and hygiene care products. A few years ago, Thornton Township also helped during the Flint, Michigan water crisis.

"With the sheer devastation of the storm, we wanted to do something to help the thousands of people in need," said Frank M. Zuccarelli. "Our hearts and prayers are with the family. We are asking our Thornton Township residents to donate needed supplies to our four township locations."

The donation was for Restoration Square Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral in northeast Houston. Inside the cavernous worship hall, co-pastor Tracy Glenn helped sort the necessities onto long tables. Of the 150 or so people in Restoration Square, about 10 percent had lost their homes, Glenn said. For the sixth time in less than a month, she was using her church to hand out supplies.

"It's definitely appreciated," said Glenn, co-pastor of the Restoration Square Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral. "The donations and love they brought with them, helping us unload, getting items to the people in the community — we're grateful."

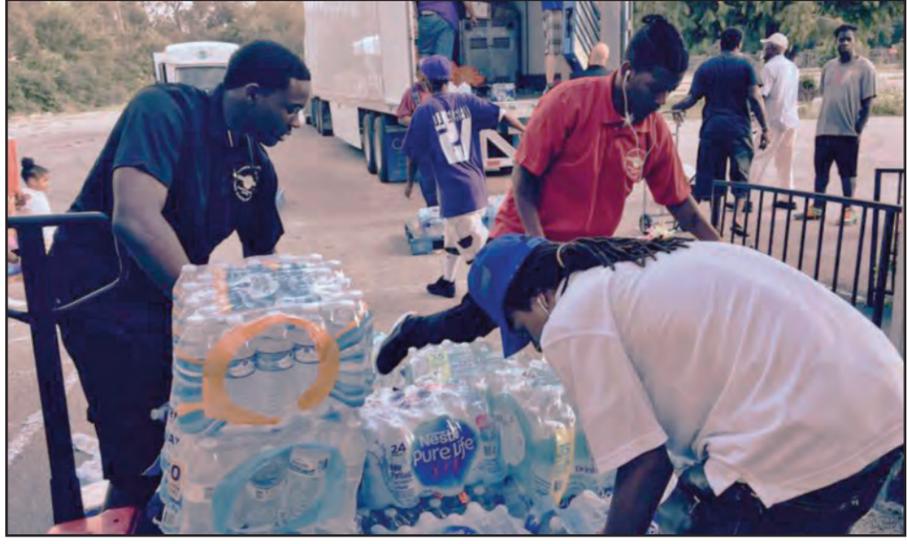
Six township employees went on the trip including Thornton Township communication manager Ernst Lamothe Jr., Nate Fields, Troy O'Quin, Josh Owen, Marshun Tolbert and Julian Wilson.

"We saw some blocks where the homes were completely devastated," said Lamothe Jr. "The water line was halfway up the houses and there was a lot of debris out front. Then two or three blocks over, everything was OK."

Hurricane Harvey caused unprecedented and catastrophic flooding in southeastern Texas. In a four-day period, many areas received more than 40 inches of rain as the system went over eastern Texas and adjacent waters. Harvey is the wettest tropical cyclone on record in the United States. The resulting floods inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, and prompted more than 13,000 rescues.

With people being skeptical of whether their entire Red Cross Donations are going to the cause or if FEMA is reacting quickly enough, Thornton Township wanted to make sure the money and donations went directly to residents.

"All the money donated by individuals for the hurricane relief went 100 percent to the relief and people appreciate that," said Lamothe Jr.



# Pink Out!

## Football & Volleyball Events

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Thornton Township Supervisor Frank Zuccarelli and the Board of Trustees along with Thornton Fractional School District 215 presented the Pink Out Football and Volleyball events. The games featured a Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign featuring Thornton Fractional North High School, 755 Pulaski Road, Calumet City, IL.

"We understand how important of an issue this is not only in October but all year around," said Ernst Lamothe Jr., communication manager for Thornton Township. "And we wanted to get the community involved in making sure we keep this topic in the front of our minds."

Breast cancer is the second most common kind of cancer for women, outside of skin cancer. About one in 8 or (12%) of women in the U.S. will develop invasive breast cancer during their lifetime. This year alone, about 246,660 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women and about 40,450 women will die from breast cancer, per the American Cancer Society.

It was the second year Thornton Township teamed up with a school district last year working with School District 205. "Football and volleyball players and coaches participated by wearing pink paraphernalia like shoes, arm bands and socks," said Omari Garrett, Thornton Fractional North athletic director. "Students who wore pink got into the game free. We definitely want to continue to bring awareness. We had a moment of reflection prior to the National Anthem for anyone who has lost a loved one to breast cancer, know someone who is currently battling it, or survived it."

Breast cancer starts when cells in the breast begin to grow out of control. These cells

usually form a tumor that can often be seen on an X-ray or felt as a lump. After increasing for more than 20 years, breast cancer incidence rates in women began decreasing in 2000. But in recent years while incidence rates have been stable in white women, they have increased slightly in African American women. Breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death in women with only lung cancer killing more women each year.

"It's very important to spread breast cancer awareness because it is a disease taking loved ones away and causing people to suffer," said Jacki E. Davis-Rivera, Thornton Township clerk and breast cancer survivor. "This is just too important to forget about after October."

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month began on October 1 and ended on October 31. It is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Through visibility events, people are encouraged to spread the word about mammograms and early detection.

Most women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early. A mammogram—the screening test for breast cancer—can help find breast cancer early, when it's easier to treat.

Women aged 40–49 are encouraged to talk with their doctor about when to start getting mammograms and how often to get them. Women aged 50–74 are encouraged to get a mammogram at least every 2 years. Anyone with a close family member who has had breast or ovarian cancer is encouraged talk to a doctor about the risk and a plan for early detection.



# Thornton Township Hosts First Annual Basketball Tournament

Teenagers from seven different communities within Thornton Township teamed together with police officers in the first annual Taste of Thornton Township Basketball Tournament as a show of community unity.

The tournament featured teenagers and police officers playing on the same team for the pride of their town or village and focusing on working with each other.

Typically, communities have police officers and kids playing against each other in a basketball tournament; however, Thornton Township officials, decided the alternative made more sense.

"The way you make a community stronger is working together, loving each other, and knowing each other," said Frank M. Zuccarelli, Thornton Township Supervisor. "We shouldn't have kids and police officers on opposite teams. We should have them side by side helping lift each other up. This is something we are going to do every year, and it is going to be bigger and better."

The five-on-five basketball tournament, which was held at South Suburban College, is an example of many Thornton Township's programs that focus on police officers and teenagers learning more about each other. The village of Lansing police department and teens won the tournament. Lansing team members included Detective David Bell, Officer Wilson Pierce, Eric Blair Jr., Jahil Lambert, Nicholas Seaton, Joshua Smith, Deshawn Studway, and Jeremiah Swint.

Zuccarelli is a three-time winner of the Township Supervisor of the Year award, and this year Thornton Township is Illinois' Township of the Year. The basketball tournament was part of Zuccarelli's Faith, Dignity, and Respect initiative, which brings together elected officials, law enforcement, and community leaders to learn from each other. The goal is to build relationships that can increase trust and prevent violence and unrest.

"You could immediately see that the basketball tournament really brought the officers and teenagers together. They huddled with each other, and encouraged and supported one another throughout the day," said Ernst Lamothe Jr., Thornton Township communication manager, who planned the event.

"We saw police officers putting their arms around teenagers and just sitting down and having good conversations, laughing together and having a great time."

In the wake of what happened in Charlottesville, Virginia, and a nation being divided, Thornton Township officials wanted a unifying event.

"It was a great event to see all of us just having fun and bonding," said Officer Mack Sanders, Markham police chief, who took part in the program. "This is something that we definitely want to continue to be part of next year."

Lansing Mayor Patty Eidam and Lansing Board Member Maureen Grady-Pervoich attended the entire tournament and believed it was something that needs to happen among various communities.

"I am so proud that I live within Thornton Township in a place that would put on an event like this," said Pervoich. "I don't know many government organizations who are doing these kind of large scale events and community outreach."



## THORNTON TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES

# Hispanic Heritage Month

Thornton Township celebrated its 13th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month with native music, food and speakers talking about the importance of fostering and educating people about the Latino culture. Entertainers included the Thornton Township Mexican Folkloric Dancers, Magician Ken Mate, and the Holy Cross Immaculate Heart of Mary Marimba Ensemble.

"We have to celebrate the many cultures we have in this country. We have to appreciate the variety of cultures that make our community great. Thornton Township strives to give our residents a variety of fun and

educational programs throughout the year," said Frank M. Zuccarelli, Thornton Township supervisor.

The event took place at the township, 333 E. 162nd St. in South Holland. The speaker was Dr. Richard Rucoba. A World War II veteran in the Marine Corp., he treated the wounded and cared for sick Marines. After the war, Dr. Rucoba studied and graduated from Illinois College of Optometry. But understanding that life is more than just your career, he always believed in volunteering his time. He tutored high school students in math, English and other classes and joined the Lions Club which focuses on helping the visually

and hearing impaired. He has been a Lions member for 55 years, where he went on various Eye Glass Missions to Mexico to examine the poor and prescribe glasses without charge. During one of his 15 Eye Glass mission trips, he drove an hour north of Mexico City and examined 6,280 people in one week.

"Richard gives you so much inspiration and good advice about making sure you live a worthwhile and involved life. He is an example to all of us," said Oscar Canales, who helped coordinate the event.

In addition, because Rucoba believes in staying in shape, he turned his

passion of running into the art of dominating the Senior Olympics. He has a wall full of medals and that includes the national games this year where he competed in four events bringing home three gold medals and one silver. He is an incredible man with an incredible story.

"I was amazed at the number of people who wanted to bring about peace and innovation and start to know each other," said Joyce Washington, Thornton Township Trustee.

Thornton Township is the largest township in Illinois. It is made up of all or part of 17 south suburban communities.





## Spirit of Thornton Township

Join Thornton Township as we welcome Santa and light the Holiday Trees that represent each municipality in Thornton Township

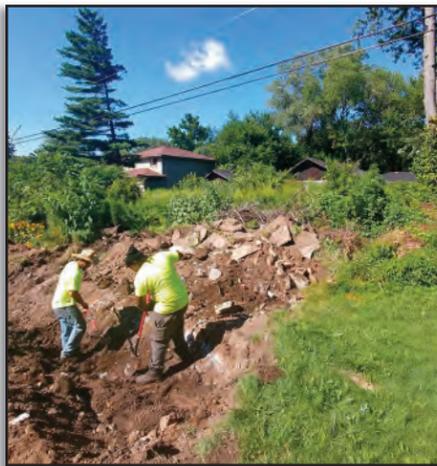
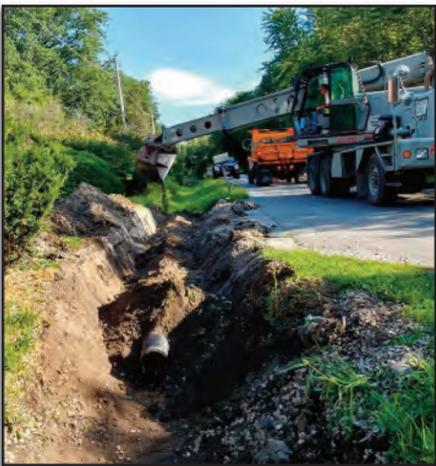
Saturday, November 25th, 2017

333 E. 162nd St.,  
South Holland

Doors Open at 5:30pm  
Tree Lighting at 6pm

Enjoy refreshments, magician, horse, sleigh rides and a special visit from **Santa**.  
Bring your camera!

**W**orking with local officials and using local contractors, Thornton Township continues to maintain and improve roads to keep them in safe condition. That includes road paving, ditch cleaning and smoothing out roads. Geary "Pepe" DePue, Thornton Township's Highway Commissioner, oversees repair and maintenance of the roads in the Thornton Township district. He and his team work hard to upgrade the roads.



# SENIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

**November 27th**  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Calumet City Senior Center  
1420 Huntington Dr.

**Entertainment by: Edizon**

\$15.00 in township  
\$20.00 out of township  
For Seniors Age 60+

# Community Township Picnic





## Senior<sub>RX</sub>



### Blood Pressure Screenings

Daily 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Thornton Township Hall  
Calumet City Senior Center  
and Riverdale Senior Center



### Cholesterol and Glucose Testing

Monday through Friday  
9:00 am - 3:45 pm  
Thornton Township Hall

Two hour fasting is required and results are given within three minutes. There is a nominal fee to help cover the cost of materials.



### Senior Health Insurance Program (S.H.I.P.)

This free program is sponsored by the Illinois Department of Insurance and provides counseling to seniors. This public service is designed to help answer questions, and organize and assist in the filing of insurance papers to Medicare and supplemental insurance companies. The service also provides assistance in comparisons of supplemental insurance plans and affordable Med D drug plans. Now serving you at three (3) locations.



## Senior<sub>TRANSPORTATION</sub>

The Thornton Township Senior Transportation Program operates a curb-to-curb service for township seniors age 60 and older. Our service complies with all American With Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Service is available from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday – Friday to any point within the township and designated medical facilities only.

**Appointments are made on a first call, first serve basis.** Medical appointments are given priority status. Residents are asked to call the township dispatch office with any changes to your appointment.

Suggested donation for each one-way ride is \$1.00. An Exact Fare Only Policy is also in place to avoid the bus drivers from having to handle money on the busses.



To schedule a ride, call  
**708-339-9980**



For further information on the program, call  
**708-596-6040, Ext. 4011**

### Senior Transportation Schedule

The following is a list of the only major medical facilities outside the township that riders may be transported to.

- **DaVita Comprehensive Renal Service**, 222 Douglas, Hammond
- **Governors Highway Clinic**, 17901 Governors Highway, Homewood
- **South Suburban Hospital**, 17800 Kedzie, Hazel Crest
- **MetroSouth Medical Center**, 12935 South Gregory, Blue Island
- **St. Margaret Mercy Healthcare Center**, (North) 5500 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
- **Hammond Clinic**, 7905 Calumet Avenue, Munster
- **Community Hospital**, 901 MacArthur Blvd., Munster

### Shopping is also provided to the following locations on these specified days:

- **Monday:** Halsted Street Shopping Area (Homewood)
- **Tuesday:** Jewel, Walt's & Aldi's (South Holland), Ultra Food & Walmart (Lansing) 2:00 pm Return
- **Wednesday:** River Oaks, East & West (Calumet City) 2:00 pm Return
- **Thursday:** Super Walmart & The Landings (Lansing)
- **Friday:** Food 4 Less (Dolton), Almar Plaza (Dolton), and Pete's Fresh Market (Calumet City)

All township bus drivers have CDL (Commercial Drivers Licenses) and must comply with all IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) regulations and guidelines.

\*Funds (in whole/part) for this program were provided through an award from the Suburban Area Agency on Aging under Title III of the Older Americans Act, as administered through the Illinois Department on Aging and Federal Administration on Aging. Thornton Township does not discriminate in admission to programs or activities or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights



### 55/Alive Mature Driving Course

This is a 2-day instruction course that refines existing safe, defensive driving techniques.

55/Alive teaches preventive measures to use when driving that saves lives. Upon completion, a certificate is provided that will entitle participants to receive a car insurance premium discount.

This course is currently offered at the Senior Center in Calumet City.

For upcoming dates call:  
**708-596-6040, 3190**

\$15 for AARP members  
\$20 for non-members



### Income Tax Service

Thornton Township, in conjunction with A.A.R.P., assists persons 65 years of age and older with federal and state income tax preparation. This service is provided every Friday beginning on the first Friday of February through the end of the tax season in April.



### Senior Committee on Aging

This committee meets monthly to advise the township of the needs and concerns of their senior community.

They also serve as volunteer coordinators for luncheons and special township events. A list of members is available at either the Township Hall or Senior Center.



### Exercise Class

This class provides light to moderate aerobic workouts to aid seniors in maintaining health and fitness.

A certified instructor currently conducts this class

**Monday and Friday**  
Senior Center  
Calumet City

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Wednesday**  
Thornton Township Hall  
in the lower level

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Tuesday and Thursday**  
class is scheduled at the  
Senior Center in Riverdale

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

## SENIOR SERVICES



### Senior Luncheon Program

Thornton Township senior citizens, 60 years of age and older, are entitled to attend one luncheon per week at your designated town luncheon site. There are currently thirteen luncheon facility sites located throughout the township. There is a nominal fee charged per meal. The luncheon program is designed to provide a place to meet new friends in a social setting, eat a nourishing meal and to keep you informed of current information affecting seniors. Proof of residency and age are required when you sign up. For information call **708-596-6040, Ext. 3170 or 3190.**

#### Tuesday

- Harvey: Ascension Church, 15234 Myrtle
- Lansing #1: Eisenhower Center, 2550 178th Street
- Lansing #2: Thornton Township Senior Center, 1420 Huntington Drive
- Hazel Crest, American Legion Hall, 17034 Park Avenue

#### Wednesday

- Dolton: Park Fieldhouse, 721 Engle Street
- Riverdale: Thornton Township Senior / Youth & Family Center, 14323 S. Halsted
- Homewood: Freedom Village, 935 Maple

#### Thursday

- Calumet City #1: Thornton Township Senior Center, 1420 Huntington Drive
- Calumet City #2: Downey Park, Stewart Ave & Jeffery Ave
- South Holland: Thornton Township Hall, 333 E. 162nd
- Burnham: Village Hall, 13925 Entre Ave

Lunch & Movie Days are open to all senior Township residents. Call **(708) 596-6040, ext. 3170** for movie dates and listings.

#### Wednesday Lunch & Movie Day Location:

- Thornton Township Senior Center, 1420 Huntington Drive, Calumet City

#### Thursday Lunch & Movie Day Location:

- Thornton Township Senior/Youth & Family Services Center, 14323 Halsted, Riverdale



### Pinochle Club

Every Tuesday 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm  
Calumet City Senior Center

### Bunco Club

Every Thursday 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm  
Calumet City Senior Center  
*Pinochle & Bunco: \$3 per person*

### Bingo

1st Wednesday Every Month  
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm  
Calumet City Senior Center  
*\$5 per person*

### Bid Whist Club

FREE Every Tuesday  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Riverdale: Thornton Township Senior/Youth & Family Center



### Senior Trips

A variety of one day trips are sponsored each month from February through November to theaters, professional sporting events, Museums, or Casinos. Due to the popularity of these trips, seniors are requested to reserve tickets in advance.



### Information and Referral Program

Senior citizens can obtain forms and receive current information regarding Medicare forms, Social Security forms, legal services, housing, Illinois Living Will Act forms, and Illinois Statutory Short forms such as durable power of attorney for health care and property.

Other information affecting local seniors will also be disseminated as the information becomes available. Now serving you at three (3) locations.



### Benefit Access Application (BAA)

*Formerly Circuit Breaker*

A program providing assistance with license plates and bus fares for qualifying seniors and persons with disabilities. Assistance in preparing your claim is available beginning annually in mid-February. Call for information or to make an appointment.  
**708-596-6040, Ext. 3170, 3190 or 2000.**

Now serving you in three (3) locations.



### State of Illinois Identification Card

Twice a year, Thornton Township in conjunction with the Secretary of State's Office, offers seniors 65 years of age and older an opportunity to get their I.D. card at the township. Call for information and requirements.  
**(708)-596-6040, Ext. 3170 or 3190.**



## Upcoming Events

**Thornton Township Senior Center  
1420 Huntington Drive, Calumet City, IL**

Tickets for events are sold on a first come – first serve basis.

**For more information call  
(708) 596-6040, EXT. 3190**



**Monday,  
November 27, 2017  
11:00 am – 3:00 pm**

\$15 per person for Township residents  
\$20 per person for out of Township residents  
For seniors age 60+

**SENIOR  
NEW  
YEAR'S  
PARTY**

**Friday, December 29, 2017  
11:00 am – 3:00 pm**

\$15 per person for Township residents  
\$20 per person for out of Township residents



# SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



What a glorious summer we had with the 9-13 year old residents of Thornton Township! It is a unique opportunity to be able to engage both youth and parents alike, but we managed to do it once again. Thanks to a dedicated team of adults, young adults (students ages 16 and up) and teenagers (volunteers ages 14 & 15), Thornton Township was able to serve well over 100 youth at three locations (Riverdale, Harvey & Dolton).

We served these youth by daily facilitating scholastic, social and character development activities. Each summer we choose 3-4 areas to develop knowledge, skills and interest. The 3 areas this summer were Rocket building, Politics with integrity and Wealth building. Our very own Clerk, Jacki Davis, presented to each group.

We also took 4 field trips that expanded our youth mentally, socially and/or physically. The trips were Wheaton Park District Team Building, The Salvation Army Kroc Center, The Chopping Block (Chef guided cooking and dining) and The Family Picnic with entertainment and food.

Each year we look forward to growing our program in excellence, affect and participation. If you have 9-13 year old youth looking for a great summer, consider Thornton Township's Summer Enrichment Program and it's all less than \$100.



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEWS

### Bowler Joey Glowacki Named to 2018 Special Olympics

Joey Glowacki, a client of LARC, an agency in Lansing that serves adults with developmental disabilities, received some special recognition this fall. He is headed to the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle next July to participate in the bowling portion.

Glowacki has been bowling at Lan-Oak Lanes for the past seven years with the Thornton Township Bowling Busters. Beverly Tomczak, Special Services/Assessor Clerk for Thornton Township, and Mona Orellena, coach the group of about 65 special needs bowlers ranging from age 21-74. The group bowls weekly throughout the year.

"Joey is a very good sport. He's always ready to help out the next guy and always roots on the other members. It's not all about skill, but very much about sportsmanship," said Tomczak.

Being selected to advance to the USA games is quite unusual and only a small number of athletes in the state have this opportunity.

"This is the first time that we're aware of that an athlete in one of our programs has done this," said Thornton Township Supervisor Frank Zuccarelli, who surprised Glowacki with the announcement and presented him with a certificate.

"Of over 23,000 athletes in the state of Illinois, just 46 of them are going to the USA Games," said Chris Winston, Chief Marketing Officer for Special Olympics Illinois. "It's a great honor for any athlete because their journey to get there has been paved with gold medals."



**Thornton Township Holiday Dinner**  
 Please Join Us!  
**Saturday, December 9, 2017**  
 12:00pm - 4:00pm  
 Doors Open at 11:30am

**South Suburban College Fitness Center**  
 15800 S. State St.  
 South Holland, IL

Thornton Township and Supervisor Frank M. Zuccarelli continue to provide a social service safety net to all seventeen municipalities that encompass Thornton Township. For more information, call 708-596-6040 ext 3168

JOYCE M. WASHINGTON  
Trustee  
NORBERT CIPOWSKI  
Trustee  
STAFFORD OWENS  
Trustee  
GERALD "JERRY" JONES  
Trustee

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Supervisor  
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JACQUELINE E. DAVIS- RIVERA  
Clerk  
CASSANDRA HOLBERT,  
Assessor C.I.A.O.  
GEARY DEPUE  
Highway Commissioner

# Taste of Thornton Township Recap

The 16th annual Taste of Thornton Township featured more than 1,200 people enjoying one of the last summer festivals of the year. The event, which took place at the township headquarters at 333 E. 162nd St. in South Holland, had a variety of food vendors serving ribs, hot dogs, hamburgers, catfish, tacos, Chinese, pizza, corn, jerk chicken and more. There were also a large selection of craft vendors. The community was treated to free back to school haircuts, bookbags w/school supplies, games and carnival rides, bingo, a classic car show, farm animals from the Illinois Horse Rescue of Will County and the first annual Taste of Thornton Township Basketball Tournament, where teens and police officers played on the same team for the pride of their town. There was also a princess and superhero breakfast for young kids. The afternoon featured a wide selection of entertainment including Thornton Township Mexican Folkloric Dancers, Line Dancing, Steppers, Chicago Boyz Acrobats, Visions of Santana, Rico – Michael Jackson Impersonator, Past Life and the headliner - The Dramatics

“At Thornton Township, we want to offer our residents the best. It was just a great day of family fun and fellowship,” said Jerry Jones, Thornton Township Board of Trustee member. “We value our community and we enjoy giving back in every way we can.”

We would like to once again thank our incredible sponsors: Gift of Hope, MB Financial Bank, School District #205, Excel Printing and Mailing, Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Department, ComEd, South Holland Bank & Trust and Ma'Dear Home Services.



## SPECIAL SERVICES

We continued to have various events for our residents under Thornton Township's Special Services program. Those events included a fishing derby, a summertime splash activity and a Halloween party.

