



TRAILS

Connecting Communities: Frankfort, Frankfort Square, Mokena, Orland Park, Tinley Park, and all unincorporated Frankfort

By Jim Moustis, Frankfort Township Supervisor



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Supervisor's Note	1
Frankfort Township Road District	1-3
Will County Service Center for Concerns	4
Senior Activities	5-6
Frankfort Township Assessor	7-10
Frankfort Township-Dial-A-Ride	11
Frankfort Township Animal Control	11-13
Frankfort Township Food Pantry	13-14

Smaller local government provides quality service's at a lower cost to taxpayers. Smaller government is well positioned to respond to the present budget challenges. Expenditures per capita in the smallest local government were approximately one-fourth or less that of the city of Chicago.

Townships were established in 1850 and are an integral part of local government and their success. The success of smaller local govern-

ment comes from various factors.

Local elected officials in smaller governments take a more direct role in administering government finances and services. Individual citizens have more influence in smaller government while interest groups have less influence.

Frankfort Township's many services include:

- Transportation Dial-A-Rice/Pace
- Animal Control
- Food Pantry

- Senior Housing
- Senior Programs
- Weekly Activities
- Special Trips
- Meals On Wheels
- Nurses Closet
- Handicap Placards
- Mosquito Abatement
- RTA Reduced Fare Pass
- Voter Registration
- Early Voting
- General Assistance

Frankfort Township is a unit of local government which takes great pride in having a direct relationship to serving our constituents'; our citizens are our main concern.

Branches, Permits and Sod Repair

By: Bill Carlson, Highway Commissioner

Branch pickup season is upon us. Our first pickup day was Monday, May 2, 2011 with continued weekly Monday pickups through the last Monday in September, 2011. Call in is not required for this service. Please have your branches out by 7 a.m. on Monday. Weather,

equipment failure, and heavy work load can delay pickups. If that is the case, we will be out the next day or as soon as possible. In the event a holiday falls on a Monday and our office is closed, branch pickup will resume the following business day.

Our branch pickup pro-

gram is for the sole use of the residents of unincorporated Frankfort Township and shall not be used by contractors and/or residents for complete landscape removal.

You must call a tree service company for these types of removals.

(cont. page 2)



Branches, Permits and Sod Repair (continued)

By: Bill Carlson, Highway Commissioner

If branches are not stacked properly, a restack notice will be issued. Branches will then be picked up the following week.

Check your Mailbox and Sod

Spring is a great time to check your mailbox for any necessary repairs or replacements. Heavy snow can damage mailboxes and posts. In many instances, the mailboxes are knocked down by the weight of the snow and not the snowplow blade. Keep your mailbox properly maintained to avoid this and to insure the continued delivery of your mail.

Please report any mailbox or sod damage due to snow plowing to the Road District office 708-479-9673 weekdays from 7:30 am-3:30 pm. Any damages will be repaired in a timely manner as weather permits.

Permit Requirements

Any time work is done involving the parkway or road



in Township right-of-way, a permit/bond is required with fees charged accordingly. The amount of the fee will depend on the type of work being done and if you have curb and sidewalk or just ditch and culvert. Fees are refundable, minus a \$25 inspection fee, after the following have been met: 1) all work has been completed; 2) any necessary repair work to the road and right-of-way has been completed; 3) after the permit has been released.

The Frankfort Township Road District reserves the right to shut down any work being done until said permit is obtained. Permits are required for new construction (home, garage, shed, deck, additions),



pool installations, driveways, curb and/or sidewalk installation or replacement. The Will County Building Dept. requires a copy of the Frankfort Township Road District's permit before any permit is issued from their office.

Driveway lights and sprinkler systems cannot be installed in the parkway. They should be installed within the confines of your property. Damages due to unauthorized installations are the complete responsibility of the homeowner.

Unauthorized work may be removed and charges for the work will be assessed to the homeowner. So, be sure to secure your permits.



Branches, Permits and Sod Repair *(continued)*

By: Bill Carlson, Highway Commissioner

Branch Pickup Requirements

*Place cut ends toward the roadway. Crews are not allowed to pick up material on private property.

* Keep branches as long as possible. A diameter up to 6 inches will be accepted.

* Do not pile up branches. Branches shall be stacked in 3 feet high by 3 feet wide piles. Crews will accept up to 4 pile per household per week.

* Brush bundles 4 feet or shorter must be tied with no more than 4 feet of string or twine at the largest part of the bundle. These bundles should be no larger than 16 inches in diameter. Wire or metal must *not* be used since it is harmful to our equipment.

* Brush bundles must be free of stumps, root balls, dirt, stones, met-

als, old wood, construction materials, and other trash. Branches/brush put in containers will not be picked up.

* Thorny branches must be tied and stacked separately from other brush. Please leave this brush to the side of all other brush.

* This service is for branches only. Landscape timbers and wood fencing will not be picked up.

As a result of the branch pickup program, wood chips are available. There is no charge for this service at the present time. If you would like to be placed on the wood chip list, call the Road district office at 708-479-9673. Our office will call you to schedule a delivery day when wood chips are available.

Leaf Pickup

Please be aware that our leaf pickup program is a



fall program that starts on or about October and ends approximately Thanksgiving time. Any leaves needing disposing of between now and October will be the homeowner's responsibility. Please check with your local garbage company for their requirements for leaf pickup. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



**WILL COUNTY CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS
COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT**

**Community Service Home Equity Conversion
Block Grant (CSBG) Mortgage (HECM)
Counseling**

These funds are used to develop programs and services designed especially to meet local needs. The following are the programs offered by Will County Center for Community Concerns:

Housing Counseling

WCCCC is a HUD Certified Housing Counseling Agency that provides counseling for: Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (Reverse mortgages for homeowners age 62 and over), pre-purchase counseling for new/first time homebuyers, Mortgage Default/Loss Mitigation (counseling to resolve or prevent a mortgage delinquency

Mortgage Assistance and Counseling, Offers comprehensive housing counseling for Will county residents.

Need extra money to meet your monthly expenses? Need money to pay off debt, home repairs etc...?

Emergency Services

This program provides assistance to individuals who are facing eviction or are threatened to have their water service disconnected.

Employment Support

This program assists eligible customers with such items as daycare cost, transportation and work supplies that enable them to obtain/maintain employment.

Prescription Drug Assistance

This program issues vouchers for prescribed medications to eligible customers for use at participating pharmacies.

CSBG Loan Program

This program has funds available for small business start up or expansion. The business owner must be working with a bank or other financial organization and be willing to employ low-income individuals.

CSBG Scholarship Program

This program awards scholarships each year to low-income and disadvantaged students of high academic achievement or potential. Students must be enrolled or enrolling in an accredited institute of higher education in the state of Illinois.

For other programs, more information, and to see if you qualify for these programs, go to www.wccc.net or call

815-722-0722.



Seniors ~ Out & About

By: Jodi Gallagher-Dilling, Senior Activity Director

I can't believe that winter is finally over and we can enjoy the spring and summer events that our township has planned. My name is Jodi Gallagher-Dilling and I am the Senior Activity Director for Frankfort Township.

Below you will find a list of events and activities. You must call in on the 15th of the month prior to the event starting at 7:30 am to make your reservation. Please leave your name and phone number and I

will call to let you know if you made the list. Space is limited on some of the trips and payment is non-refundable unless the reservation is rebooked. Most trips have a waiting list.



DATE	COST	DESCRIPTION
May 4, 2011	\$5.00	Aurora Outlet Mall .. Lunch not provided
May 11 & 12, 2010	\$195.00	Saugatuck / Holland Michigan Overnight Trip includes tulip fest, antiques, shopping, dining... fun for all!
May 18, 2011	\$28.00	Four Winds Casino, Michigan, cost includes \$15.00 gaming voucher and \$10.00 food credit.
May 22, 2011	\$5.00 Adult \$3.00 Child	Senior Picnic ~ Bring Your Family. Cutest baby contest, games, prizes, car show, food, entertainment—something for everyone. Located at LaPorte Rd., one mile east of Wolf Road at the Hickory Creek Preserve in the Hickory Hollow Shelter. BYOB
June 1, 2011	\$5.00	Harrah's Casino, Joliet, IL
June 8, 2011	\$5.00	Farm & Fleet; lunch at Bakers Square not included in cost
June 15, 2011	\$65.00	Richard Crowe's Passport to Chicago. Discover Old Pilsen, the Kolars-Mrs. O'Leary's landlord, the battle of Viaduct, visit Vechechy's bakery, chapel at Bohemian, Holy Infant of Prague, Lunch at Klas Restaurant and much more. 10am—4 pm.
July 6, 2011	\$5.00	Hollywood Casino, Joliet, IL
July 13, 2011	\$5.00	Orland Mall / Wal-Mart ~ Lunch not included (TBD)

Seniors ~ Out & About (cont..)

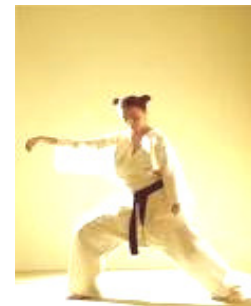
By: Jodi Gallagher-Dilling, Senior Activity Director

DATE	COST	DESCRIPTION
July 20, 2011	\$65.00	Holocaust Museum / Baha'i Temple, chartered bus and lunch will be included. Please call for details.
August 3, 2011	\$5.00	Harrah's Casino, Joliet, IL
August 10, 2011	TBD	Surprise shopping and lunch trip.
August 17, 2011	TBD	Annual Peotone Beir Stube Dinner
September 7, 2011	\$5.00	Hollywood Casino, Joliet, IL
September 14, 2011	\$5.00	Farm & Fleet, lunch not included in cost.
September 28, 2011	TBD	Volo, IL antiquing, museum and lunch.
September 30, 2011	TBD	Fall Kick-off BBQ, fun & games for the whole family at the Frankfort Township.



I hope that you enjoy the trips we have planned for you. We also have a bulletin board with extra surprise trips posted periodically. It is located in the lower level of the township building. We offer Tai Chi classes every Monday from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. The cost is \$15.00 for 12 sessions or \$2.00 per class. We have Wii Bowling the 2nd and 4th Monday of

every month at 9:30 am with a Meals on Wheels lunch to follow. We host Bingo every Tuesday and Friday starting at 11 am. A lunch is provided first, for a \$2.00 donation by Senior Services of Will County. We have a craft class every Thursday morning starting at 9:30 am. We are always in need of yarn and fabric. We are open



to any new craft ideas and welcome new people to join all of the listed activities. Dial-A-Ride service is provided free of charge to all seniors who participate in the above programs. We welcome you to join us, have some fun, meet new people and participate in what your township has to offer.

General Homestead Exemption

By: Joseph Kral, Frankfort Township Assessor

Are you receiving the exemptions you are entitled to? Every Monday through June, the Frankfort Assessor's office has extra staff on hand to assist you with all your exemption needs. As always, feel free to call with any questions. (815) 464-3180.



For tax year 2010 and 2011 the General Homestead Exemption is 6,000 off the assessed value. To receive this exemption, you must:

- Have lived on the property, which is your primary residence, on or before January 1 of the tax year; otherwise, the value may be prorated for the portion of the year that is was owner occupied.

The township Assessor's office initiates this exemption.

Homestead Improvement Exemption

This exemption defers for four years any increase in the assessment of your property due to an addition or other improvements to your home for which the Township Assessor would add value.



- A maximum of \$25,000 of assessed value or \$75,000 "Market Value" may be deferred under this program.
- The property has to be the taxpayer's principal residence.
- Two different improvements on the same property can run concurrently as long as \$45,000 is not exceeded.

The Frankfort Township Assessor's office initiates this exemption.

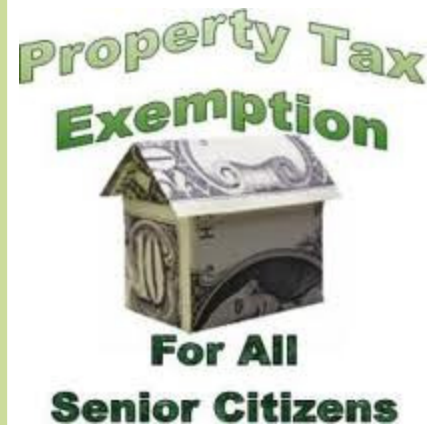


Senior Homestead Exemption

This exemption, specifically for seniors, lowers the equalized assessed value of your property by \$4,000, and may be claimed in addition to the General Homestead Exemption.

To receive this exemption, you must:

- Have lived on the property, which is your primary residence, on or before January 1 of the tax year; otherwise, the value may be prorated for the portion of the year that it was owner occupied by a senior citizen.
- Have reached age 65 anytime during the tax year.
- Apply for the exemption at the Township Assessor's office. You will need to bring proof of age (a drivers license is sufficient), a copy of the property's deed, and your tax bill with you when you apply. If your property is in a trust, you will also need a copy of the trust agreement indicating the beneficiary.



Senior Citizens Tax Freeze Homestead Exemption

This exemption freezes the assessment on your property if your total household income is \$55,000 or less. This exemption may be claimed in addition to those described above. This exemption does not freeze your tax rate; please understand that the actual taxes which you pay may continue to increase based upon the amounts levied by the taxing bodies where you reside (school, park, village or city, township, etc.).

The filing deadlines for this exemption is July 1 of each year. To receive this exemption, you must:

- Have fulfilled a property residency requirement as explained on the application form.
- Be age 65 and older
- Have a maximum household income of \$55,000 or less. This household income includes that of all persons using the property as their principal dwelling place on January 1 of the tax year.
- Please note that this exemption is income based and therefore, must be renewed annually. The Supervisor of Assessments for Will County mails applications to all taxpayers receiving the Senior Homestead Exemption.



First-time applicants can obtain forms from the Frankfort Township Assessors Office or the Will County Supervisor of Assessments Office.

Disabled Persons' Homestead Exemption

This exemption lowers the equalized assessed value of your property by \$2,000 starting in a tax year 2007, and may be claimed in addition to the Homestead Limited Exemption and the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemptions, if applicable. This exemption cannot be claimed in addition to the Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption or the Disabled Veterans' Exemption of \$70,000; you can only receive one of these exemptions and, if you are a veteran, you should choose to apply for the one most beneficial to you. To receive this exemption, you must:

- Have lived on the property on or before January 1 of the tax year; otherwise, the value may be prorated for the portion of the year that is was owner occupied by a qualified disabled person.
- Be disabled under the Federal Social Security Act.
- Supply a copy of your Illinois Disabled Person Identification Card standing stating that you are under a Class 2 disability (for each year you qualify)

** Please note that this exemption may require annual renewal. We are awaiting clarification on this from the Illinois Department of Revenue.*

First-time applicants can obtain forms from the Township Assessor Office or the Will County Supervisor of Assessments Office.

Disabled Veterans' Standard Homestead Exemption

This exemption started in tax year 2007 and lowers the equalized assessed value of your property by \$2,500 if your disability is service-connected and you are at least 50% disabled, but less than 70% disabled. This exemption lowers the equalized assessed value of your property by \$5,000 if your disability is service-connected and you are at least 70% disabled.

This exemption may be claimed in Exemption and the Senior Citizen Exemption and the Senior Citizen Exemption, if applicable; however, it cannot be claimed in addition to the Disabled Veterans' Exemption of \$70,000 or the Disabled Persons' Exemption, you must:



addition to the General Homestead Limited Homestead Exemption, if applicable; however, it cannot be claimed in addition to the Disabled Veterans' Exemption of \$70,000 or the Disabled Persons' Exemption. To receive this

- Have served in the United States Armed Forces, the Illinois National Guard, or Reserve Forces, and have received an honorable discharge.
- Have lived on the property on or before January 1 of the tax year; otherwise, the value may be prorated for the portion of the year that is was owner occupied by a qualified disabled veteran.
- Supply a copy of the first two pages of your Award Letter.
- Please note that this exemption requires annual renewal.

The current Disabled Veterans' Homestead Exemption that provides up to a \$70,000 reduction in assessed value for federally-approved specially adapted housing will continue to be available through the local Veterans' Affairs Office.

Returning Veteran Homestead Exemption

This exemption started in tax year 2007 and lowers the equalized assessed value of your property by \$5,000 in the year you return from active duty in an armed conflict. It is a two-year exemption, and can be claimed in addition to the General Homestead Limited Exemption and any applicable Senior Citizen Exemption. To receive this exemption, you must:

- Use the property as your principal residence
- Supply a copy of your DD214, if applicable; otherwise, a copy of your most recent military orders.

Your completed application must be notarized and returned to:

Frankfort Township Assessor
11000 W. Lincoln Hwy.
Frankfort, IL 60423
(815) 846-3180
Or

Supervisor of Assessments
302 N. Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432-4059
(815) 740-4648



Dial-A-Ride Service: “For the ride of your life”

By Dennis Grove, Transportation Manager

Frankfort Township is honored to serve the community by providing transportation to individuals with an extremely diverse range of needs. Numerous people rely on us daily to transport them to work, doctor visits, grocery shopping, senior activities at the Township building (no charge), and many other destinations.* We regard our community as our extended family, something which we arduously but gratifyingly translate into one very

pleasant travel experience.

Do you need a ride? Give us a call no later than 1:00 PM the day before you need to go to schedule curbside service to your destination.

*See our Web Site or call the dispatch center at 815-806-2767 for fare rates, destinations to which we provide service and other details. Rides are based on available seating and open times.



FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP ONE-WAY FARES

Adults	\$4.00
Seniors (65+)	\$2.00
Riders with Disabilities	\$2.00
Students (7+)	\$2.00
Children (7-) must be accompanied by an adult.	

Frankfort Township Animal Control

By: Karen Zobbeck Animal Control Officer

The Animal Control Department is always working hard to service the Township residents and pets. We make every effort on helping the community with knowledge relating to our Animal Control Ordinances and any questions regarding animals. Trying to address all of your questions and

complaints in a timely manner and helping to ensure safety for both residence and animals. Always going that extra mile to reunite lost pets with their families. We continue working in conjunction with shelters and rescues to find unclaimed pets a new home/family. When finding new homes for

lost animals it takes a lot of team work, working with our local groomers, veterinarians, shelters and rescues to insure a chance for these animals.

Your Township ID tags, rabies vaccination, and micro chipping all help to assist the Animal



Frankfort Township Animal Control (cont)

By: Karen Zobjeck, Animal Control Officer

Control Department when returning the pet home. Township ID tags can be purchased annually for \$5.00 at the Township Office, Animal Control Office or your local Village Hall. Don't forget to bring proof of your pets current rabies vaccination (date or tag number).

We understand times are hard, but you need to remember to spay and neuter your pets and keep them updated on their vaccinations.

We are fortunate that there are so many great animal hospitals and clinics in our area;

- Mokena Animal Clinic
- NAWS
- Midwest Animal Hos-

- Frankfort Animal Care Center
- Sackman Veterinarian Clinic
- Lincolnway

Our area also has an emergency Animal Hospital, Animal Emergency of Mokena located at 19110 88th Ave., Mokena, IL 708) 326-4800.

There are also great animal shelters;

- PAWS
- TLC
- South Suburban

You can also adopt through NAWS. You can't forget about our groomers, they are a part of our animals hygiene. Some in our area are;

- All American
- Midwest
- I'll Be Doggone

(you are able to wash

your own dog here), just to name a few and there are mobile groomers who will come to your home as well.

We also have some distinctive specialty shops for your pets, Chew On This and I'll Be Doggone where you can find unique items from food and bakery to collars and toys.



Frankfort Township Animal Control ~ NUISANCE WILDLIFE

Remember when the seasons change, there are changes also with our local wildlife. Make sure your window wells are covered, garbage can lids are closed and if you are able, close any openings around your deck and don't forget to get your handy man up on the roof to check for any other openings. Keep an eye on your pets when they go outside. The Frankfort Township does not handle nuisance wildlife, however there are plenty of Trappers who will come into our area to handle nuisance wildlife.

Frankfort Township Animal Control

By: Karen Zobbeck, Animal Control Officer



Sometimes our pets just get bored in your yard or at your home, remember your pets need exercise too. They need activities and socialization. Walks, play dates, Doggie Day Care, and dog parks are great ways to give your pets the exercise they need.

But first you need to analyze what type of pet you own.

Does your dog play well with other dogs? Some don't play well with others, so they would need individual walks and playtime. Is your dog energetic? Dogs with a

a lot of energy enjoy agility activities.

With pets like cats and small domesticated and exotics, there are other ways to give them the exercise they need by walking them on a harness, outdoor enclosure, and just individual interaction.

"Always going the extra mile on finding lost pets their families ..."

Remember, when taking your pet for a walk, have them on a leash and pickup after them.

Frankfort Township Food Pantry

By: James Moustis, Supervisor

We at the Frankfort Township Food Pantry have truly been blessed. Our community continues to provide for the needs of our citizens. Each month, approximately 200 families are given assistance through the generosity of your donations. It is through these donations that

we can provide food and gift cards for these families.

If you are interested in donating to the food pantry, please call 815) 806-2761 for more information. We accept food donations and \$10.00 denomination gift cards for local grocery stores in the Frankfort and Mokena

areas. Please don't forget our local Post Office food drive on Saturday, May 14th, 2011. This food drive is a major service in stocking our shelves for the summer months.

We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers who help us in the pantry all



Frankfort Township Food Pantry

By: James Moustis, Township Supervisor (continued)

year long, keeping us organized and well maintained.

The Frankfort Township Food Pantry is available to all township residents in need. Since we work by appointments, a phone call to the pantry is requested.

A current "wish list" is attached to the Pantry Tab on our website www.frankforttownship.com

We would like to acknowledge all the local businesses, churches, restaurants, and individuals who so graciously donate to the food pantry on a regular basis. It is with heartfelt gratitude that we thank you.

Lastly, know that our door is open to help our neighbors experiencing hardship.

Please keep your donations coming, we gladly accept food, cleaning supplies, paper products, \$10.00 increment gift cards, and monetary donations.



The Frankfort Township Food Pantry is located on the lower level at the East end of the building.

11000 W. Lincoln Hwy
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-806-2761
Monday—Friday
8 am—4pm



FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP OFFICES

11000 W. Lincoln Highway
PO Box 782
Frankfort, IL 60423
P) 815.469.4907
F) 815.469.4911

ELECTED OFFICIALS Supervisor

James Moustis

Trustees

Bruce Ebert
Nick George
Greg Griffin
David Smith

Assessor

Joseph Kral

Highway Commissioner

Bill Carlson

Clerk

Marguerite McDermed

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS Board Meetings

7 pm on 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month followed by Board Workshop on 2nd Monday

Planning Commission

7pm on 1st Wednesday of the Month