

**HT REVEALS NEW
WEBSITE - PAGE 2**

**RECYCLING EXTRAVAGANZA
AUGUST 14, AT TOWN HALL**

**GET INVOLVED: BECOME
AN EMA VOLUNTEER**

August, 2010 | WWW.HANCOCKCOUNTYVTMAGAZINE.COM

Happenings



Freedom **BASH**

**FULL RECAP OF OPERATION SUPPORT
OUR TROOPS: FREEDOM BASH 2010**



**ONE STOP.
INFO YOU NEED.**

**THE NEW:
WWW.HANOVER-TOWNSHIP.ORG**

Find us on:



MORE RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Hanover Township is pleased to announce the launch of our new website. The Township wanted to bring an interactive, dynamic, and resourceful guide to the Township's events, services, and offerings. Log on at www.hanover-township.org, and tell us how we are doing.

Coming soon - a live news feed for the Township, more videos on services and classes offered, and this newsletter digitally.



14 Recycle!

Join the Township on August 14 for our Recycling Extravaganza.

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See what you missed at the 2010 Freedom Bash!

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The third annual, “Just for the Health of It,” kicks off September 18.



4 Welcome Letter

Supervisor Brian P. McGuire updates Township residents on the past few months, and provides a look ahead.

5 Clerk’s Message

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Looking at becoming more involved? Sign up to be an EMA Volunteer.



It's Happening at Hanover Township

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS; RECYCLING PROGRAM; NEW WEBSITE

By: Brian P. McGuire, Supervisor

Dear Neighbor,

Welcome to this edition of Happenings – Hanover Township's tri-annual newsletter. In this edition, we are highlighting the different types of events the Township holds every year, in some cases, the first of their kind. While we take tremendous pride in providing the necessary and sometimes emergency services to our residents, we want everyone to know about the different types of events open to ALL residents.

First and foremost, thank you to all residents who dropped off donations for our troops at Operation Support Our Troops: Freedom Bash 2010. This was the sixth year the Township has hosted the event and each year it keeps getting better and better. Thanks to the generosity of our neighbors, we were able to deliver three truck loads of comfort items to American's bravest serving overseas. Thank you again.



Finally, our new website (www.hanover-township.org) was launched early last month. Information on our departments and services can be found on the easy to navigate site. A calendar of township events and a community calendar can also be found on the front page. New content and features will be constantly updated for residents to utilize.

Thank you for taking the time to read this edition of Happenings. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the Township office if you have any questions or concerns at 630.837.0301.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian P. McGuire". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Brian P. McGuire
Supervisor

Also, for the first time, Hanover Township is hosting a one day, free, Recycling Extravaganza in August. The Officials and Road District staff have been working tirelessly planning this event for our residents.

Updates on Passports and November 2, Election

By: Katy Dolan Baumer, Clerk

Vehicle stickers for residents who live in unincorporated Cook County are available at the Clerk's office.

The Community Shred will be held in conjunction with the Recycle Extravaganza on August 14. You can maintain your privacy by safely discarding junk mail, old records, medical records, etc. by shredding them in a safe and secure manner. We look forward to seeing you there!

November 2 is the general election. If you are not registered to vote, we can register



you! Over the past months this office has registered over 200 people to vote. It is your right and we encourage you to exercise it - be prepared - Register to Vote! Registrars will be at various high schools and park districts this summer and early fall to help you get registered.

You can also visit our office. Registrants must be 18 by November 2; two forms of identification are necessary.

On July 13th, the federal government increased passport fees. The cost of getting a brand-new passport for someone 16 or older is now \$135, and for those under 16 is \$105. The cost of renewing your passport for those 16 and over has increased to \$110.

If you plan to travel in August or September, we can help you expedite your passport application. Give us a call or stop by today. Normal application processing time is six to eight weeks; if your travel plans are sooner, expediting is available. Passport Cards are also available and good for travel to Canada and Mexico and several US territories.

"Gone Fishing" is a sign you see often these warm summer days. Visit us before you hang out the sign to get your Illinois fishing licenses. Whether it is for trout, salmon, or just taking the grandkids for an experience they will remember for a lifetime, you and all of the fishermen in your party will need your licenses. We offer license sales service to get you legal for this fishing season. And, speaking of seasons, right on the heel of fishing is the hunting season. Be prepared - purchase your license so you are ready this fall.

The Clerk's office is open from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., and until 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays to serve you. In addition, we are open one Saturday per month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon (please call or check the website), and by appointment for times not listed.

Katy Dolan Baumer
Clerk

Understanding Property Assessments

By: Thomas S. Smogolski, Assessor

This year, June 9th had special significance for Hanover Township residents. Not only did our Chicago Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup, but the Hanover Township Assessor's office also helped over 100 residents file appeals on their property assessments at our Outreach Session. Along with the Cook County Board of Review, my office answered questions and helped residents with their paperwork to file appeals.

We've had many taxpayers ask how they can be informed of upcoming seminars and important information with regards to their

property taxes. If you would like to be put on our e-mail list, e-mail us at assessor@hanover-township.org.

We continue to have many questions regarding property values going down and the taxes going up.

From an article written by former West Deerfield

Township Assessor, Steve Stanger:

"Yes, it is the most likely scenario, and yet, the majority of people still cling to the belief that if and when assessments begin to fall in response to the real estate market, their tax bills will also go down. Please don't fall prey to this long held belief because of the potential financial ramifications it can have

on household budgets. So, how can this happen? And, will assessments ever go down?

"Only a change in spending will cause a change in the tax bill. If history serves as a gauge, the taxing bodies such as schools, park districts, municipalities, etc. will ask for increases in their levies from the prior year. When they do this, regardless of the direction or magnitude, of the universal change in assessments, taxes will go up."

To read the article in its entirety, and to read other related articles, please visit us at www.hanover-township.org. Please be aware that Cook County does all the assessing of property, the tax rates, and the State multiplier comes from the Dept. of Revenue. Your Township does not assess property.

As always, please free to call us at 630.837.0301 or come into our office with any questions or concerns regarding your property taxes.

Thomas S. Smogolski
Township Assessor



Let's talk about Bicycle Safety

By: P. Craig Ochoa, Highway Commissioner

Last month I introduced BIKE SAFETY month in Hanover Township on behalf of the Highway Department. People have asked me why the Highway Department got involved with this resolution. Well, because bikes are used on all our roads within the Township and since safety is such a very important issue and factor within our department this is something that we wanted to bring to the attention of all our wonderful residents.



Bicycle riding is a great way to get and stay in shape and have fun doing it. To remain safe on our Township roads, it is important to follow the same guidelines and traffic safety laws that we have for our vehicle drivers.

Regardless of how much bicycle safety equipment we have, it can not provide a rider with the adequate protection from the dangerous forces of a much larger car or truck if involved in a vehicle collision.

Therefore, the best way to avoid injury is by being prepared for the dangers that streets pose to bicycle riders and by obeying the rules of the road. Learning and

practicing the bicycle rules of the road and sharing our streets with other motorists will keep all of us safer while enjoying this wonderful mode of transportation.

Just a few suggestions:

- It's safest to ride in single file
- Always ride one to a bike
- Avoid riding at night when possible
- Make sure your bike is equipped for safety and working properly
- Always ride in the same direction as the other traffic
- Ride as close to the right edge of the road as practical
- Always keep both hands on the handlebars

While these above suggestions (and safety tips) seem common sense, many of them are not used very effectively. Bottom line, please ride your bike using the same precaution measures that you would while driving your car or truck.

Good luck and **HAVE FUN RIDING !!**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Ochoa". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Best regards,
Craig Ochoa
Highway Commissioner

Reflections on the Past Year: Senior Services Committee

By: Mary Alice Benoit, Trustee

This has been a busy year for the members of the Committee for Senior Citizens Services. The committee welcomed new members said thank you to some long time members and reminded us all that age is just a state of mind. As a first year Trustee Liaison to the Senior Citizens Services Committee, I was quickly introduced to a group of wonderful men and women determined to live life to the fullest. I, as well as many others, believe our Senior Services Department at Hanover Township to be second to none, and the



volunteer members of the Committee for Senior Services, and the Programming and Fundraising Committees play a huge part in making Hanover Township Senior Services the best they can be.

The Senior Citizens Services Committee acts as an advisory board to the Senior Services Department and to the Hanover Township Board of Trustees. The Programming plans events and advises on activities, the Fundraising Committee runs the Gift Shop and raises funds for senior needs. They, and all of our senior volunteers, keep us on our toes and challenge us to see things from a different perspective.

This year, the Committee revised their by-laws and for the first time and created a mission statement that sums up their philosophy of volunteerism and community involvement. Senior volunteers touch every aspect of life here at Hanover Township and I would like to share that mission statement with all of you.

The Hanover Township Committee for Senior Citizens' Services is the voice of the mature adult community, fostering new ideas and providing opportunities for fellowship and personal growth. The Committee encourages independence, self-esteem, and well being among seniors by promoting the sharing of life experiences through volunteerism and community involvement.

As I wrap up my year as Trustee Liaison to the Senior Citizen Services Committee, I must admit that I have come away with a new attitude about what it means to be a senior in Hanover Township. It is about living to the fullest, being all that you can be, and, most importantly, it is about serving others. While the Senior Department at Hanover Township does offer a great array of services for our seniors, the truth is, they don't need Hanover Township nearly as much as we need them. Thank you to all of our Senior volunteers for making Hanover Township a great place to be.

August 2010 September 2010 October 2010

August 3, 2010 - Got Art Expo at the Senior Center

August 9-13, 2010 - Welfare Services Back to School Drive

August 12, 2010 - State Representative RCrespo hosts a homeowner seminar to find help during these challenging economic times.

August 14, 2010 - Township's Recycling Extravaganza. See page 14 for more information.

August 19, 2010 - Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Food Pantry at Hanover Township's main campus.

September 2, 2010 - Illinois WorkNet hosts a free job-seekers seminar at Hanover Township's Town Hall.

September 18, 2010 - Just for the Health of It, Expo on Hanover Township's main campus.

September 24, 2010 - Supervisor McGuire's Candle Light Bowl at Bowlway Lanes in Elgin.

September 27, 2010 - Open Gym begins for the fall semester.

October 4, 2010 - Tutoring begins at Youth and Family Services for elementary school children.

October 7, 2010 - Illinois WorkNet hosts a free job-seekers seminar at Hanover Township's Town Hall.

October 23, 2010 - Youth and Family Services Rummage Sale to support Open Gym.

More information can be found online at:
www.hanover-township.org

Save the Date! Candle Light Bowl is set for: September 24, 2010!

JUST FOR THE HEALTH OF IT!
Community Health & Wellness Expo

Saturday, September 18, 2010
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
At the SW corner of Rt 59 & W Bartlett Rd

Representative Randy Ramey and Fred Crespo, along with The Victory Centre of Bartlett & Hanover Township presents "Just for the Health of It!" Visit www.hanover-township.org for more information.

- Health & Wellness Screenings!**
- Fun Kids Activities!**
- Raffles & Prizes!**
- Information and Resources!**

Freedom BASH

On June 11 and 12,

the Township celebrated the sixth year of hosting “Operation Support our Troops: Freedom Bash!” This two day extravaganza was created to collect supplies and donations for the State-wide affiliate, Operation: Support our Troops, which then packages the donations and delivers them to our men and women overseas. 2010 represented the strongest year yet. Despite the challenging economic times, Hanover Township residents provided tremendous generosity to aid our brave men and women fighting for our freedoms every day.

Friday, June 11, presented a great opportunity for community members to gather together in celebration of the event. At 5:00 PM the Township sponsored a car show, drawing dozens of antique, hot rod, and sports cars from around the area. Event goers were treated to a fantastic BBQ, beer tent, and the Netherly Brothers performing that evening. The Township was also honored to host Congressman Peter Roskam, who presented a flag that had been flown over the United States Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., to be displayed in the newly dedicated, "Veterans Hall," in the Township's Senior Center. It was also a privilege to have Cook County Commissioner Tim Schneider join the event and present the Cook County Banner for display in the same hall.

Veterans were honored throughout the evening, with complementary food and refreshments provided by local donors for the event. "It was a great opportunity to meet so many men and women who served our country who attended the event in support of those still serving," William Tiknis, the Township's Veterans' Advocate stated. "Through the community's generosity, our men and women overseas can enjoy some of the conveniences of home."

This year, the Township hosted a BBQ challenge on Saturday. Despite the weather, many from the community attended and enjoyed handmade BBQ pork and chicken. Additionally, local families were able to enjoy carnival activities and see up close, the surrounding communities' emergency and public works vehicles at "Touch a Truck."

"I cannot stress the gratitude I have for our men and women defending our freedoms overseas. Operation Support Our Troops is a small way to say 'thank you' for their commitment and sacrifices made for their fellow countrymen," said Brian McGuire, Supervisor of Hanover Township. "It is inspiring to see so many community members come to celebrate our freedoms and pay tribute to those that have served and continue to serve in our Armed Forces."

Donations are still being accepted at the Township's main campus, 250 South Route 59 in Bartlett. If you would like more information visit www.hanover-township.org, or call 630.837.0301.



The Mental Health Needs of the Faith Community: How to Recognize, Respond and Refer



By: Danise Habun, Executive Director of the Mental Health Board

Recognizing that people with mental health needs often turn to their faith community for support, The Hanover Township Mental Health Board began partnering with area faith leaders, social service agencies, health departments, NAMI chapters, 708 Mental Health Boards, and hospitals. The result of this partnering effort has been the creation of the Suburban Chicago Interfaith Mental Health Coalition. Included in this newly formed Coalition are:

The Hanover Township Mental Health Board has conducted mental health and faith community workshops over the past several years. Workshop participants identified the need for further training on mental health issues. Shirley Bassett, community resource specialist for the Mental Health Board, has been instrumental in developing the goal of an all day mental health conference for members of the faith community in our area

The DuPage Faith and Mental Illness Network has worked since 1999 with the local NAMI chapter, parish nurses, pastoral counseling centers, hospitals, the local health department, and mental health providers to reduce stigma and develop educational programming on mental illness for faith communities.

The McHenry County Mental Health Board has successfully provided Mental Health First Aid Training for clergy in their area

The above partners along with community stakeholders are planning an initial mental health conference for members of the faith community. Scheduled for November 9th, 2010, the conference, "The Mental Health Needs of Your Faith Community: How to Recognize, Respond and Refer" is targeted toward an audience of faith leaders of any denomination, persons in pastoral care roles, and people of faith with interest in mental health. The conference will be held at Second Baptist Church in Elgin 9:00-4:00 PM

Combined with the conference will be resource booths from 30 area organizations serving persons with mental health needs.

- Dr. Mark McMinn of Oregon will offer his wisdom on the benefits of collaboration between professionals in the mental health field and faith community.
- Dr. Susan Gregg-Schroeder, founder of Mental Health Ministries in California, will share her wisdom on creating caring congregations to offer solace for those persons with mental illness and their family members.

Featured Keynote Speakers are Specific workshops focusing on clergy and faith leaders and on developing mental health ministries will be offered throughout the day.

Registration will be \$30.00 per person. Continental Breakfast and lunch are included. For more information on the conference please contact the Mental Health Board Office at 630.837.3010.

Back to School...

Back to School is right around the corner. The Welfare Services department is "gearing up" for our Backpack program to help low income children in the Hanover Township area with backpacks and school supplies.



The current economic crisis has caused a dramatic increase in the number of families using the pantry and it is becoming increasingly more difficult to meet the need. Current statistics show a consistent rise in numbers to as many as 700-1000 families using the food pantry monthly. We would not be able to meet the growing demands of our community if it wasn't for individuals like you.

Please note that all donations to the Township foundation are tax-deductible.

We are anticipating a higher number of children that will be in need of backpacks and school supplies this year. We are looking to do everything we can to help meet this need in our community.

If you are interested in participating in the program, or donating items to the department, please contact Welfare Services at 630.540.9085. Your help and support continue to make Hanover Township a great place to live, work, and play.

- Backpacks
- Notebooks
- Loose leaf paper
- Pencils
- Markers
- Crayons
- Scissors, (fiskar)
- Rulers

- Flash drives
- Erasers
- Folders
- Calculators
- Highlightors
- Blue pens
- Glue sticks

ITEMS WE NEED





Ready. Set. Recycle!

For the first time, Hanover Township will be hosting a FREE, one day only, Recycling Extravaganza for Township residents only in the parking lot of the Township offices, 250 S. Route 59, in Bartlett. The Extravaganza is for residential items only. No commercial, business, or bulk items will be accepted.

On Saturday, August 14, from 8:00AM – 1:00PM, professionals will be onsite to collect your unwanted items to be disposed of properly. On behalf of the Township Officials, the Highway Commissioner's Office has been helping spearhead this event. "From talking with our residents, I know this is something people are really excited about," said Hanover Township Highway Commissioner P. Craig Ochoa. "This is just another way to keep our Township more environmentally friendly."

Ochoa has been working with vendors since early this year to set up the event. During the last couple of months, he attended recycling events hosted by other municipalities to get ideas.

Accepted Items:

- Scrap Metal
- Electronics
- Cell Phones
- Bicycles
- Books
- Document Shredding
- Worn American Flags
- Eyeglasses & Hearing Aids

Items not Accepted:

- Paint
- Gas or Oil
- Yard Waste
- Furniture
- Plaster
- Microwaves
- Refrigerators

The Hanover Township Emergency Management Services Unit will be handling traffic control the day of the event to allow for an easy process of unloading items. People that have one item or ten items will be able to move freely from one station to another while entering and exiting the campus with ease. Township staff will be present to help unload items from residents' cars as well. While this is the first year the Township is hosting the event, Ochoa would like to see this become an annual extravaganza.

"Future events would depend on the success of this year's event. We'll talk with residents dropping off items to see what was popular; what worked and what didn't work. Ideally, we would like to offer this service to our residents at least once a year, if not more," said Ochoa.

If anyone has any questions on the event, or want to find out more information, please call 630.837.0960 or visit www.hanover-township.org.

Emergency Services Hanover Township

During the spring and summer months, the unit will activate during severe weather watches and warnings to serve as weather spotters to provide notification of tornado activity. Members of the unit are trained by the National Weather Service as storm spotters and deploy in marked vehicles to various areas of the Township to monitor storm activity.

The unit is equipped with portable pumps and generators to assist residents, when requested, to deal with flooded basements which often result after heavy rain falls. In addition, the unit provides un-incorporated subdivisions within Hanover Township with an extra set of eyes during the summer months, and each emergency services vehicle is able to talk via two-way radio directly to the Cook County Sheriff's office to report suspicious activity.

When requested by the one of the law enforcement or fire departments serving Hanover Township, the Emergency Services Unit is able to assist with traffic control,

scene security, emergency scene lighting, first aid services, clearing of storm damage from roadways, and manpower assistance for a number of other task. The performance of these types of duties allows public safety agencies to free up their personnel for other responses quicker. Township EMA personnel are dispatched via DUCOMM.

The unit is committed to educating the residents of Hanover Township on the importance of disaster and emergency preparedness and is available to give presentations to neighborhood, civic, religious, and service groups on a variety of preparedness topics. To schedule a presentation please contact the Emergency Services Office.

The Hanover Township Emergency Services Unit, through a variety of mutual aid agreements, the Cook County Emergency Management Agency and the State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency will also respond to other communities request for emergency and non-emergency assistance.



Become an EMA Volunteer Today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return via mail to:
Emergency Services

250 S. Rt. 50

Bartlett, IL 60103 or email ema@hanover-township.org



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