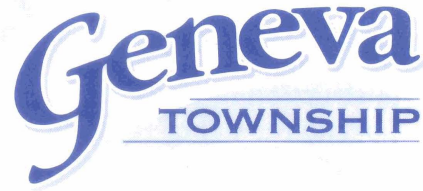




**Geneva Township**  
**400 Wheeler Drive**  
**Geneva IL 60134**  
**630-232-3600**

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



ISSUE II

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2007

**SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE**

**Geneva Township Officers**  
 J. Patrick Jaeger, Supervisor  
 John Carlson, Highway Comm.  
 Aubrey Pratte, Assessor  
 Barbara Olson, Clerk

**Geneva Board of Trustees**  
 Sharon Brazill, Trustee  
 Denise LaCure, Trustee  
 Dick Sharp, Trustee  
 Mark Wissing, Trustee

**Table of Contents:**

Grand Opening of Senior Center.....2  
 Meet the Director.....2  
 6th Annual Free Flu Shot.....5  
 No Membership Required.....5  
 Membership Has Its Privileges.....5  
 Programs and Services.....6  
 Township Assistance Programs.....6  
 Fun Activities.....7  
 Learn About Computers.....7  
 Grand Opening Program Displays.....7  
 Highway Dept. Brush Pick Up.....8  
 Normal Aging vs. Dementia.....8

It is fitting and proper during National Senior Center Month, that Geneva Township officially unveils its Senior Center and Township Offices. As our national population ages and the baby boomer generation enters its "golden" years, there is and will continue to be an ever increasing demand for services to address the specific needs of older Americans. Local senior centers can play an important role.

The Geneva Township Senior Center intends to address some of those needs. As people enter their latter years, physical and mental isolation and dependence is not atypical. Practical problems attendant with advanced aging such as health and diet issues, changed living circumstances and financial issues are not uncommon. These issues persist regardless of the affluence of the individual or that of the surrounding community. The Geneva Township Board and Supervisor have committed themselves to devoting the Township's energies and resources to provide programs and services to help alleviate these issues and address the needs of our senior population. We also are striving to create opportunities to utilize the immense pool of talent and experience possessed by our senior population so they can continue to contribute to the overall well being of our community as effective and useful citizens. It is our hope that the Geneva Township Senior Center will serve to enrich the social and intellectual lives of our senior constituency through the various programs, services and activities that the Township offers.

In the larger sense however, Geneva Township cannot and will not provide for all of these needs and solve these issues on its own. There are many capable service providers and organizations in our community with a long history of assisting our seniors; we are committed to working with them as partners. We will not detract from what these institutions, organizations and individuals do, but hopefully will significantly enhance the level of service provided. Indeed, the cooperation, assistance of and partnership with other units of local government has helped make our Senior Center what it is today.

Many individuals have worked very hard, devoted long hours and made significant contributions toward creating the Geneva Township Senior Center. I personally invite all to join us at our grand opening. It is an opportunity to learn about the various programs, activities and services that are available, to see the wonderful community asset that has been created and to acknowledge the individuals that have worked hard and given so much to make it all a reality.

*Pat Jaeger*

---

---

## **WE APPRECIATE THEIR HELP AND COOPERATION**

### **Geneva Park District and Geneva Township Cooperate**

Limited to a small parcel within the boundaries of Wheeler Park which is only slightly larger than the building itself, the Geneva Township Offices and Senior Center required additional parking, patio and fire lane space well beyond its boundaries for the construction of those facilities. In a broad agreement that is a model of intergovernmental cooperation, the Township and the Geneva Park District worked together and agreed between themselves to allow the Township to acquire permanent easements from the Park District for the construction, use and maintenance of those facilities. The end result is a beautiful community asset that serves the constituencies of both units of government.

### **The Geneva Township Senior Services Committee**

The Geneva Township Senior Services Committee first met in September 2000. Their charge is to determine the need for, develop and propose senior programs and services to the Geneva Township Board for approval and funding and to assist in the administration of approved services and programs. All services and programs proposed by the Senior Services Committee must be designed to maintain the self-sufficiency and personal well-being of citizens of the Township who are 55 years and older. The Senior Services Committee has played an integral role in making the successful operation of the Senior Center a reality.

The current membership of the Senior Services Committee is: John Anderson, Art Kaindl, Merritt King, Greg Mills, Jo-Ann O'Neil, Bob Rock, Ziv Sabin, Bob Wilson and Carol Woods. Past members of the Senior Services Committee are: Patrick Brazill, Michael Fordonski, Mary Fray, Robert Goodfellow, Mary Ibsen, Lucile Little, Eleanor Lukazewski, Phil Page, Susan Person, Lynda Rivers, Bruce Simpson, Ron Singer, Ruth Valis and Jon Wittenberg. All of these individuals deserve our deepest gratitude and sincere thanks.

---

---

## **GRAND OPENING OF THE GENEVA TOWNSHIP OFFICES AND SENIOR CENTER**

Mark your calendars for the grand opening of the Geneva Township Offices and Senior Center on Sunday September 9. Please join us from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Township Building at 400 Wheeler Drive in Wheeler Park as the public officially celebrates the Township's new facilities. Attendees can access handicapped parking by entering Wheeler Park off Stevens Street and proceeding to the handicapped parking lot next to the Township building. Parking is also available off First Street (Route 31) with golf cart shuttle provided from all parking lots.

A brief program, including a ribbon cutting ceremony and acknowledgements will commence at 3:00 p.m. Please come and enjoy refreshments, view our new facilities and learn about the programs and services currently being offered to the seniors of Geneva Township. Bring your family, bring your friends, and most importantly bring yourself to the grand opening of your Geneva Township Offices and Senior Center!

The Supervisor, the Township Board, the Senior Services Committee along with numerous volunteers have spent countless hours researching, discussing, planning and working to create a welcoming, inviting and comfortable facility for the exclusive use of the seniors of Geneva Township. During the grand opening reception you can meet or renew acquaintances with past and present Township officers, trustees, senior services committee members and the volunteers and donors who have generously given their time, talents and material and have worked very hard to make the new Senior Center and Township Offices a reality.



**The Supervisor and the Board of Trustees  
of Geneva Township**

cordially invite you to the  
Grand Opening of the

**Geneva Township Offices and Senior Center**  
at 400 Wheeler Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134

**Sunday the 9th day of September 2007**  
**from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Refreshments will be served**

## **WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT THEM . . .**

### **RJA Design Donates Welcoming Interior Design for the Senior Center**

After visiting numerous senior centers, a primary goal of the Township Board and the Senior Services Committee was to avoid an institutional appearance and to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere in the proposed Geneva Township Senior Center. Richard Abrahamson readily agreed to donate his and his talented RJA Design Inc. staff's time to make the vision a reality. Richard designed each room with a warmth and character fitting its function. That Abrahamson readily agreed to donate his abundant talent and hundreds of hours of time to make the Geneva Township Office and Senior Center a showcase facility comes as no surprise to those who know him.

Having taken tennis lessons on the courts in Wheeler Park next to the building, Richard always admired its architectural style. But the building needed to be dramatically transformed to be bright and comfortable. After an inspection of the building, Abrahamson knew he had his work cut out for him. First color schemes had to be developed. He wanted it to be comfortable and traditional but not stuffy; to be bright and lively but not boring. He and his staff dug in. With donated fabric and expertise from the internationally known New York fabric firm of Cowtan & Tout, Abrahamson located antiques and high quality furniture for acquisition by the Township. The Township project has been a labor of pride for the last two years for Richard and his staff. It's all about the end result according to Abrahamson. "It's all in the details; that's our expertise; that's what we do. We look at function first and the form flows from that," he said. "We wanted this to be a special place for the seniors of Geneva Township. I think we have achieved that!" said Abrahamson. **RJA Design (630-584-9474)**

### **Countywide Landscaping Inc. Donation Designs and Builds Senior Center Plaza and Patio**

Faced with the requirement of installing an asphalt fire lane in the front of the new Senior Center building, the Township Board saw it as an opportunity to create a public plaza by disguising the fire lane by paving it with brick pavers. The low bidder for the project was the award-winning firm of Countywide Landscaping of Elburn, Illinois. After submitting and being awarded the winning proposal, Countywide's owner, Brian Larson, approached the Township with the idea of donating his company's design expertise and substantial labor to create a public plaza in front of the building and a rear patio area behind the building utilizing what he referred to as the "quilting method" of brick paver installation. The end result is the most beautifully designed and brick paved public plaza and patio in the Chicago metropolitan area. The design and colors of the plaza and patio were inspired by the Township's beautiful building and the surrounding park. "It is a project that I am extremely proud of, and it's in a location where everyone can easily see, use and enjoy it," said Larson. All agree that it is a work of art! **Countywide Landscaping (630-365-3410)**

### **Cowtan & Tout Makes Fabric Gift to Senior Center**

The New York fabric firm of Cowtan and Tout acting through their Chicago representative donated over \$40,000.00 of fabric to the Geneva Township Senior Center. The fabric was used to cover all of the furniture acquired by the Township for the Senior Center and to also make window coverings for the Center. The fabric donation includes silks, cut velvets, chenille picks, woven materials, tapestries, brocades and other decorative upholstery. Paula Pikowitz, a Geneva resident and representative of the firm, said that she could not think of a civic organization and a project that could put this donation to such an effective use. "Our intention was to help make the Senior Center a very welcome, inviting and comfortable place for the seniors of Geneva Township. I believe that we've done that. We sincerely hope these special and beautiful fabrics are enjoyed by all," said Pikowitz. **Cowtan and Tout - Exclusive to the Interior Design Trade.**

## DON'T MISS THE 6TH ANNUAL FREE FLU SHOT CLINIC

### MARK YOUR CALENDER!



Geneva Township is once again sponsoring a free flu shot clinic on Monday, October 8, from 9 a.m. – to 12:00 noon at the Geneva Township Senior Center. Nurses from the Visiting Nurses Association of Fox Valley will administer the shots. Seniors covered by Medicare Part B will have the cost of their flu shot covered by Medicare. Please bring your Medicare card. Geneva Township will cover the cost of the flu shot for any Geneva Township resident 55 years of age or older (identification required) who is not covered by Medicare Part B. For all others the cost of a flu shot is \$25 and the cost of a pneumonia shot is \$35. New this year will be the availability of DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) shots. The cost of DTP shots is \$45. A prescription will be required for any shot other than a flu shot. For those required to pay for their shot(s), payment must be by cash only. Seniors who need transportation to the flu shot clinic should

contact the Township prior to October 1, 2007. As always, free refreshments will be served. The free flu shot clinic is a great place to make new friends or catch up with old ones! If you have questions, please call the Geneva Township Senior Center at 232-3602.

### Lunch Program

Beginning in mid October, a nutritious and delicious lunch will be served at noon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week at the Senior Center for Township seniors. Menus will be published monthly. A donation to cover the cost of the meal will be requested from Township residents but will not be required. Contact the Senior Center for information at 232-3602.



### DROP IN AND SEE US ANYTIME, NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED!



As a senior resident of Geneva Township, you are welcome to drop into the Senior Center at anytime between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Someone is always here to greet you. No membership is required; there is no cost to you as a Township resident. The

coffee's always on, there's always snacks to munch on and there are numerous newspapers and magazines to read. Get some pleasant exercise by enjoying Wheeler Park's beautiful walking paths, relax and take in the scenery of our park location or simply enjoy our comfortably cool building. We look forward to seeing you soon!

### BUT, MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES...

Membership is free to any senior resident of Geneva Township! Sign up as a member of the Geneva Township Senior Center. You must be age 55+ and reside in Geneva Township. If your spouse is not yet 55, membership arrangements are available for them as well. Not sure if you live in Geneva Township? Look at your property tax bill. If "Geneva Township" is listed as taxing body, you're automatically entitled to free membership! As a member you will be notified of all Senior Center activities and events and have priority for any Senior Center sponsored events. Come on in and sign up for free!

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

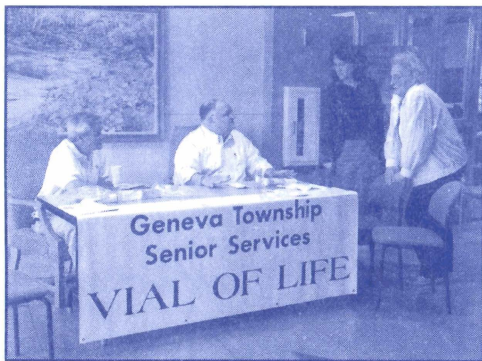
### Subscribe to the Geneva Township Well Being Check System for Free!

In response to the last Senior Citizen Survey, more than 400 Geneva Township Seniors indicated that they wanted some type of "well being check" program instituted where someone would check on them by telephone at their homes on a regular basis. In response to this demand, the Township has developed the Geneva Township Well Being Check System. You can subscribe today to receive this valuable service at absolutely no cost.

When you subscribe to the well being check system, the Township will call you on the day(s) and at the time(s) that you request. If you fail to answer your telephone after the number of telephone calls that you prescribed, the Township will automatically alert those family members, friends or neighbors that you have previously designated, to request that they check on your status. The system can also contact emergency personnel if you desire.

Not only is this system attractive to seniors, it is also attractive to the children of seniors who desire to stay abreast of their parent's well being without necessarily being overly obtrusive in their parent's lives. This system has been used by the children of seniors who reside out of state to keep abreast of their parent's well being from across the country. It's simple, it's effective and it's free to Geneva Township senior citizens. Subscribe today by calling the Senior Center (232-3602) for an appointment.

### Participate at No Cost in the Geneva Township Vial Of Life Program!



Communities across the country, including neighboring St. Charles and Batavia, have launched the Vial of Life program which provides pre-printed forms to record vital medical and health information that is intended to assist emergency medical personnel who are administering emergency medical care to seniors in their homes. Current prescriptions, doctor's names, phone numbers, allergies and other medical conditions are examples of information that are included on the Vial of Life form. Participants receive a vial that is used to store the form in the resident's refrigerator. A special refrigerator magnet is placed on the refrigerator door identifying the resident as a Vial of Life program participant. When emergency medical personnel enter your home, they then go into your refrigerator to retrieve your important medical information. Your private

medical information never leaves your possession until it is needed by emergency personnel. Participation in this program is free to all Geneva Township resident seniors 55 years of age or older. Get your Vial of Life packet today at the Geneva Township Senior Center.

## TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Geneva Township's financial assistance programs are available to assist township residents who are finding it difficult to meet basic expenses like medical prescriptions, rent, food and utilities due to unemployment, medical crisis or other circumstances. Qualified township residents may apply for either emergency or general assistance. A completed application and interview are required. Included below is a description of these two programs that often help individuals who may not qualify for aid under state or federal programs and in many instances have only short-term needs.

### Emergency Assistance

Emergency assistance may be provided to township

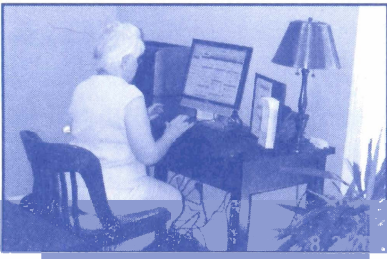
residents only once in a twelve-month period to alleviate a sudden, urgent and unforeseen crisis or combination of circumstances that threaten your physical well being or continued employment.

### General Assistance

Unlike emergency assistance, General Assistance is a monthly grant program designed to meet basic needs. Eligibility is determined by a number of financial and non-financial factors. Applicants who qualify for state public aid or social security disability are not eligible to receive General Assistance.

*If you have any questions or are interested in applying for assistance, please call Geneva Township at 232-3600.*

## WANT TO LEARN HOW TO USE A COMPUTER?



The Senior Center has three new computers set up for senior citizen use. Free computer lessons are provided by the Senior Center. Email your friends, family, grandchildren and send

pictures. Our high speed internet connection will make your computing experience enjoyable.

### Do you have a Computer?

Check out our web page: [www.genevatownship.com](http://www.genevatownship.com). There may be more to your Township than you may realize. Look for upcoming events, meetings and activities. Check out the Senior Center's monthly activity schedule for your favorite activity. If your friends have an interest in a particular activity, drop us a line. We like to receive emails! Besides the Senior Center page you can see what services the Geneva Township Supervisor and the Geneva Township Highway Commissioner offer. You can also read the minutes of the board meetings posted by the Township Clerk.

## TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER GRAND OPENING PROGRAM DISPLAYS

View the following program displays at the Grand Opening:

**Senior Services Associates, Inc.**, a nonprofit agency, will have representatives at the Township Grand Opening to explain the vast array of services they offer. Stop by their display and receive vital information concerning senior care and abuse prevention among other things.

**Vial of Life** volunteers will have program packets available for interested seniors who want to maintain vital medical information in their residence in case of an emergency.

**Well Being Check** is a program offered by Geneva Township that will make phone calls on pre-arranged days and at times you select to check on a senior's well being. Sign up for this free service at the Grand Opening.

**Central Kane County TRIAD** will be giving away free 9-1-1 emergency cell phones. Register for a free mobile phone that can only be used for an emergency 9-1-1 call.

## OTHER FUN SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

We encourage all township seniors to stop by anytime and enjoy the complimentary amenities of the Senior Center. The coffee pot is always on, and you'll even find a little snack to go along.

### First Friday Birthday Party

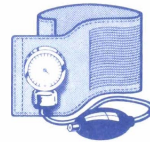


On the first Friday of each month we celebrate our member's birthdays that fall within that month with cake and ice cream. The disclosure of your age is not required!

### Last Friday Meet and Greet

The last Friday of the month is an opportunity for new members to meet each other and learn about senior center activities.

### Free Healthy Living Programs

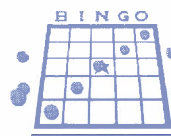


Each Monday you can have your blood pressure checked. On the second Monday of each month you can have your hearing screened. Special health-related presentations will be offered throughout the month.

### Join the Wheeler Walkers.

The walking paths in Wheeler Park can be enjoyed anytime for a brisk walk or a leisurely stroll offering a great low impact exercise opportunity in the beautiful outdoors and some conviviality with your fellow walkers. Afterwards enjoy coffee and snacks.

### Card and Board Games



Poker and Bridge groups meet at various times for an afternoon of fun, and you can meet your friends at the Senior Center anytime for your favorite card game. We have a number of board games, chess and checker boards, puzzles and bingo. You can learn how to play bridge!

### Need A Spot to Meet Your Senior Friends



Want to get together with your senior friends for your book club, lunch, cards, computer club, learners club, walking club, etc.? Want a convenient and comfortable location for seniors to meet? Need a place to host a senior birthday party? Call the Senior Center and at no cost, we will make accommodations for you and your senior friends.



400 Wheeler Drive  
Geneva, Illinois 60134

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT # 88  
GENEVA IL

**In this issue we cover . . .**

Grand Opening of Offices & Senior Center • Free Flu Shot • Township Programs & Services • Brush Pick-Up • Fun Activities

---

---

## YOUR TOWNSHIP OFFICES AND SENIOR CENTER GRAND OPENING INVITATION IS ENCLOSED!

---

---

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CONTINUES MONTHLY BRUSH PICK-UP**

Highway Department staff is continuing to collect brush, weather permitting, on the second Tuesday of the month (April-October) for residents of unincorporated Geneva Township.

Brush is defined as trimmings from bushes or shrubs and trees. Limbs must not be larger than 4 inches in diameter or 10 feet in length. Small twigs and thorny branches should be separated from larger branches. Cut ends should face the road. Residents or contractors who are clearing a lot may not use the brush program.

Logs, stumps, grass clippings and lumber are not considered brush and will not be picked up. Also, the Township will not pick up bags with leaves, sticks or other material. Geneva Township will collect leaves at curbside in the fall.

Remaining pick-ups are scheduled for September 11 and October 9. Any questions can be directed to the Highway Department at 232-3600.

### **NORMAL AGING VS. DEMENTIA PROGRAM**

Have you ever wondered exactly what is “normal” cognitive functioning and what is dementia? Not understanding is often quite worrisome to seniors. This program will explain the differences and empower you with knowledge that will help you understand. “Normal Aging vs. Dementia” will be presented on Monday, September 10, beginning at 10:30 a.m. A complimentary luncheon will be provided immediately following the program for all attendees. Sign up by September 7 by calling **Beth Tecza** at 232-3602. Program and luncheon presented by Pam Sebern and Sharon Brazill of Arden Courts.

#### **Assessor's Office**

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Email: [apratte@genevatownship.com](mailto:apratte@genevatownship.com)**

Online Property Search: Geneva Township has made it easier for you to obtain real property information.  
Go to [www.genevatownship.com](http://www.genevatownship.com).

---

---