



The S.A.L.T. Communicator

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together

Serving & Protecting Senior Citizens

July 2003

Coordinated by Milton Township Trustee Ken McNatt

Mosquito Borne Disease Control!



Mosquito borne diseases cause more than a million deaths each year around the world. For many years, the battle has been waged against the ravages of the mosquito with yellow fever, malaria, dengue virus, encephalitis viruses and most recently the West Nile Virus.

“The 2002 West Nile Virus (WNV) outbreak was the largest mosquito borne disease epidemic ever to occur in the western hemisphere,” reports Jack Thennisch, Control Consultant for Clarke Mosquito Control, Roselle, Illinois. A total of 3,949 human cases, including 254 fatalities occurred in the United States. Illinois was the hardest hit state with 836 cases and 55 fatalities. Locally, DuPage County recorded 50 cases (4 fatalities) while Cook County recorded 602 cases (32 fatalities).

Since 1999, WNV has rapidly spread to 44 states, and is expected to continue to spread and intensify across the United States in 2003. It is of concern that the virus is so prevalent and can be found in 140 bird and 36 mosquito species, and has been transmitted through the human population by blood supply and organ transplants.



Jack Thennisch,
Control
Consultant,
Clarke Mosquito
Control

An integrated pest management approach to mosquito control and the use of new technologies offer hope in reducing the mosquito population and with it, the threat to public health and discomfort. The multistep process is a systematic approach to control all phases of mosquito development and infestation. Parts of this process include surveys and mapping of the mosquito breeding sites. Surveillance and monitoring processes are put in place to control the threat of disease or nuisance. Larval control, prevents the development of adult mosquitoes, which can travel as far as 15 miles to invade a populated area and adult control during alert periods when the nuisance factor becomes excessive. These can be following periods of heavy rainfall.

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Mission Statement

The purpose of Milton Township S.A.L.T. Council is to determine and to meet the needs of Senior Citizens by reducing crime and abuse and by enhancing safety through communication and education in cooperation with the Township, law enforcement agencies, and other community agencies and organizations.

mosquito continued



You can help reduce the number of mosquitoes in our community by simply eliminating standing water, where mosquitoes breed.

Please refer to the enclosed flyer on National Pest Alert.

A well planned integrated approach to controlling mosquitoes will help stop the spread of mosquito borne diseases, allowing residents to enjoy the outdoors in comfort and using the recreational areas in DuPage County.

While Milton Township is working on eliminating and reducing the mosquitoes breeding grounds, there are a number of ways to protect yourself from being bitten while you are enjoying your own yard in the summer time. Consider using a fan on the patio or in the backyard. The breeze created by the fan keeps the mosquitoes away since they cannot fly against the air flow created by the fan. *For more information about protecting yourself against mosquitoes read the enclosed flyer and log onto the internet at www.epa.gov.* ■



Visit us at:
www.twp.milton.il.us
or call us at:
630.668.1616

Results of Security & Safety Survey

Prepared by Joe Vanest, S.A.L.T. Council

In the April 2003 issue of The S.A.L.T. Communicator, a survey was included requesting responses related to home security/safety and fire precautions.

The readers were asked to complete the survey and return it to the Township office. Fifty five (55) of the readers completed the survey and returned it at their own expense. Twenty eight (28) of the respondents took the time to write helpful comments about the survey and The S.A.L.T. Communicator.

The survey results indicated a large number of Wheaton and Glen Ellyn citizens participating in the survey are not aware of home security and fire safety inspection services provided by the local police, sheriff's office and fire department. They are also not aware these services are offered *free of charge* to residents.

If you are interested in having one of these inspections, please contact one of the following numbers:

Wheaton Fire Department:	630.260.2175
Glen Ellyn Fire Department:	630.469.5265
Sheriff's Office:	630.682.7790

Thank you to everyone who took time to respond and provide their feedback. Your comments will be used to direct our programs and services in future presentations and newsletters offered by the S.A.L.T. Council. ■

Congratulations!

Congratulations to J. Jones of Wheaton! Ms. Jones won the drawing offered by the S.A.L.T. Communicator for participating in the survey. A generous gift certificate has been provided by Muldoon's Restaurant, centrally located in downtown Wheaton on Front Street.

**Thank you to Muldoon's Restaurant
and to J. Jones for their participation!**

911 911 911 911 911 911 911 911

How Does 911 Work?

Submitted by Bill Mennell, S.A.L.T. Council

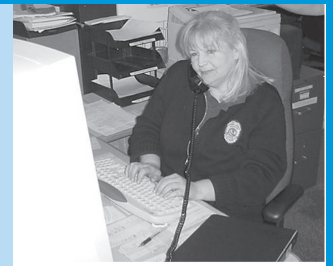
Have you ever wondered how 911 works? What is the process? Does it really work? When a person calls 9-1-1 on a land line telephone from within the corporate city limits of Glen Ellyn or Wheaton, it will ring at DuComm (DuPage Communications), an agency owned by all the local municipalities, which dispatches for the majority of emergency organizations (police, fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)) in Milton Township and other parts of DuPage County.

The DuComm dispatcher's screen automatically shows the caller's telephone number, billing name and complete address. The screen also shows the dispatcher which police, fire and EMS services will respond to that address. The dispatcher asks the caller the nature of the problem and then dispatches the appropriate emergency personnel and equipment. The dispatcher will quite often remain on the line with the caller to obtain additional information that he/she can pass on to the responding units while they are in route.

People who live or work in unincorporated DuPage County, 9-1-1 calls will be routed to the DuPage County Sheriff's Office. The county dispatcher's screen shows the same information as mentioned for the DuComm dispatcher. Sheriff's deputies are dispatched directly by the county dispatcher. If fire or EMS personnel are necessary, the county dispatcher, while remaining on the line with the caller, will directly transfer the call to DuComm to dispatch the appropriate personnel.

The dispatcher can see where the call originated, and even if the caller is incapacitated or can't speak English, emergency equipment can be sent to the

Jenny Bostick,
Dispatcher



correct location. *The dispatcher also has the ability to prevent the caller from hanging up or making other calls, or 'freezing,' the caller's telephone number until she feels that she has all the information she needs. This can be very important in emergencies. It is also a good way to prevent 'prank' calls.*

Cellular 9-1-1 calls within DuPage County will also go to the Sheriff's Office. At the present time, the system *does not* show the exact location, but only shows the telephone number and usually can place the caller's location to within 125 feet. When a cellular 9-1-1 call is received at the Sheriff's office, it is dispatched the same as a regular 9-1-1 call.

The 9-1-1 system is funded by a surcharge on each of our telephone bills. Also remember our Senior Cell Phone Program. By Federal law, all cell phones, even if the service is discontinued, must be able to interface the 9-1-1 system.

When do you use 9-1-1? For any police, fire, or EMS emergency, but also for any suspicious car, person, incident, accidents including fender benders, or any time a police, fire, or EMS response is requested. Don't use it for general questions. If you want to talk to a specific person, or inquire about things or permission for overnight street parking call **630.682.7256**.

If in doubt, use 9-1-1! Remember...help is just a quick 9-1-1 telephone call away! ■

911 911 911 911 911 911 911 911



Serving & Protecting Senior Citizens

S.A.L.T. Council Members

Ken J. McNatt, Chairman • Joe Vanest, Vice Chairman • Gail Hinkle, Social Services Coordinator
Carl Lofgren, Seniors Coordinator/Asst. to Assessor • Bill Parbs, Director of Communications

DuPage Sheriff's Office

Sharon Todd, DePuty Sheriff Liaison • Jim Hatcher, Director of Senior Services • Bill Mennell

Sue Davison, Medicare Advocate CDH • Chief Phillip DiMensa, Winfield Fire Dept.
Marcy Fairbank, Community Nursing Service • Jodie Hefler, Glen Ellyn, Senior Services
Rich Janske, Wheaton Police Dept. • Debbie McKenzie, Glendale Heights Police Dept.
Clifford Mortenson, Wheaton Fire Dept. • Chief Douglas Riner, Winfield Police Dept.
Lt. Bill Rizer, Winfield Police Dept. • Kathy Sommerfield, Wheaton Police Dept.
Mark Tobias, Glen Ellyn Police Dept.

Citizen's Committee

Hector Fuster • Larry Gage • Miriam Hartigan • Sister Peg Ivers, St. Daniel the Prophet
William Krick • Rose Palma • Jeanne Pitra • Horace Polglaze • Don Russell • Claude de St. Paer
Barbara Smith • Jack Udelhofen

In Cooperation with DuPage Sheriff's Office – John Zaruba, Sheriff

- ▶ Mosquito Borne Disease Control
- ▶ 911 Use
- ▶ Alzheimer Disease
- ▶ Home Injury Prevention
- ▶ Homeland Security

HOT Topics

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Wheaton, IL 60187



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Disease of the Century!

The most common type of Dementia and the fourth leading cause of death in American adults ages 65 and up is Alzheimer's disease. It is now known as the "disease of the century!"

Trish Uttich, Director of Arden Courts, Geneva, presented information to the S.A.L.T. Council on Alzheimer's and provided basic information profiling this common form of Dementia we all read and hear about every day in the news.

Alzheimer's disease is terminal, incurable and shortens one's life span while impairing the memory, thinking and behavior of an individual. It has become the third most expensive disease in the U.S. and affects more women than men. The earlier it is diagnosed and treatment begins, the better the effectiveness of the medications available today in slowing down the illness. The disease has three distinct stages :

1. Early 2-4 years/mood personality changes, with memory loss related to recent history and events.

Reducing the Risk of Home Injuries

We all know seniors are the fastest growing segment in the United States. They will soon be 20% of the total U.S. population. Healthcare costs related to falls and home injury for seniors is a three trillion dollar industry in the United States.

Miss Janet Lisak, Assistant Professor in the Occupational Therapy Program at Midwestern University, is involved in research on seniors related to home injuries. "Up until the 1960's, there were not enough seniors living to do any studies related



Trish Uttich,
Director of Arden
Courts, Geneva

2. Middle 2-4 years/longest stage of the disease, with the individual repeating self, problems recognizing family and needing help to do simple tasks such as dressing themselves.

3. Late 1-3 years/leaves the individual with little capacity for self care of any kind and the personality changes and memory loss heightened.

A number of community resources are available for families in need of assistance or information including support groups, adult day care, safe return, assisted living, and long term care programs. The Alzheimer's Association is located in Chicago and offers consumer information. Consult your family physician, a specialist in Gerontology, telephone books, or the world wide web for local resources. ■

to the aging process," reported Ms. Lisak. Since that time a number of studies have been done to gain information about the aging process and the myths we have all come to believe in the past. Aging does not happen the same in every individual! Everyone is aging... and the changes happen at a different rate in each of us and affect different parts of our body for different reasons. Janet provided an informative overview with a simple self assessment and solutions that are available for seniors to the S.A.L.T. Council.

Aging affects are most often seen in vision, muscle and joints, endurance, hearing, balance and reflexes.

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home injuries continued



Janet Lisak,
Assistant Professor
in Occupational
Therapy

Each of our senses and physical capacities change at a different rate as we age. The relationship between age related changes and the risk of home injuries increases over time. One of the major factors that contribute to home injuries is the actual fear of falling. We become so focused on the “fear”, we facilitate the fall.

There are a number of things each of us can do to reduce the risk of injury or falls, that are simple, low cost, environmental modifications:

1. Having good lighting on stairways and hallways.
2. Keep doorways, hallways, walkways and stairs free of clutter and electrical cords.
3. Take your time getting in and out of the bathtub or shower.
4. Remove throw rugs or secure carpet edges to the floor with carpet tape.
5. Place frequently used items within easy reach on shelves or cabinets.
6. Use a sturdy stool or step stool to reach high shelves or cabinets.
7. Use a cooking timer if you leave the kitchen while the stove or oven is in use.
8. Have telephones in every room in the house or take a cordless telephone with you when you go from room to room. Emergency numbers should be posted near each telephone in the house.
9. Use a pill organizer to keep track of daily medications.

10. Maintain a regular program of exercise to improve your joint flexibility and muscle strength.

By identifying and correcting potential hazards early could help you minimize the risks you may face in your home and help improve your physical condition. ■

Your Township at Work for You

The events of the past several years have given us all reason to be better prepared for a crisis or disaster in our local communities. In an effort to provide resources and information, DuPage County Sheriff John Zaruba, and the Milton Township Citizen Corps have joined forces to open the Homeland Security Assurance Center at the Milton Township Hall. The Center serves as a repository of information and references to inform our citizens how to better prepare for emergencies including natural disasters, catastrophic accidents, as well as terrorist attacks. In an emergency, better planning and preparedness can mean the difference between life and death.



Milton
Township Hall
1492 N. Main
Wheaton

For more information or to volunteer call the
Homeland Security Assurance Office at
630.653.8403 OR
Email: miltoncorps@aol.com