

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Fall/ Winter 2022/2023 Edition • South Rock Island Township • (309) 788-0496 • 4330 11th St. Rock Island

Office Hours: 9 am– Noon & 1 pm– 4pm *closed weekends and holidays*

A Message From Your Supervisor

“Always find opportunities to make someone smile, and to offer random acts of kindness every day!”

As we begin a new fiscal year, I would love for all our staff and residents to live the quote above. Just think what a great world this would be! I love quotes. I think they can inspire, plant seeds and motivate, if we let them.

We are truly blessed with this opportunity to work at the Township where we can help others. We, at South Rock Island Township, try to use the tax dollars not only to fulfill our duties of serving the residents but also to share programs, experiences and friendships that they might not otherwise have.

This past fall and winter, we had a Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas Holiday party with our wonderful seniors and clients. We had hundreds of residents benefit from our Free Give Aways and enjoy the food items donated by the good people of our community.

We partnered with food pantries and the Fraternal Order of Eagles to make the holidays extra special for some families and children.

I cannot say enough about our staff and all of you who help to give us the opportunity to make people smile and to do random acts of kindness to those around us. Thank you, thank you thank you and may God bless you all!

Neighbors helping neighbors!

Grace Diaz Shirk

CPR/ BLS Training Class

We are hosting a CPR class. We wanted our staff to be well trained in CPR if an issue ever does arrive. This is also going to be open to the public for anyone interested in joining. The Township will cover the cost for the first 15 individuals who sign up, who live in our township(*1st come first serve*). After that, the cost per individual is \$40. (*this event is open to all individuals 18+*)

The date of the class is scheduled for **May 17, 2023** from **9:30-11:30 am** and will be held at the township. **Please RSVP by May 1.**

For more information or to sign up, please call 309-788-0496



Important Dates

Free Weekly Giveaway

Tuesdays 9-11:30 & 1-3:30 &
Thursday 9-11:30

Dates and times subject to change

Watch our Facebook page or
website for giveaway days

Free Leaf Bag Pick up Program

Monday April 3

Curbside pick-up on your regular
refuse day, See details on pg. 10

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Annual Town Meeting and Township
Resident Awards at 6:01 pm

Spring Shred Day

Wednesday April 19th
9:30-11:30am

Drug Take Back Day

April 22 10-2pm
See page 2 for locations

Outside Giveaway

May 9th
9:30—3:00pm

Jr. Chef Cooking Class

Starts June 14th(once a week)
5 week course– RSVP required
see details on pg. 6

Summer Kids Camp

July 18– July 22
9:30-11:30 am
Reservations required

What are Exemptions and am I eligible?

General Homestead (Owner Occupied) Exemption is available to owners who occupy a property as their principal residence on January 1 of the assessment year. The amount of the exemption is the difference between the 1977 equalized assessed value and the current assessed value. A reduction of up to \$6,000 in assessed value is provided.

Senior Homestead Exemption is for citizens 65 years and older who own and occupy their residences. A reduction of \$5,000 in assessed value is provided.

Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze Homestead Exemption allows qualified senior citizens to elect to freeze the equalized assessed value of their property at the base year amount. To qualify for the assessment freeze homestead exemption, you must be 65 years of age or older, have a total household gross income (including Social Security) of no more than \$65,000.

Disabled Persons Exemption this allows qualified residents to lower the Equalized Assessed Value of your property by \$2,000. This can be claimed in addition to other exemptions.

★ To Qualify for this Exemption:

- ⇒ Have a class 2 Illinois Person with Disability Identification Card from the Illinois Secretary of State's Office
- ⇒ Proof of Social Security Administration Disability Benefits Award Letter
- ⇒ A Physician's Statement (PTAX 343-A)

If you are unsure whether you qualify for or already have signed up for any of these exemptions, please call our office and we will happily go over them with you.

Residential Improvement Exemption is available to homeowners who improve their existing property. The exemption could delay the amount of increased assessed value up to 25,000 for a four-year period. The property must be owner-occupied.

○ Improvements that Qualify

- * New Garage
- * Addition to the Residence
- * Decks
- * Porches
- * In Ground Pools

Disabled Veteran's Exemption is available for Veterans with Service-Connected Disability

- 71% + (totally disabled) is exempt from property taxes with an EAV less than \$250,000
- 50%-69% a reduction of \$5,000 in assessed value
- 30%-49% a reduction of \$2,500 in assessed value

⇒ To qualify for this Exemption

- * Be an Illinois Resident
- * Have at least a 30% service-connected disability.
- * Bring in the Veteran's DD-214
- * Bring in Veteran's Percentage of Disability from the US Department of Veteran's Affairs

○ For 2023 Surviving Spouses can now apply for this exemption

⇒ To qualify for this Exemption

- * Be an UN-REMARIED spouse of a veteran
- * Must be an Illinois Resident
- * Bring in Veteran's Marriage Certificate
- * Bring in Veteran's Death Certificate
- * Bring in Veteran's DD-214
- * Bring in Veteran's Percentage of Disability from the US Department of Veteran's Affairs

ASSESSOR

Nichole Parker C.I.A.O.

NParker@SRITownship.net • (309) 788-4513



Year Around Disposal

Year Around Drug Disposal Drop Boxes

Drop box locations:

-Hy-Vee Pharmacies

(R.I., Milan, Moline Branches)

-Walgreens Pharmacies

(Moline on the Ave.)

-Rock Island Arsenal Clinic Pharmacy

For more information, search DEA Controlled Substance. Disposal Locations.

Please join us for National Drug Take Back Day
Saturday April 22 from
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Rock Island Justice Center
Silvis Police Dept.
Milan Police Station
Moline Police Dept.
East Moline Police Dept.

For more information please contact,
South Rock Island Township
(309) 788-0496



Town Clerk

Nick Camlin

NCamlin@SRTownship.net



Wheelchair Rental

We have a new program available to the residents of South Rock Island Township. There are requirements that one must meet in order to **TEMPORARILY** use our wheelchair.

1. *present license or an ID*
2. *Must provide a valid phone number and address*
3. *Set a return date*

***Those with a doctor's note for need will have preference.**

If you have any further questions please call us at (309-799-0496)

Annual Town Meeting

Registered voters of South Rock Island Township are once again invited to participate in the Annual Town Meeting, scheduled for 6:01 pm on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at the Township Hall (4330 11th Street, Rock Island). We honor Township residents with awards for their community dedication and take care of other Township business and services, and we'd love for you to join us if you can.

Public Service is My Purpose

At last November's Township Board meeting, I informed the Township Board that I am not seeking another term as Township Clerk in 2025. While the end of the term is still two years away, I have recently assumed new responsibilities in service to all the people of Rock Island County as Treasurer. I am grateful for all that I have learned about Township government, like the role of Township Assessors in the property tax system and keeping open & transparent records. I use those lessons to enhance my service at the County level. Similarly, the County has taught me skills to enhance my service to the Township, like navigating state statutes and directing people in need to the programs that can help them through tough times. **My main goal has always been to make government better for the people it serves.**

A special thank you to Jim Puentes, who donated an electric wheel chair for our rental wheelchair program.

*In memory of
Miatta Puentes*



Thank you RJFAC and residents for the wonderful coat donations!



A special thank you from all the SRJT Board to Katie Miller for her outstanding work on this newsletter!





Senior Food & Denture Program -62 & older!

If you're a South Rock Island resident, are 62 or older, and income qualify, you may participate in our Senior Food or Denture Program. Seniors with a maximum income of \$1,800 per month (\$21,600 yearly) for one person, or a maximum of \$2,200 (\$26,400 yearly) for a two-person household are eligible to apply. Those who meet all requirements could receive a \$40 monthly gift certificate to Hy-Vee. Under the same eligibility requirements, the Township has a program for seniors to receive new or replacement dentures. ***Individuals must not have dental insurance to apply***
To apply you must submit the following:

- *Current piece of mail dated within the last 30 days (no junk mail)*
- *Current driver's license or state ID card showing residence in our Township*
- **Current Social Security statement**
- **Current bank statement**
- *Any other income from pensions or retirements, employment, or rental properties*
- **Last years tax return**

No appointment necessary. Come to the Township with your information, fill out a short application, and see if you qualify!

For list of pick up and program dates, please visit or call the Township Office!



SENIOR SERVICES

We love trying to get our seniors active and out of the house! We try to provide activities, games, prizes, and various programs for our seniors to come out to enjoy. With the expansion of our new building, we are able to put on more programs throughout the year. **This year we started to have senior activities twice a month. The 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.** The Hy-Vee gift certificates will be handed out on the 1st Monday of the month. Bingo, crafts, fun, and more—hope to see you there!

If you have any suggestions on different programs or activities that we can do throughout the year please reach out to us at (309) 788-0496 or our email at srit@sritownship.net.



Spring/Summer Pick up days for \$40 Gift Certificate:

April 3	July 3
May 1	August 7
June 5	September 4 (mailed)

Annual Christmas Party

This year for our annual Christmas party we all got together and enjoy a wonderful and delicious breakfast catered by Hy-Vee. Santa visited, we played games, and put together some crafts! Our seniors had so much fun. We can't wait to do it all again this winter! Watch in our fall/ winter newsletter for the date and time of the Christmas Party.

Also, a thank you to Bill and Edna Sowards, who were our Mr. & Mrs. Clause, and to our staff and volunteers for an excellent job.



Feminine Hygiene Products

Thanks to Sophia Sherrod at Overflow Ministries, the township is able to provide feminine hygiene to those in need. Overflow Ministries is dedicated to serving single mothers and women in need. If you are in need of tampons, pads, liners please stop on in. It is a first come, first serve basis. If you would like to donate such items feel free to drop them off during office hours.



Food giveaway

With the help of **Saint Vincent De Paul**, we are able to provide food and some toiletries to our community. **Each week** we get deliveries from St. Vincent De Paul. Items range from canned food to fresh produce to the occasional toiletry items.

Food is available **during office hours** and is on a **first come first serve basis**. We just kindly ask you to be **respectful** and **kind** to others and only take what you need.



Outside giveaway

This past fall, in conjunction with The Treasure Chest, we held another outside giveaway. We set it up as a garage sale but it was all free! It was a great turn out, we had over 179 people benefit from this event! On **May 9th** from **9:30-3:00pm**, we will be having another outside giveaway!



Free clothing and household Giveaway

South Rock Island Township offers **FREE** clothing, shoes, personal and household items, as well as toiletries to those in need. We hold our giveaways every Tuesday, 9-11:30 & 1-3:30 & Thursday 9-11:30am at the Township, located at **4330 11th St., Rock Island**. **dates and times subjected to change**

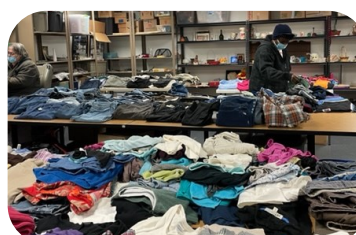
If you have **gently used** items you would like to donate, they may be dropped off at the Township during regular business hours: **9-11:30 & 1-3:30 pm M-F**.

Items we **cannot/do not** accept: Large furniture or appliances, old TVs and computers, well-worn/tattered (stained, ripped, or torn) clothing, and non-working or "just needs a new part" appliances.

Please do not leave donations sitting outside.

Drop off items during office hours: 9-11:30 & 1-3:30 pm M-F.

It's by your donations only that we are able to continue this service – Thank you!



Check out the Rock Island Library Near You!



Downtown

Watts-Midtown Branch



Southwest



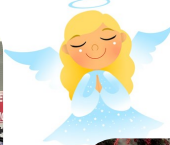
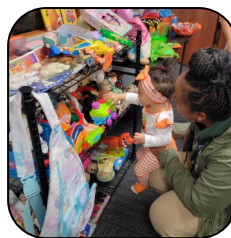
Online!

Get a card & enjoy endless possibilities!

More details - 309-732-READ
www.rockislandlibrary.org

Halloween Fun

The staff and volunteers at South Rock Island Township enjoyed another year of spooky fun for our Halloween event. The Township held our annual desk-to-desk trick or treat event, where we had a Spooktacular group of little goblins and ghouls.



Angel tree

This past year we were able to have our Angel Tree Program once again for the children in SRIT. Last year we provided gifts to 11 families, with 28 children in total. A huge thank you to the Fraternal Order of the Eagles in Rock Island for providing each family with a food basket, toiletry basket and a gift card to Hy-Vee!

We enjoyed this program so much and cannot wait for this winter so we can do this program again.

Watch for the fall/winter newsletter for sign up dates and qualifications!



Jr. Chef Kids Program

South Rock Island Township is once again partnering with University of Illinois Extension to host their Junior Chef Summer Kids Program. Once a week, **over the course of 5 weeks**, children ages 7-12 can join in learning about food and kitchen safety, as well as preparing recipes that they can bring back home with them. Seats are free but limited to the **first 20 children**, so sign up soon! The dates that this will be are the following at from 9:30am-11:30am:

June 14, June 21, June 28, July 5, and July 12.

Please call (309) 788-0496 for more information or to reserve a seat for your child now!



Summer Kids Camp

South Rock Island Township is having another fun and exciting Kids Summer Camp. Last year was such a great success, that we decided to do it again this year for all our wonderful children in the community. **Dates are set for July 17-21st.**

This will be our 6th kids camp and we are thrilled to provide this program for all our children in our community once again. Get your children or grandchildren signed up today!

For more information please call us at **(309) 788-0496** and watch our Facebook page and website for details on this exciting program. **Seats are limited to 20 children.**



Spring Shred Day

South Rock Island Township will partner with Arc Industries to offer a free **SHRED DAY** for the residents of our Township. The shredding event will take place on **April 19th** from **9:30 to 11:30am**. Each resident is **allowed to bring up to 1 bag or 1 box of personal papers up to 75 lbs. per person**. This past spring we collected 3,828 lbs. If you have any questions please call the Township at: (309) 788-0496.

Please don't arrive before 9:15am that morning. This event will take place rain or shine.



Flu Clinic

We want to thank the Rock Island County Health Department for setting up a flu clinic last October, and helping to provide a much needed prevention program. They administered many flu shots during that day. We would love to work again with the RIPHD to provide more clinics throughout the year. Keep a look out for possible dates.

They will for sure be back again in October for flu shots, so check out our newsletter this Fall for the date!

Special Christmas Toy Giveaway

One of our favorite times of the year is Christmas! One of the many programs we have is our annual toy giveaway. Throughout the year we collect new/gently used toys and in December we pick a day to have families come in and pick out some toys for their children to open for Christmas. We will even wrap them for you. Last year on Dec. 15, we had 29 parents come in and shop for a total of 74 children.

Please watch in the next edition of the newsletter for the special toy giveaway date and time and if you would like to donate any new/gently used toys please drop them off anytime during office hours.



State Farm™

Chris Elsberg, Agent
855 46th Ave. Rock Island, IL
61201
309-788-3060
chris.elsberg.caoy@statefarm.com



- We were pleased to sponsor to the Rock Island/ Milan Little boys baseball league and the Girls Softball league for the 2022 year!



IS YOUR HOME SAFE FROM LEAD-BASED PAINT?

Do you live in an older home that may have peeling paint or old windows? We can help make repairs to your home to make it lead (base paint) safe for your family.

Lead poisoning is a leading environmental illness of children and is caused primarily by lead-based paint in older homes. Although, substantial progress has been made in recent years, the State of Illinois maintains one of the highest rates in the nation for the number of children with elevated blood lead levels (EBLL's). Most recently, the State of Illinois reduced the EBLL threshold from 10 µg/dL to 5 µg/dL. The most common exposure to lead for children is through the ingestion of paint chips and contaminated dust from deteriorated or disturbed lead-based paint in homes built before 1978.

The City of Moline is the Responsible Entity (RE) who will serve as the **central location (department)** for this Illinois Quad Cities \$2,400,000 Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant Program and will be responsible for ensuring program compliance among the Illinois Quad Cities Healthy Homes Coalition (Coalition). The Coalition members carrying out the objectives in this new lead grant opportunity include: **four local neighboring governments: City of Moline, City of Silvis, City of East Moline and the City of Rock Island; one Community Housing Development Organization, Project NOW, and the Rock Island County Health Department.**

If you have any questions about the program, program requirements and qualifications please call us or email us at:

KJ Whitley, Lead Program Manager
City of Moline

619 16 Street Moline, IL 61265
kwhitley@moline.il.us 309.524.2044

Nichole Mata, Housing & Loan Program Officer
City of Rock Island
1528 3rd Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
mata.nichole@rigov.org 309.732.2907

Attention Knitters!

Come join the Township Knitting class on Thursday afternoons from 1:30 pm-3:30 pm. Whether you are experienced or want to learn, this is the place. We will occasionally have yarn and needles available to for use for anyone who may not have any. We also accept donations of yarn, knitting needles, and crochet hooks.

Hope to see you on Thursday. All are welcome, no reservation needed just walk on in.



Try-Play

(Township Recreational Youth Assistance Program)

Our SRIT youth can go to White Water Junction or go to camp, take lessons or classes at the Rock Island Fitness Center, the Library, the MLK Center or the Townships at little or no cost!!!! Our goal is to make sure all of the youth in our community have the opportunity to be involved in programs that provide mentoring, character, team building, and FUN! TRY-PLAY will have limited scholarships and bus passes available, based on need.

For more information please contact South Rock Island Township at (309) 788-0496.

Advertisement opportunity!

Drive by and stay up on daily activates that are at the township and around the Quad Cities.

If your organization would like something **featured on our sign**, please contact us at 309-788-0496.

(all are subject to approval)

Rock Island Library

Check out the Rock Island Public Libraries website to see all the fun and exciting programs they have to offer! Also watch for the mobile Library around town! Be sure to get a library card today!

<https://www.rockislandlibrary.org/>



Residents of the Year Award

Rosie Earby

Rosie is a dedicated township volunteer for over a year and is a great asset to our team. She helps down at the free giveaway every week— twice a week. She does anything she is asked and is very pleasant with the residents and staff. She freely gives her time and heart. Without the efforts of our volunteers, our giveaway would be nothing like the way it is now.



Marcy Hansen

Marcy has been apart of the Township since June 2022 and since then she has already done so much for the township. Our seniors have come to love Marcy and the activities she comes up with. But what makes Marcy stand out the most is her heart and her willingness to anything for people, especially our seniors. She will go above and beyond for them. Whether it be deliver a basket of goodies to one of them after they got really sick and couldn't make it in or go up to the hospital to visit with one of them after a major surgery. We love to award people like Marcy who have such a caring heart for our residents.



Retired Judge Clarence Darrow

Clarence A Darrow has lived most of his adult life on the same street in South Rock Island Township. It is where he raised a large and giving family with his wife Lila. Clarence A Darrow has served our community as an Assistant State's Attorney, a four-term member of the Illinois House of Representatives, an Illinois State Senator for one term, and Circuit Court Judge for 10 years. While his career was centered around the law and politics, Mr. Darrow was a driven defender of children, refugees, and those suffering from homelessness.

Mr. Darrow spent a lifetime supporting refugees after initially volunteering as a young boy for the Red Cross assembling aid packages for World War II refugees. Early in his career, Mr. Darrow worked as a social worker for children. He was a member of the founding committee of the Rock Island County Children's Advocacy Center. He was a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, volunteering time and legal services. Mr. Darrow lived his faith, volunteering at many churches and for may faith-based initiatives like Bread for the World.

Clarence A Darrow is a shinning example of a true public servant who helped the people who needed it most. The residents of South Rock Island Township and the larger Quad City community are grateful for and inspired by his selflessness.



Every year we help sponsor the Rock Island Park and Recreation Egg Hunt at Lincoln Park. We enjoy giving to the youth of our community so much!



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4 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

801 W. Edgington St • Reynolds**309-372-8433**

201 E. 4th Ave • Milan**309-756-5513**

3030 7th Ave • Rock Island.....**309-786-5421**

Knox Chapel

2106 7th Ave • Rock Island**309-786-5421**

www.wheelanpressly.com

VETERAN'S LUNCHEON

On Nov. 2, 2022, South Rock Island, Rock Island, Moline, South Moline, Hampton, and Blackhawk Township all came together and hosted a luncheon honoring all area veterans. We had around 60 veterans come and celebrate with us. Chord busters, Honor Guard, and Alleman Choir came and sang a few songs for everyone. We enjoy having this program so much and hope to try to have a luncheon for veterans every year!



Spring Leaf Bags

Beginning **April 3**, residents may again pick up free leaf bags at South Rock Island Township - 4330 11th St. The Township hours are 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A **daily maximum of 20 bags, with a Rock Island ID**, will be provided to each Rock Island resident only.

Curbside pickup of leaf bags will be April 10th—April 28th
Please be aware that leaf bags will only be picked up on your regular garbage pickup day. Yard waste stickers are not necessary during this time, due to this being a free program through the City of Rock Island.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the City of Rock Island at 732-2200, or visit them at www.rigov.org.

What Can You See In The QC?



A new attraction will be announced each month. You do not need to be a patient to enter to win.

ENTER AT ESAyecare.com

(563) 323-2020 | (309) 793-2020



Eye Surgeons Associates

Medical • Surgical • Optical

Providing Your Best Vision For Life

Celebrating **40** Years

General Assistance Programs

General Assistance- Monthly

This program provides a basic needs allowance. All applicants must meet state mandated guidelines, and participate in the township's community work program or employment job search program.

Emergency Assistance

Once in a 12-month period, families with children, may receive aid to alleviate life threatening circumstances or to assist in attaining self sufficiency. Residents **must** produce a Late Notice.

*For General and Emergency Assistance: All individuals and families **must** come to the township for a checklist and application, to see if they qualify.*

Employment Assistance

Newly hired residents may qualify to receive job related supplies to begin their jobs. Applicants must provide proof of hire, ID, and the supplies required by the employer (i.e. uniform, steel toe boots, state ID/driver's license, etc.).

Unemployment Bus Tickets (yearly)

An unemployed resident may receive 20 free bus tickets in a 12-month period. An ID and current piece of mail **dated** within the last 30 days for proof of residency is required to obtain tickets. *Junk mail and medical cards will not be accepted as a valid piece of mail.*


Temporary Handicapped Placards

The placard offers parking privileges for those with temporary disabilities. Doctor's forms and placards are available at the Township. *If you wish to obtain a permanent handicapped placard or license plate, you **must** mail your application to Springfield.*

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Lamination/ Fax/ Copies | Notary | Toiletries |
| Warming and cooling center | Computer Use | |
| Fan & Umbrella Donation | Township Directory | |
| Voters Registration | Eye Glasses Collection for Lions Club | |


For more information on these and other services the Township offers please call (309) 788-0496 or visit our website at www.sritownship.net

Check out our Facebook page as well!








READY TO RIDE

Ride confidently knowing
Metro will get you
where you need to go in
the Illinois Quad Cities.



Download our TransLoc app for
fixed route departures and arrivals.





MetroQC.com | 309-788-3360

Follow us on Facebook



Visit our website at: www.sritownship.net



HOURS

9 a.m.—Noon &
1 p.m.—4 p.m.

Monday through Friday
Closed weekends & holidays

(309) 788-0496-General Assistance

(309) 788-4513- Assessor

**Monthly Township
Board Meetings-**
Generally held the
**LAST MONDAY OF EACH
MONTH AT
4:15 P.M. in the Town Hall**

Here To Serve You! - Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

(Front Row) **Bill Sowards**, Trustee | **Frank Skafidas**, Trustee | **Mark Parr Jr.**, Trustee

(Back Row) **Nichole Parker**, Assessor | **KJ Whitley** Trustee
Grace Diaz Shirk, Supervisor | **Nick Camlin**, Town Clerk

Important Numbers

Rock Island County- (309)558-3538

Social security- 800-772-1213

Senator Michael Halpin- (217) 782-4307

Department of Human Services- (309)794-9530

Project Now Senior Center- (309)788-6335

Police Department Non-Emergency- (309)732-2677

Mayor, Mike Thoms (309) 732-2012

Congressman Eric Sorensen- (309)786-3406

Representative Gregg Johnson (217) 782-5970

State Driver's License Division- (309) 796-0934

County Board Chairman- (309)558-3605

Fire Department Non-Emergency- (309)732-2800

Department of Revenue- (800)732-8866

For all current City Officials
and their numbers please
visit the city website below:

[https://
www.rigov.org/299/
Council-Members](https://www.rigov.org/299/Council-Members)

To find your ward, please
visit rigov.org