

Fire Department equipped, trained to save lives

When it comes to saving lives, every minute counts for the firefighter/paramedics responding to a 911 call.

That's why every ambulance and fire engine deployed by the Oak Park Fire Department is equipped to deliver advance life support (ALS) at the scene.

Each of these vehicles carries intravenous (IV) supplies, cardiac monitors, ventilators and other items needed to care for a severely injured or ill patient.

In addition, all Village firefighters are certified paramedics trained to administer oxygen, drug therapy, CPR and cardiac monitoring as quickly as possible without having to wait until arriving at a hospital.

Equipment on the ambulances and engines also gathers and transmits important data about the patient that can help emergency room personnel be better prepared to respond appropriately when the ambulance arrives.

The Oak Park Fire Department always has two ambulances in service. The Village typically purchases new ambulances about every three years to stay equipped with the latest life-saving technology.

The ambulances are housed along with an ALS-equipped fire engine at the



Main Fire Station on Euclid Avenue near Oak Park Avenue. The Village also has ALS-equipped fire engines at its north station on Augusta Street and south station on East Avenue.

About two-thirds of all emergency calls to the Oak Park Fire Department involve emergency medical services. The Oak Park Fire Department responded to more than 6,700 calls for service in 2016.

On average, it takes just under four



minutes for a crew of five paramedics to arrive at the scene, a response rate that routinely bests national averages.

For more information about the Oak Park Fire Department's emergency services, visit www.oak-park.us/fire, email fire@oak-park.us or call 708.358.5600.



Disability resource guide now available

As part of its efforts to help people with disabilities lead proud and productive lives, the citizen volunteers on the Disability Access Commission have compiled and produced a handy guide to programs and services available locally. The listing is not meant to include every service, but to focus on those offered by local governments and agencies with offices in the Village or that provide services to Oak Park residents. With plans to update the listing regularly, residents are urged to report any important resource available to Oak Park residents with disabilities or their friends and families that may have been missed. Just contact the ADA Coordinator by email at adacoordinator@oak-park.us with any suggestions. The guide is available for review, downloading and printing at www.oak-park.us/disabilityresources. Copies also are available at Village Hall, 123 Madison St. and other community venues. Email adacoordinator@oak-park.us for more information.



Tree planting focuses on species diversity

With the impact of Dutch elm disease and emerald ash borer still being felt in urban forests across the country, Oak Park is focused on species diversity as new trees are selected and planted on parkways across the community. The 365 new trees planted this spring in the Village include 28 different species, an approach arborists have resoundingly recognized as the best way to avoid future blights that can sweep through a single species with devastating results. The Village Forester, certified a Master Arborist by the International Society of Arboriculture, manages when, where and what trees will be planted. While requests for specific species are considered, the Village cannot provide a list of available tree species from which a resident can select since site conditions and species availability vary greatly from season to season. The overall goal of the careful species selection process is to have a healthy, sustainable urban forest for future generations to enjoy. New trees planted in Oak Park typically are 10 feet to 15 feet tall with a two-inch trunk diameter and a 36-inch root ball. Each new tree is planted and mulched, and a watering bag attached that is refilled regularly during the first growing season. A second planting of approximately 200 trees is planned for the coming fall. For more information on tree care in the Village visit www.oak-park.us/trees.

Free consultations available... Oak Park residents can get help selecting the right tree species to plant in their yards from the forestry subcommittee of the Community Design Commission. Subcommittee members will help assess the planting site and offer advice on species by factors such as size, habit, texture, growth rate, maintenance and seasonal color. The review is available from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. at the subcommittee's regular meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Space is limited. Be sure to bring a site plan or plat of survey and information about existing vegetation near the proposed tree location. To schedule a consultation, call 708.358.5440 or email planning@oak-park.us.

Rules for a safe, successful garage sale

Oak Parkers seeking to declutter, while making a few extra dollars, can host a garage sale twice each year without a permit or permission from the Village. However, a few rules must be observed:

- Limit sales to the daylight hours of no more than three consecutive days.
- Display items only within a garage, residence, carport and/or rear yard, unless it is a neighborhood sale.
- Keep advertising signs on the property where the sale is held. Take them down when the sale is over.
- Don't put signs on public property, including light poles, sign posts or on or above public parkways or sidewalks.
- Make signs no larger than eight square feet.

Garage sales are intended for disposing of personal property, not for merchandise purchased for resale or on consignment. And keep in mind that the individual conducting the sale and the owner or tenant of the premises where the sale is being held are responsible for maintaining order and may be subject to penalty for any violations of garage sale rules. For more information, call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Vehicle stickers now on sale

Every Oak Park resident who owns or leases a motor vehicle is required to purchase and display a vehicle sticker annually before July 15. Sticker prices increase \$20 after the deadline. Failure to display a valid Village sticker by the deadline also may result in a \$75 ticket. A current vehicle sticker is required to purchase a parking permit. Residents whose vehicles already are registered with the Village can save time by renewing online at www.oak-park.us/onlineservices rather than via mail or in person at Village Hall. Renewal notices mailed or emailed to current sticker holders include a unique web identification number that allows a vehicle owner to correct or update most data online, including address and telephone number, and add vehicle information. Anyone who loses the renewal notice can look up their web ID number using the email address or telephone number included in the previous year's application. Online payments require an email address and a credit or debit card. The sticker is delivered via U.S. Mail, typically within a few days of purchase. The online option is for renewals only. First-time vehicle sticker purchasers must come to Village Hall, 123 Madison St. A lease, utility bill or other government-issued proof of residency is required. In-person sticker purchases and renewals are offered at Village Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, except holidays. Village Hall also will be open for vehicle sticker purchases and renewals from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Sat., July 1. Individuals renewing in person are urged to bring their renewal notice to speed up processing. The online renewal system will continue to be available through July 14, but will automatically charge the higher fee at the midnight. Vehicle sticker rates vary by type of vehicle. More information, including rates for various types of vehicles, senior citizens and active-duty military personnel is posted at www.oak-park.us/parking. Information also is available by calling 708.358.7275 or emailing parking@oak-park.us.

View the latest water quality report online



Oak Park residents interested in knowing about the quality of the water they drink need go no further than www.oak-park.us/waterqualityreport to read the latest report. Each year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires communities to prepare a *Consumer Confidence Report*

that provides information on the quality of the local drinking water. In addition to detailed analyses of substances in the water, the report also includes facts about the community's drinking water delivery system and source, which is Lake Michigan for Oak Park. The Village is dedicated to supplying drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal standards. An archive of past water quality reports is posted at www.oak-park.us/waterquality. For more information on Oak Park's drinking water or if you would like a paper copy of the annual water report, call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Township News

Caregiver support...Oak Park Township offers a range of caregiver support programs including workshops, bi-monthly group gatherings, respite care and social activities. Residents who are the primary caregivers of a loved one are encouraged to call 708.383.8060 or email ssmith@oakparktownship.org to register for future programs or for more information. A list of other support programs for seniors is posted at www.oakparktownship.org/services/support-programs.

Budget Approved...The recently approved Oak Park Township fiscal year 2018 budget is posted for public view at www.oakparktownship.org/finances. Copies also are available during regular business hours at 105 S. Oak Park Ave. Call 708.383.8005 with questions.



Farmers' Market open for 42nd season

The Oak Park Farmers' Market is now open for its 42nd season, welcoming new vendors and special guests. The Market is held from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday from opening day through October in the Pilgrim Congregational Church parking lot, 460 Lake St., one block west of Ridgeland Avenue. In addition to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, bedding plants, honey, cheese, frozen meat and baked goods, the Market also features donuts made on-site, fresh coffee and live bluegrass music.

New Vendors...Some vendors have been participating in the Oak Park Farmers' Market for decades, while others are new to the scene this year. This season's newcomers include *1871 Dairy* (milk, butter, yogurt and cream), *Capraio Farm & Dairy* (artisanal goat cheese), *Finn's Ranch* (meat and eggs) and *Midnight Sun* (turkey, eggs and produce). The Market also host guest vendors throughout the season, including *American Pride Microfarm* (microgreens and quail eggs), *Greenfire Farm* (organic grass-fed beef, pastured heritage pork and poultry products) and *Hazzard Free Farm* (heirloom and ancient grains). These newcomers will be among the many regional vendors offering the sustainable, organic and locally sourced goods that are the hallmark of the Oak Park Farmers' Market. A Market site map and information on all of this year's vendors are posted at www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

Special events and guests...Children's activities are scheduled for the second Saturday from June through October. Activities will be hosted by Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory, University of Illinois Extension master gardeners, Ms. Clara's Mini Musicians, Wonder Works Children's Museum and Stomp & Shout, a kids' theater group. The West Cook YMCA also will be on hand periodically throughout the season handing out veggie-of-the-week cards that contain recipes for seasonal vegetables, and the Oak Park Public Library's book bike will visit the Market the fourth Saturday of each month. Non-profit bake sales will be offered each Saturday as well as occasional cooking demonstrations featuring chefs from local restaurants. Other special events on the schedule this season include the annual corn roast Aug. 12, a pie-baking contest Sept. 2 and traditional stone soup ladled up at the final Market of the season Oct. 28. To help support Market administration, a variety of items will be sold at the information tent, including reusable shopping bags, t-shirts and travel mugs. A majority of the vendors now accept credit/debit cards, as well as WIC and senior coupons. All vendors accept Link cards. For more information call 708.358.5780, email farmersmarket@oak-park.us or visit www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

Police offer tips to deter bicycle thieves



Bicycle thefts tend to increase during warmer weather. Following these steps, police say, can help deter bicycle thieves:

- Don't leave your bike unlocked or unattended.
 - Lock your bike even when it is stored in a closed garage, enclosed porch or basement common area.
 - Never let anyone you do not know take your bike for a ride.
- Be cautious of two people on one bike. Bicycle thieves often travel in pairs this way.
 - Trust your instincts. If you feel someone is going to take your bicycle, shout for help.
 - Stay in the company of friends — there usually is safety in numbers.
 - Think twice about resisting — your bike can be replaced.
 - Call 911 immediately if you see anyone suspicious hanging around a bike rack, in a neighbor's yard or near a garage.
 - Register your bike with the Village. Should your bike be stolen and later recovered the registration provides information about its rightful owner.

Police urge parents to share these tips with their children. For more information, call 708.386.3800, email police@oak-park.us or talk to your resident or neighborhood beat officer. Contact information is posted at www.oak-park.us/police.

Bicycles and sidewalks...Riding on a sidewalk by anyone of any age is not allowed in the business districts. And only those under 15 years of age may ride on a sidewalk anywhere else in the community. Youngsters riding on sidewalks always must yield to pedestrians. For more information on bicycle rules and safety, call 708.386.3800 or email police@oak-park.us.

Park District News

Passport program...Hoping to get kids ages 5 to 13 to stay active and explore their parks and community, the Park District has partnered with School District 97 and Public Library to offer a free summer program of missions for participants to complete. Participants who get their passports stamped for completing all 10 missions will receive prizes. Passports were distributed to all District 97 students and are available at all Park District and Library locations. Visit www.pdop.org for more details.

Free concerts...Additional concerts have been added to this year's summer concert series held in Scoville Park at Lake Street and Oak Park Avenues. The first concert is set for Sun., June 11. Concerts begin at 5:30 p.m. and the series runs through Aug. 20. All concerts are held Sunday evenings in Scoville Park beginning at 5:30pm. The concerts are sponsored by the Hemingway Business District. Visit www.pdop.org for a complete list of concerts and rain-out information.

Free movies...Families are invited to bring lawn chairs and blankets for the feature film series in Scoville Park on Lake Street, just west of Oak Park Avenue. Films begin at dusk. Rain dates will be posted at www.pdop.org.

June 15: Rogue One — A Star Wars Story

July 20: Field of Dreams

Aug. 17: The Queen of Katwe

Sept. 23: Beauty and The Beast (2017)

Walking paths...Oak Parkers seeking low-impact, but effective exercise are invited to visit www.pdop.org/walkingpaths for links to measured walking paths mapped out in nine of the community's public parks. The page also suggests longer walks with distances between parks listed.

Clip and Save

Who to Call

Dial Direct (area code 708)

| Village Hall | oak-park.us |
|-------------------------------|--|
| TTY | 711 |
| Adjudication | 358.5630 |
| Development Customer Services | 358.5420 |
| Business Services | 358.5425 |
| Neighborhood Services | 358.5410 |
| Housing | option 1 |
| CDBG | option 2 |
| Property complaints | option 3 |
| Permits & Inspections | 358.5430 |
| Planning | 358.5440 |
| General questions | option 1 |
| Historic Preservation | option 2 |
| Zoning | option 3 |
| Finance | 358.5460 |
| Utility Billing Inquiries | 358.5478 |
| Fire (nonemergency) | 358.5600 |
| Human Resources | 358.5650 |
| Job Hotline | 358.5650 |
| Mayor & Trustees | 358.5784 |
| Police (nonemergency) | 386.3800 |
| Crime Tip Hotline | 434.1636 |
| Public Health | 358.5480 |
| Animal Control | 358.5680 |
| Public Works | 358.5700 |
| Parking | 358.7275 |
| Village Clerk | 358.5670 |
| Village Manager's Office | 358.5770 |

EMERGENCIES 911

| Park District | www.pdop.org |
|---------------------|--|
| Administration | 725.2017 |
| Customer Service | 725.2000 |
| Building & Grounds | 725.2050 |
| Business Operations | 725.2015 |
| Public Library | www.oppl.org |
| Main Library | 383.8200 |
| Maze Branch | 386.4751 |
| Dole Branch | 386.9032 |
| School District 97 | www.op97.org |
| Administration | 524.3000 |
| School District 200 | www.oprfhs.org |
| Administration | 383.0700 |
| Township | www.oakparktownship.org |
| Senior Services | 383.8060 |
| Youth Services | 445.2727 |
| General Assistance | 383.8005 |
| Assessor Services | 383.8005 |
| Mental Health Board | 358.8855 |

 facebook.com/vopnews

 instagram.com/oakparkil

 pinterest.com/oakparkil

 twitter.com/vopnews

 youtube.com/vopnews

Rehab loans available

Rental properties – Owners of multi-family buildings with seven or fewer units may be eligible for forgivable loans of up to \$5,000 per unit under the Village’s Small Rental Rehab Program. Owners need to contribute matching funds of at least 25 percent of the total project cost and agree to rent to income-eligible tenants for two years. Projects eligible for funding include general property repairs, unit upgrades and energy efficiency improvements. For more information, visit www.oak-park.us/housing, call 708.358.5410 or email housing@oak-park.us.

Single-family emergency – No-interest loans of up to \$5,000 are available to help income-eligible owners of single family homes make emergency repairs such as replace faulty furnaces or water heaters before the winter weather returns. To qualify, homes must be owner-occupied and household income must be at or below 80 percent of the area median income – for example \$55,350 for a three-person household. Loan terms are for five years. Email housing@oak-park.us or call 708.358.5413 for more information.

Village Hall visitors invited to rate the experience

Visitors to Oak Park Village Hall, 123 Madison St., are invited to provide feedback about their experience via an electronic survey. A touch-screen tablet on a kiosk near the main entrance offers visitors the opportunity to anonymously rate the quality of the service received. The brief survey also allows visitors to submit contact information should they wish to discuss their experience further. While the survey is not a scientifically valid poll of customer satisfaction, officials say results provide indications of where and how the customer experience at Village Hall can be improved. Comments also can be shared via email to village@oak-park.us. For more information on Village government programs and services, visit www.oak-park.us.

Think safety when cooking outdoors

Summer means getting together with good friends and good food outside. Making sure your grill is operated safely and food is handled correctly is important, so follow these guidelines:

Grilling

- Make sure smoke is not a nuisance to a neighbor.
- Use an approved container designed for barbecuing.
- Keep grills at least 10 feet from any combustible material or structure, such as a house, garage or deck.
- Only use the fuel for which your grill is designed.
- Have a fire extinguisher, garden hose or bucket of water nearby just in case, and close the lid when done cooking.

Food handling

- Wash hands thoroughly with warm, soapy water before, between and after handling each different food item.
- Clean utensils, cutting boards and countertops with hot, soapy water before and after preparing each food item.
- Place cooked meat on a clean plate.
- Store all meat products in separate containers or bags that seal.
- Use a metal stemmed food thermometer to check the final cooking temperature of meat and poultry. Roasts and steaks should be cooked to an internal temperature of at least 150°F, ground beef and pork to 160°F, fish to 145°F and whole poultry to 180°F.
- Refrigerate cooked foods promptly to prevent the growth of harmful bacteria.

Email fire@oak-park.us for information on grilling safety and health@oak-park.us for food handling guidance.

Planning key to a great block party

The Village encourages block parties as a way to build community spirit, meet neighbors and have fun. Each block may sponsor two block parties per year, but since some weekends fill quickly, plan early to get preferred dates. A petition signed by at least 10 separate addresses on the block is required to schedule a block party. Approved petitions allow the neighborhood to close off a street to vehicle traffic for the entire day. Petitions must be returned two weeks before the date of the block party. Block party organizers are urged to remember the following rules:

- **Include everyone on the block** – especially renters in multifamily buildings.
- **Use a north-south block.** Due to public safety and traffic considerations, block parties are not allowed on east-west streets.
- **Make sure emergency vehicles can get through if needed.** Tables, chairs or other items should not project more than six feet from the curb. And don’t stretch wires, ropes, nets, lights, banners or other items across the street.
- **Supervise children at all times.** Even though the street may be closed, accidents can happen.
- **Use only street barricades provided by the Village.** Cars parked in a street as a barricade may impede emergency vehicles, and could be ticketed.
- **Do not plan a party for an alley.** Alleys provide important access for utility companies and other services.
- **Keep sidewalks clear.** Sidewalks are public ways that may not be obstructed even during a block party.
- **If alcohol is present, keep it on private property.** Alcohol may not be sold.

For more information, call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us. An information packet is posted at www.oak-park.us/blockparties.



Trustees
Deno J. Andrews
Dan Moroney
Simone M. Boutet
Jim Taglia
Andrea Button
Bob Tucker

Village Clerk
Vicki Scaman
Cara Pavlicek

Village Manager
Anan Abu-Taleb

Residential Customer Local
Oak Park, Illinois

Postal Carrier
Pre-Sort

Presort
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 26
Oak Park, IL

OP/FYI

Village of Oak Park
Village Hall
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302-4272



July 4th parade to showcase Oak Park's diversity

The many dimensions of Oak Park will be on display when the 11th annual July 4th parade steps off at 10 a.m., Tues., July 4 from Longfellow Park at Ridgeland Avenue and Adams Street. Parade participants march north on Ridgeland Avenue to Augusta Street and disperse at Whittier School. The route will offer many viewing opportunities along the way. More than 75 groups typically participate in the parade, including social and special interest groups, community groups, athletic teams, politicians, businesses, service organizations, children's groups, animal lovers with their pets and musical groups. Some participants bring floats and drive vintage cars. Others play music, carry banners, ride decorated bicycles and skate. Most dress up in all manner of red, white and blue to commemorate the nation's birthday and to celebrate Oak Park's rich diversity. Of course, the Police and Fire departments always are part of the parade, too, with vehicle lights flashing and sirens blaring. Weather permitting, a fireworks display typically begins at dusk in the football stadium of Oak Park and River Forest High School near East Avenue and Lake Street. For more information or to volunteer to help out at the parade, call 708.358.5407 or email community@oak-park.us.



Outdoor sculpture walk underway

The annual Oak Park Sculpture Walk is back for a sixth season, with 12 sculptures on display in an outdoor exhibit in the Oak Park Arts District along Harrison Street between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin Boulevard. This year's Sculpture Walk features the work of artists from throughout the Midwest, with submissions coming from as far as Missouri and Ohio. The sculptures were chosen through a juried competition and vary in materials. Visitors can download the free Otocast app onto their smartphones to access information about the sculptures and hear descriptions of the work by the artists. The Sculpture Walk is organized by the Oak Park Area Arts Council. For more information, email sculpturewalk@oakparkareaartscouncil.org.

