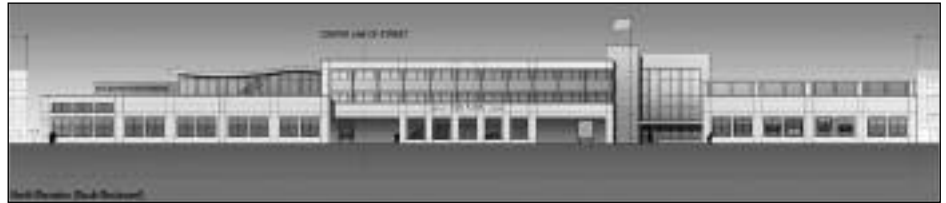


Work begins on new neighborhood, environmentally friendly Public Works facility

Demolition is scheduled to begin this month on the old Public Works Department facility, the first major step in the plan to build a structure that will bring a new look to South Boulevard near Lombard Avenue, while also improving operations, reducing impact on the neighborhood and embracing an overall environmentally sustainable approach through design, materials and construction techniques.

Once completed, the new 150,000-square-foot facility will be the community's first certified green building, and likely will become a model for future projects in Oak Park. The environmentally friendly elements to be incorporated into the new facility earned the Village a \$100,000 grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. The grant requires energy use in the new facility to be reduced by 20 percent from what would normally be con-



The view from South Boulevard of the new Public Works Facility. All operations will be housed inside, including salt storage and a vehicle fueling station.

sumed. Among the green features planned for the new building are a living roof, water efficient landscaping, low-emitting carpets, paints and adhesives and 5 percent recycled construction materials.

The design calls for light colored brick, bluegreen tinted glass windows and metal accents near the front entry. A grass parkway, crosswalks, trees and setbacks and buffers from the single-family residential area to the south are part of the plan. The public sidewalk

on South Boulevard also will be moved further from the buildings and the number of site entries and exits reduced to improve pedestrian use of the block.

One level of the new facility will be underground. Passers by won't likely see the steel for the upper floors rise above grade until late summer, with completion expected by Spring 2007. The building's height will vary to avoid monotony and a canyon effect along South Boulevard, the two-story structure's height in keeping with the surrounding neighborhood. All utility lines leading to the facility will be underground.

Public Works operations have been moved to temporary quarters, the utilities that passed under the site disconnected and concrete construction barriers and a security fence erected to help protect neighbors from the construction activity. Vibration monitors also will be placed in specific locations in the neighborhood to ensure work does not impact nearby properties.

For more information on the project, call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us. Periodic updates also will be posted at www.oak-park.us.

Village Manager accepts Arizona post



Village Manager Carl Swenson will be leaving Oak Park to assume a senior management position with the City of Peoria, Arizona, a fast-growing community of 150,000 residents near Phoenix. Swenson, who has been Village Manager of Oak Park since 1996, will become Peoria's Deputy City Manager for Development and Community Services. In his new role he will oversee the future growth and development of Peoria's 178 square miles. His last day in Oak Park will

be April 7. Oak Park operates under the *village manager form* of government, in which an elected legislative body — the Village President and a Board of six Trustees — hires a professional manager to oversee the day-to-day operation of government services and programs. The Village Board will select candidates to consider as a replacement to Swenson. For more information, call 358.5784 or email board@oak-park.us.

Shuttle Adds Larger, More Accessible Vehicle



The Oak Park Shuttle has replaced one of its five-passenger vans with a new 11-passenger vehicle that offers easier access — especially for elderly passengers and those with wheelchairs. PACE, the suburban bus system operator, is providing the larger vehicle in recognition of the shuttle's success attracting riders. The new vehicle will

allow riders to stand up when walking to seats and people using wheelchairs to enter and exit curbside rather than through a rear door as is necessary with the smaller vehicle. The new shuttle is likely to be especially appreciated during the holiday shopping season when hours are extended to 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The extended holiday hours will remain in effect through Friday, Dec. 30, except Christmas Eve. Regular shuttle hours of 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. will remain in effect for Sunday through Wednesday, including Christmas Eve. The Shuttle will not operate on Christmas or New Years Day. A Village-sponsored, free transit service, the shuttle route includes 21 stops at 30-minute intervals along an eight-mile course that includes easy access to key mass transit train, elevated and bus routes. The larger vehicle will operate as Shuttle No. 2, which starts at 10:30 a.m. at Stop 1 located at the Green Line Station on South Boulevard at Oak Park Avenue and ends there at 5:30 p.m. on regular days, and 9:30 p.m. during the extended holiday hours. Stops are marked by signs including a route map, a list of attractions near each stop and the arrival time of each of the two vans. The maps also note nearby mass transit connection options. For the most up-to-date information call 615.1830. A route map and schedule also is posted at www.oak-park.us.

New local landmarks approved

Two local buildings have been designated as Oak Park Landmarks, bringing the total to 29. Oak Park's newest landmarks are the First United Methodist Church, 324 N. Oak Park Ave. (Tallmadge & Watson, 1923) and the Maze Branch Library, 845 Gunderson Ave. (Elmer C. Roberts, 1936). Historic landmark status is awarded to a property that meets certain architectural or historic standards. Designation recognizes that the property is significant to Oak Park and its historic character and architecture should be preserved for future generations. Landmark status also brings eligibility for tax incentives, as well as technical assistance and architectural advice from the Historic Preservation Commission. For more information, call 358.5425 or email comsvcs@oak-park.us.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Help paying utility bills available

Residents having difficulty paying their gas and electric bills can contact the Oak Park Township to learn about assistance programs that could help. Township staff can help file applications for the *Low Income Energy Assistance Program* which pays a portion of an income-eligible individual's gas and electric bill based on factors such as age, disability and number of persons in the household. Applications for a program to help pay for repair of a non-working furnace also are taken at Oak Park Township Senior Services, along with information on a *gas sharing* payment program sponsored by NICOR. For more information, stop by the Township office at 105 S. Oak Park Ave., call 383.8060, visit

www.oakparktownship.org or email town@oakparktownship.org.

School District 97 seeking community input

Elementary School District 97 is seeking broad community participation in a strategic planning process to set direction for the next five years. For more information, visit www.op97.org for dates and times of focus groups and for other ways to become involved. For more information call 524.3000.

If the Village calls...pick up

If you get a telephone call and your caller ID says it is from the Village of Oak Park, please pick up. It could be a call from the Village's automated emergency notification system. Sometimes described as "reverse 911," the notifi-

cation system allows simultaneous notification of residents via telephone. Calls also can be directed to special teams and crews, specific groups of residents or a specific geographic area of the Village. The system could be used to notify residents of mosquito abatement efforts, missing persons or emergency situations. Tests are conducted periodically throughout the Village from time to time to ensure the system is working properly. For more information, call the Department of Public Health at 358.5480 or email health@oak-park.us.



One-on-one help available for first-time homebuyers

Individual help for prospective first-time homebuyers to learn about and understand loan programs available in Oak Park will be available by appointment from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the month of December in Village Hall, 123 Madison St. Financial assistance programs will be explained and participants will receive a free packet of helpful information. Call 358.5408 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Information also is available via email to comsvcs@oak-park.us.

Madison Street planning project to begin

Wisconsin-based Vandewalle & Associates has been selected to conduct a community driven plan for the future redevelopment of the Madison Street Corridor from Austin Boulevard to Harlem Avenue. The project, which is expected to take about six months, will include extensive public involvement. A steering committee will be selected to work closely with the consultant throughout the process. Committee members will include citizen representatives from several Village commissions, including the Historic Preservation Commission, Plan Commission, Community Design Commission, Environmental & Energy Advisory commission, Universal Access Commission and Transportation Commission, as well as Madison Street businesses and property owners and neighborhood residents. A series of public meetings will be planned, and the community kept up to date through a special project website. For more information call 358.5425 or email comsvcs@oak-park.us. Information, including a link to the new project website when it goes online, will be posted at www.oak-park.us.

New trees for Barrie Park

A tree spade capable of creating a nearly five-foot-deep hole with a single stroke is making planting new trees on the parkways along Barrie Park move quickly and efficiently. More importantly, foresters say, the spade can scoop up a tree from out of the ground at the nursery with a 90-inch root ball, which is much larger than could be done by hand. The larger root ball means less root loss from transplanting and better survival odds for the tree when replanted. Some 58 trees are being planted on Barrie Park parkways – 34 in the fall, and another 24 in the spring – as part of the recent remediation of the former manufactured gas plant site. Sixteen varieties of trees with trunks ranging from 4.5 inches to 6.5 inches in diameter are being planted at the expense of the utility companies responsible for the clean-up project. Among the tree varieties are Marmo Maple, State Street Maple, Norwegian Sunset Maple, Fort McNair Horsechestnut, Skyline H.L., Kentucky Coffee Tree, Chanticleer Pear, Bur Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Northern Pin Oak, Red Oak, Swamp White Oak, Ivory Silk Jap Tree Lilac, Redmond Linden, Triumph Elm and Accolade Elm. For more information on the tree planting call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

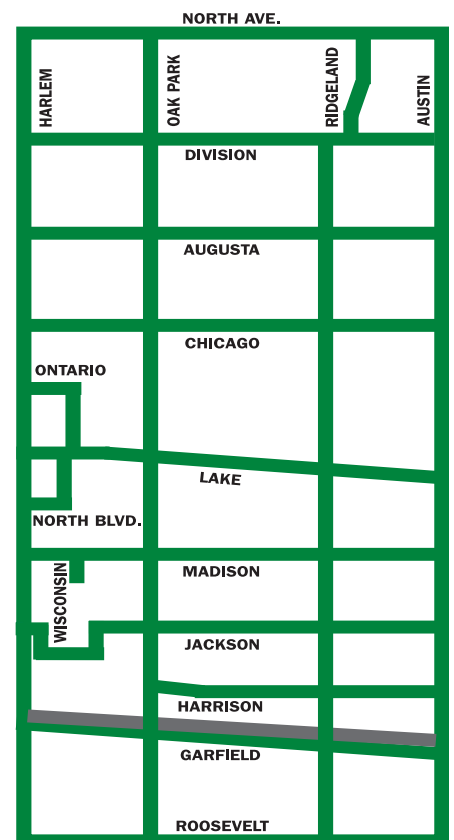


Snowfall triggers emergency parking plan

After a two-inch snowfall, the Emergency Snow Removal Parking Plan goes into effect and the following parking rules are enforced seven days a week, including holidays:

- Main streets posted as *snow routes* must be cleared of all parked cars
- Non-snow route streets allow parking between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. on the side of the street with even numbered addresses on even days and the side of the street with odd numbered addresses on odd days.
- Designated Commercial Parking areas as posted follow the odd/even rule between midnight and 8 a.m.

To find out if snow-related parking restrictions are in effect, call 358.SNOW for a recorded message. Cable television subscribers can tune into VOP-TV, cable channel 6. For more information on the emergency snow parking program, call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.



Snow Route Map

Property owners honored

Every year the Community Design Commission presents *Cavalcade of Pride* awards to property owners whose homes and businesses stand out as models of maintenance and improvement. The 2005 winners are as follows:

Single-Family Property

J.A. and Lori Armour, 700 Woodbine Ave.
 Michele and John Donley, 731 Linden Ave.
 Michael and Natalie Connolly,
 536 N. Humphrey Ave.
 Sharon Hermanns and Sumner Farren,
 423 Forest Ave.
 Mary and Billy Disomma, 143 S Elmwood Ave.
 Peter and Susan Tirone,
 162 N. Harvey Ave.
 Mark and Carian Kraus, 526 Clinton Ave.
 Nick and Deanne Alexander,
 808 S. Elmwood Ave.
 Daniel Sullivan, 834 S. Lombard Ave.

Multi-Family Property

Randolph Crossing Condominium,
 241, 245, & 247 S. East and 608, 610,
 and 612 Randolph St.
 Prince, Gwendolyn, & Damien Qualls,
 600-602 S. Euclid Ave.

Commercial Property

Nola's Cup, 800 S. Oak Park Ave.
 Penny's Noodle Shop, 1130 Chicago Ave.

Block Award

800 N. Kenilworth Ave.

Special Award

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church,
 545 S. East Ave.
 Barrie Park and Center, Park District of
 Oak Park, Garfield St. and Lombard Ave.

Garden Award

Don and Mary Jo Pikul,
 1024 S. Kenilworth Ave.
 Julia Latoria-Eastwood and Peter Eastwood,
 938 N. Grove Ave.

Best Transformed Property

Paul and Elisabeth Jacobsen,
 644 Woodbine Ave.
 Kathy and Tony Iwersen, 1033 Superior St.

Best Sign

Willow, 147 Harrison St.
 Exceptional Tots and Toddlers Pre-school
 System, 206-210½ Chicago Ave.

Good Neighbor

Dr. Neal Bente and Dr. James L. Greco,
 6723 Roosevelt Road, Berwyn

HEALTH NEWS

Call 358.5480 or email health@oak-park.us

Living a healthy life with a chronic disease...A program to help Oak Park residents living with heart disease, diabetes, arthritis and other chronic diseases live healthier and fuller lives is being offered. Participants learn how to deal physically and emotionally with their chronic disease, communicate effectively with family, friends and doctors, and evaluate new treatments. For more information call 358.5492 or email health@oak-park.us.

Health screenings...Blood pressure, total cholesterol, high density lipoproteins (HDL), glucose, weight and body mass index screenings are available for a \$10 fee through the *Know Your Numbers* program from 9:40 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of the month at the Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake St. Appointments are required. Call 358.5427 or email health@oak-park.us.

Stop smoking programs...Families with young children or pregnant women may be eligible for free over-the-counter and prescription products to help them quit smoking. Free smoking cessation assistance also is available on a one-to-one basis or in a group to any smoker. Programs can be brought to the worksite or to your organization. For more information call 358.5484 or email health@oak-park.us.

STD and HIV testing available...Confidential testing and treatment for sexually transmitted disease (STD), and HIV are available at no charge to residents. Non-residents pay a fee. Appointments are necessary. To schedule a confidential appointment, call 358.5483 or email health@oak-park.us.

December VOP-TV6 Programming Highlights

Original Programming Daily at 6 a.m., 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 6 p.m., 10 p.m.

- VOP-TV6 FYI Edition
- The Barrie Park Story
- Diversity Assurance & Security Grants
- Oral Health Coalition
- Fighting the Flu

Regular Village Board Meetings

Live at 7:30 p.m., first & third Mondays. Replayed at 11 a.m., Sunday and Tuesday, and 7 p.m., Wednesday and Friday.

Village Board Study Sessions

Days and times of *live* cablecast vary. Replayed at 11 a.m., Thursday and Saturday, and 7 p.m., Tuesday and Saturday.

Who to Call at Village Hall

Main number	383.6400
Village TTY	383.0048
Info Line	445.3340
Adjudication	358.5479
Building & Property	
Standards	358.5430
Licenses/Permits	358.5433
Zoning	358.5449
Codes/status of plans	358.5434
Property complaints	358.5443
Inspections	358.5440
Community Services	358.5400
Community Relations	358.5423
Housing	358.5424
Planning/Community	
Development	358.5425
Information Technology	358.5450
Finance	358.5460
Utility Billing Inquiries	358.5478
Fire Non-Emergency	445.3300
Public Health	358.5480
Animal Control	358.5680
Development Services	358.5640
Human Resources	358.5650
Law	358.5660
Village Clerk	358.5670
Police Non-Emergency	386.3800
Crime Tip Hotline	386.0740
Police/Fire TTY	848.1911
West Suburban Consolidated	
Dispatch Center	771.9110
Public Works	358.5700
Snow Hotline	358.SNOW
Parking Office	358.PARK
Night Parking Passes	358.NITE
Day Parking Passes	358.DAYS
Village Manager's Office	358.5770
Village Board	358.5784
Village Web Page	www.oak-park.us

**POLICE/FIRE/MEDICAL
EMERGENCIES**

911

Overnight parking restricted...If you have visitors please remember parking is prohibited on all Village streets from 2:30 – 6 a.m., seven days a week, year around, except when allowed by permit or pass. The on-street, overnight parking restriction dates back to the late 1920s. Overnight on-street parking is allowed by permit in multifamily housing areas, except in front of churches, schools and parks and on blocks where housing is more than 50 percent single family. For more information about parking in Oak Park call 358.5750 or email publicworks@oak-park.us. This email address may not be used to contest a parking ticket. To contest or pay a parking ticket on-line, visit www.oak-park.us.

Volunteers needed...Sub-committee chairpersons and volunteers are needed to help plan and execute a *Day in our Village*, Oak Park's annual community-wide festival that showcases the community's many civic, cultural, educational, social service, religious and business organizations. More than 150 organizations participated in 2005. The 2006 event is scheduled for Sun., June 4. To volunteer or for participation information, call 358.5409 or email comsvcs@oak-park.us.

Business license deadline...Business licenses must be renewed by Jan. 1. All businesses operating in commercial space in Oak Park (excluding state-licensed businesses) are required to have a Village-issued license. Fees vary by type of business. For more information call 358.5670 or email clerk@oak-park.us.

Stop solicitors...To prevent door-to-door solicitors from knocking on your door, obtain a *No Soliciting* sticker from the Village Clerk's office, 123 Madison St., to place on or near your front door. Call 358.5670 or email clerk@oak-park.us.



Get involved...Residents interested in helping shape Village policy are invited to participate in one of the many volunteer citizen boards, commissions and committees that advise the Board of Trustees. To receive an application form, contact the Village Clerk at 358.5670 or email clerk@oak-park.us.

Home-based businesses...Home-based businesses are permitted in any building as an accessory use within the limits of the Zoning Ordinance that allows one non-family member employee if off-street parking is provided. No home business can occupy more than 25 percent of the total floor area. Prohibited home businesses include manufacturing, animal hospitals, barbershops and beauty salons, clinics, repair shops and restaurants. The Office of the Village Clerk registers home businesses and the Zoning

Officer checks for compliance. For more information on registering, call 358.5670 or email clerk@oak-park.us.

Be a good neighbor...Snow on sidewalks can make it difficult for walkers — especially the elderly and physically challenged. Children also use many routes daily, walking to and from school. So be a good neighbor and shovel. If you know a neighbor who has difficulty shoveling, consider lending a hand. Also shovel snow away from refuse containers to avoid a missed collection. For more information call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Saving parking spaces illegal...Saving a parking space with items such as furniture or garbage cans is illegal. The obstruction impedes crews plowing the street and will be removed. For more information call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Avoid frozen pipes...To avoid frozen pipes when temperatures dip below freezing, let water trickle from faucets — especially those fed by pipes near or on outside walls. For questions concerning water and sewer services, call 358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Women's wellness program offered

A 12-week wellness program designed to help women develop healthier lifestyles within busy schedules will be offered from 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Rush Oak Park Hospital, 520 S. Maple Ave., on Wednesdays starting Jan. 11. The *Heart Smart for Women* program focuses on changes in lifestyle that will guide participants to a healthier way of living and reduce risk of heart disease. Participants must be at least 18 years old and reside in Oak Park. Orientation and risk assessment is scheduled for 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Wed., Jan. 4, at the hospital. For more information or to register call 358.5484 or email health@oak-park.us.



Residential Customer Local
Oak Park, Illinois

Village Manager Carl Swenson
Village Clerk Sandra Sokol
Martha Brock
Elizabeth Brady
Robert Milstein
Greg Marsey
Trustees

Village President David Pope



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



Presort
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 26
Oak Park, IL
Postal Carrier
Pre-Sort

Police host regular monthly neighborhood meetings

Regularly scheduled monthly neighborhood meetings give residents a forum for voicing concerns, asking questions and discussing issues with their Resident Beat Officers (RBO). A meeting is held every month at 7 p.m. on the same date in the same place in each of the Village's eight community policing zones. Discussion topics are wide ranging, including home security, traffic and parking issues, crime statistics for the area and crime prevention tips. Discussions focus on the neighborhoods within the individual beats since needs and issues can vary from zone to zone. The Resident Beat Officer Program promotes communication at the neighborhood level by assigning officers to work from their homes, which are located in their respective beats. Information on each community policing zone, including direct telephone numbers and email addresses for each RBO, is posted at www.oak-park.us and broadcast on VOP-TV6. Information also is available by calling 386.3800, the Oak Park Police Department's non-emergency number.

Monthly RBO Zone Meetings Schedule

**Zone 1: North/Austin/
Ridgeland/Chicago**

3rd Tuesday
Hatch School, 1000 N. Ridgeland Ave.
RBO Anthony Coleman
358.5575 coleman@oak-park.us

**Zone 2: North/Ridgeland/
Chicago/Harlem**

1st Tuesday
United Lutheran Church,
409 Greenfield St.
RBO Elizabeth Fox
358.5579 foxe@oak-park.us

**Zone 3: Chicago/Austin/
Metra tracks/Harlem**

4th Wednesday
OPRF High School, 201 N. Scoville Ave.
RBO Eric Locke
358.5580 locke@oak-park.us

**Zone 4: Austin/Metra tracks/
Oak Park/Madison**

2nd Wednesday
Percy Julian Middle School
416 S. Ridgeland Ave.
RBO A. Paul Razzino
358.5573 razzino@oak-park.us

**Zone 5: Metra tracks/Oak Park/
Harlem/Eisenhower**

4th Tuesday
Fox Center, 640 S. Oak Park Ave.
RBO Sean O'Shea
358.5577 oshea@oak-park.us

**Zone 6: Madison/Oak Park/
Austin/Eisenhower**

1st Wednesday
618 S. Austin Blvd.
RBO Mark Scott
358.5576 scottm@oak-park.us

**Zone 7: Eisenhower/East/
Roosevelt/Austin**

2nd Tuesday
Barrie Park Center, 1011 S. Lombard Ave.
RBO Greg Hyppolite
358.5574 hyppolite@oak-park.us

**Zone 8: Eisenhower/East/
Roosevelt/Harlem**

3rd Wednesday
Lincoln School, 1111 S. Grove Ave
RBO John Rumoro
358.5578 rumoro@oak-park.us