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### **Public health contributors honored**

Several Oak Park residents, two local organizations and one local business are being honored for their contribution to the health and well-being of Oak Parkers during [National Public Health Week](#), April 5 - 11.

This year, the *Fitzsimmons Award for Excellence in Public Health* is being presented to nine individuals, two local organizations and an Oak Park business. In addition, the 24<sup>th</sup> annual *Johnson Restaurant Award*, which acknowledges sanitation excellence in food service, will be presented to eight local establishments.

The annual awards are presented by the Oak Park Board of Health and the [Oak Park Department of Public Health](#). For more information on the awards, call 708.358.5480 or e-mail [health@oak-park.us](mailto:health@oak-park.us).

#### **Fitzsimmons Award Winners:**

- **Bulldog Boot Camp & Cross Fit** for its dedication to improving the health and fitness of Oak Park residents by providing education, motivation and teamwork in a supportive environment.
- **The Community Action Team for Healthier Kids** for coordinating community events and disseminating information that have encouraged children and families to embrace positive lifestyle changes through increased physical activity and healthy nutrition.
- **Jeanne A. Douglas, PhD, Clinical Director, Oak Park Vets' Center**, for leading the Oak Park Vets' Center during times of budgetary adequacy as well as during shortfalls, always ensuring that Oak Park veterans receive superb individual, group and family treatment.
- **Eric Gershenson and Carolyn Newberry Schwartz of the Collaboration for Early Childhood Care and Education** for recognizing the impact and importance of the Preschool Hearing and Vision Screening Program, and for ensuring its continued success by assuming responsibility for the program delivery.
- **Diane Gilliard, LCPC, CADC, Pillars Adolescent Substance Abuse Coordinator**, for her commitment to providing sensitive and comprehensive support for adolescents and families that are struggling with addictions.

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**Public Health Award Winners**  
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- **Oak Park Medical Reserve Corps, H1N1 Vaccination Campaign Volunteers**, for providing 372 volunteer hours to the Health Department's H1N1 clinics from October through December, assisting in every aspect of clinic activities.
- **Constance Papciak, Group Exercise Manager, Fitness Formula**, for her innovative class design and her ability to energize, inspire and motivate exercisers to keep coming back for more.
- **Charlie Ruedebusch, Head Gardener, Cheney Mansion**, for his efforts, in collaboration with VOP TV6 staff, in producing video presentations on gardening for novice Oak Park urban gardeners.
- **Mary Shields, Volunteer, Oak Park Health Department**, for generously volunteering her time and talents which were instrumental to the success of the Health Department's hand hygiene program presented to Oak Park childcare center staff and students during the H1N1 pandemic.
- **Abby Schmelling, Director (retired), The Volunteer Center**, for supporting and enhancing the work of numerous Village organizations, including those providing youth education, counseling and guidance.
- **Barbara Temeck, MD, Chief of Staff, Hines VA Hospital**, for redesigning the medical delivery system, which ensures that all veterans and active duty troops, including Oak Park residents, have access to effective and comprehensive primary, tertiary and specialty care services.

**Johnson Award Winners:**

- Starbucks Coffee – 711 Lake St.
- Cucina Paradiso – 814 North Blvd.
- Oberweis Dairy – 124 N. Oak Park Ave.
- Java Oasis – 1113 North Blvd.
- Five Guys Burgers and Fries – 1115 Lake Street
- Rehm Park Concessions (Robinsons #1 Ribs) – 515 Garfield St.
- Chipotle Mexican Grill – 1128 Lake Street
- Hole In the Wall - 901 ½ Oak Park Avenue

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