



**Oak Park Police  
Community Policing Newsletter  
Zone 4  
July-September 2009**



*“Committed to  
community,  
integrity, and  
excellence in  
public safety”*

**Resident Beat Officer: Robert Primak**  
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**Zone 4 Borders:**  
Austin Blvd to Oak Park Ave.  
Madison Street to South Blvd.

**Community Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at Percy Julian Middle School 416 S. Ridgeland Ave.**

## Zone 4 Beat Meetings

The purpose of these meetings is to provide a forum where the residents and the police department can discuss issues in our specific zone that affect our quality of living. During these meetings we will be focusing on criminal activity in the beat, crime prevention, street safety, home security, as well as traffic and parking issues. The meetings are held at Percy Julian Middle School on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Please stop by and find out what’s going on in your neighborhood.

## Block Parties

Block parties are a great way to meet your neighbors and have some fun this summer. The streets around the party location will be barricaded and children will be allowed to play in the street designated for the party. A petition to hold a block party must be returned to the Village two weeks prior to the requested event date. You can request a police officer or a community relations representative to attend your event. Pick-up a block party guide at Community Relations or online [http://www.oak-park.us/Community\\_Services/Block\\_Parties.html](http://www.oak-park.us/Community_Services/Block_Parties.html). Let us know when you have your block party and we can come out meet the residents and register bicycles.



## Crime Reports

Keep up to date with what is going on in our zone by checking the crime reports posted by the Oak Park Police Department. Go to <http://www.oak-park.us/> and on the main page click on the crime reports tab. For those without access to the internet or if anyone has questions about the reports please give me a call.

## Reporting Crimes and Emergencies

If you need to report an emergency – dial 9-1-1. Stay on the line, stay calm and explain the emergency, as well as the full address where the emergency is occurring. The address and telephone number from which you are calling is automatically displayed to the dispatcher if you are calling from a land line phone. If you are calling from a cell phone limited information is displayed to our dispatchers. Keeping this in mind, you will need to give the dispatcher the address from where you are calling. The 9-1-1 Dispatcher will determine what you are reporting so we can provide the appropriate emergency services. Remember to let the dispatcher control the conversation and stay on the line until you are told to hang up.

People reporting incidents that are not real emergencies often tie up the 9-1-1 emergency lines. This can prevent people with real emergencies from reaching the help they require. Teach your children that the telephone is not a toy and the importance of keeping the 9-1-1 lines available for real emergencies. If you do not know if something that is happening is really an emergency then dial 9-1-1 and report what is happening to the operator. It is always better to be safe than sorry.

### Emergencies are defined as:

- Any crime in progress (burglaries, robbery, etc)
- Any situation where people or property are at risk (fire, car accident, etc)
- Any medical emergency (heart attack, accidental poisoning, etc)

### Reporting non-emergencies:

If you are reporting something to the Police that does not meet the definition of an emergency (listed above), then dial the Police Non-Emergency telephone number at 708.386.2131. This number is answered by our dispatchers. If you need to speak with Police desk personnel call 708.386.3800.

# Cooling Centers ...available for residents at:



## West Suburban Medical Center

- (708) 383-6200
- 3 Erie Court
- Lobby open 5:30 AM - 8:30 PM.
- 7 Days a week

## Rush Oak Park Hospital

- (708) 660-2211
- 520 S. Maple Avenue (ground level, off of Wisconsin Ave.)
- 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (in extreme circumstances, 24 hours a day)
- 7 Days a week

Rush Oak Park Hospital and West Suburban Medical Center have cooling centers available for residents when the heat index exceeds 100 for 3 days or 105 for 2 days or when declared by the National Weather Center



Contact 708-358-5480 or  
e-mail [health@oak-park.us](mailto:health@oak-park.us) for more information



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## Vacation Checklist



Going Away? An empty house is a tempting target for a burglar. Use this checklist of tips to safeguard your home while you're gone.

1. Tell your local police department you plan to be away. Patrol officers may be able to check your home periodically.
2. Stop all deliveries or arrange for a neighbor or friend to pick up your mail, newspapers and packages.
3. Arrange for someone to shovel snow to give your home a lived in look.
4. Plug in timers to turn lights and a radio on and off at appropriate times. It's another easy way to disguise the fact that you are away.
5. Turn the bell on your telephone down low. If a burglar is around, he won't be alerted to your absence by a ringing phone.
6. Close and lock garage doors and windows. Ask a neighbor to park occasionally in your driveway.
7. Leave your blinds, shades and curtains in a normal position.
8. Ask a neighbor to watch the house while you're away. It's a good idea to leave your vacation address and telephone number with a neighbor so you can be reached in case of an emergency.