



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending May 31, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- June 1:
 - Breakfast reception with elected officials, 8:30 a.m., Oak Park Library
 - Grand Re-Opening of Scoville Park, 10 a.m.
 - I-Gov meetings, 10:30 a.m., Oak Park Township
- June 2:
 - Board Outreach Event: A Day in Our Village, 11 a.m.- 6 p.m., Scoville Park
- June 3:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- June 4:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- June 5:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 215

Save the date reminders (see calendar for all future meetings):

- June 8: Board Retreat, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., Carleton
- June 10: Finance Committee of the Village Board (audit), 7 p.m., room 101
- July 4: Parade, 10 a.m. (Ridgeland/Jackson)

A Day in Our Village festival is Sunday – The 40th annual [A Day in Our Village](#) festival celebrating diversity and community involvement is Sunday. The Village Board will be in space #104, which is on the west side near the library. A tent, table and chairs will be set up before the event officially opens at 11 a.m.

Scoville Park to officially reopen Saturday – Park District officials will officially re-open Scoville Park at 10 a.m., Saturday. Festivities will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, refreshments and a family-oriented magic show. The Park District also invites the community to stroll the park grounds, including the new playground, tennis courts, pathways, lighting and entrances. A grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources made the project possible. Visit www.pdop.org for more information

Crime rate update – The Police Department is reporting a modest decrease in crime from January through April of this year as compared to the same period last year. Some 466 crimes were reported through April 2013 compared to 489 for the same period in 2012. Thefts, which represent about 65 percent of the 2013 crimes, were down significantly – 301 in 2013 compared to 352 in 2012. Eight more robberies have been reported this year than in 2012, but numbers remain relatively low at 28 this year compared to 19 last year. Police have investigated reports of 12 aggravated assault and batteries this year, compared to four in 2012, which was a low number compared to the multiple year averages. Some 104 burglaries have been reported so far this year, compared to 101 in 2012. Nearly 60 percent of the reported burglaries were to garages, with more than half involving unsecured doors. Arrests are up so far this year, including for driving under the influence. Police attribute the 46 DUI arrests in 2013 compared to 27 in 2012 to their participation in statewide enforcement programs like [Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#) and [Click It or Ticket](#) public education campaigns. [Click here to review the Police data.](#)

Capital improvements update – Work on LeMoyné Parkway from Hayes Avenue to Austin Boulevard is complete except for punch list items and landscaping the cul-de-sac at Austin. Concrete pouring for new curbs on Taylor Avenue from Randolph Street to South Boulevard was scheduled to occur on Friday, as the water and sewer improvement project continues. Concrete for the street is scheduled to be poured in two phases, half late next week and the remaining half the following week. Taylor is expected to reopen in late June.

North Boulevard sewer and water main improvements – Work is underway to connect the new water and sewer mains to the existing systems at Kenilworth Avenue. The delay in starting the project will mean Kenilworth likely will remain closed from South Boulevard to Lake Street the second week of June, barring any weather delays. Eastbound traffic on North Boulevard west of Kenilworth will continue to be detoured south on Kenilworth under the viaduct during this closure. Close coordination with the businesses on this schedule will continue.

Public Works activities – The Forestry Division cleared downed branches and removed hanging limbs from parkway trees following the high winds and heavy rain on May 22. The Water & Sewer Division repaired a broken sewer main at 629 Gunderson Ave. and sewer laterals at 844 S. Kenilworth Ave. and 829 N. Ridgeland Ave. The season's first monthly electronics recycling event was held Sat., May 25, with 326 households participating. Electronics recycling will continue on the last Saturday of each month through October.

Village holds on to first place in green rankings – The Village remains in first place for clean power purchased following the U.S. EPA's recent updated rankings among Green Power Communities. Oak Park remains ahead of seven Green Communities in California as well as Aurora, Illinois. In terms of green power by kilowatt usage, Oak Park ranks seventh among 45 cities. [Click here for more information](#) on the rankings.

Health Board member receives award – Ravi Grivois-Shah, MD, MPH, an Oak Park Board of Health member since January 2012, has been selected to receive the [Illinois Public Health Association's](#) 2013 Excellence in Public Health Policy Award. In his first year on the Board of Health, Dr. Grivois-Shah was the primary researcher and author of policy recommendations to the Village Board on measures related to local

gun control. He also has been active in advocating for bicycle helmet policies for youth. The award will be presented at the IPHA 72nd Annual Meeting on June 18.

Graduate intern coming – A graduate student from the University of Illinois – Chicago’s College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs will be an intern in the Manager’s Office beginning next week. He will work on Mondays and Tuesdays at least until mid-August. This is a non-paid learning internship in City Management, so our goal will be to assign projects that will further enhance his studies.

Parking promotion – Marcus Powell, who has worked in the Parking & Mobility Services Department since last year, has been promoted to Senior Administrative Clerk. Marcus joined the Village September 2011 as a water meter reader. He has earned a reputation for his customer service skills and friendliness.

New engineer – Krizia Samantha Juarez will join Village staff as an Engineering Technician on Monday. Samantha, as she prefers to be called, initially will take over the sidewalk improvement program, as well as right-of-way permit reviews and inspections.

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