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**VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS/BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gopal Lalmalani, M.D., M.B.A</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte K. Pruss</td>
<td>Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Baar</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
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<td>Philip Cuevas</td>
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<td>Michael Manzo</td>
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<td>Moin Saiyed</td>
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<td>Edward Tiesenga</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asif Yusuf</td>
<td>Trustee</td>
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**DEPARTMENTS**

- Police, Fire, EMS Emergency: 9-1-1
- Butler Government Center General Information: (630) 368-5000
- Village President: (630) 368-5012
- Village Clerk: (630) 368-5052
- Development Services: (630) 368-5026
- Fire Non-Emergency: (630) 368-8700
- Public Works: (630) 368-5270
- Water Billing: (630) 368-5090
- Sports Core Administration (630) 368-6400
- Bath & Tennis (630) 368-6400
- Oak Brook Golf Club (630) 368-6400

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**VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK**

**CONNECT WITH THE VILLAGE**

- Website | www.oak-brook.org
- Facebook | “Village of Oak Brook”
- Twitter | @OakBrookVillage

Regular meetings of the Village Board are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Live streaming of Village Board meetings now available. Videotaped broadcasts of Village Board meetings air on Comcast Cable Television, Government Access Channel 6 or 110 Mondays at 7pm and online at www.youtube.com/oakbrooktv

Questions or comments? Contact us.

Editor: <a href="mailto:dbettin@oak-brook.org">dbettin@oak-brook.org</a>
Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I trust everyone had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends, and are off to a great start in 2019. As this newsletter is being drafted, Oak Brook is still harboring freezing temperatures with snow and ice. It is difficult to be thinking spring at this time but hopefully, before this newsletter reaches your home, that snow/cold will be gone and some signs of spring will be appearing.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the superb efforts of our Public Works Department. They have done a great job keeping our roadways clear of snow and ice. I wish to also thank the tireless efforts of our Police, Fire and Public Works personnel as they keep our roads and community safe through the last several months.

Looking ahead at 2019, the Village Board has signed an agreement with Pineoak Partners to once again host Polo for the 2019 season keeping the Polo tradition alive in Oak Brook. As the program grows so does the popularity of the sport. Make plans now to spend a spectacular Sunday afternoon at Oak Brook Polo which kicks off its season on June 9, 2019.

As the program grows so does the popularity of the sport. Make plans now to spend a spectacular Sunday afternoon at Oak Brook Polo which kicks off its season on June 9, 2019.

The annual Taste of Oak Brook will see some changes this year. The Village Board recently approved the formation of a Long Term Strategic Planning Advisory Committee. This Committee shall provide advice and recommendations to the Village President and Board of Trustees concerning economic development in the Village, including, without limitation, housing and school district matters; Village finances, including, without limitation, Sports Core finances; and any other issues referred to the Committee by the Village President and Board of Trustees. Residents who serve on this Committee will serve for one year at which time the Committee’s responsibilities will end unless extended by the Village President and the Board.

One last item is a reminder to vote in our local municipal election on April 2nd. Residents will be voting for the Village President, three Village Trustees, Park Board members and School Board members for both elementary and high school districts. Absentee ballot applications can be requested at the Village Hall. Early voting starts on March 18th at the Village Hall.

As always, the Trustees, the staff, and I are available to you at all times. Feel free to call, email or meet any of us if you have any thoughts or concerns. We are here to serve you. At the end of the day, life isn’t about just “showing up,” but it is about service. Within our community event. As such, now is a good time to reevaluate the event and make some adjustments. Some of the changes being considered is the elimination of live entertainment and new this year, the Village will no longer allow event goers to bring in their own alcoholic beverages. Beverages will be sold at the event. If you or someone you know is willing to partner with the Village for the Taste of Oak Brook event, there are many sponsorship opportunities that will assist the Village in defraying some of the expenses involved in hosting this event. Please contact the Village Manager’s office at 630-368-5026 for any leads you may have.

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Oak Brook today is at a crossroads. With last year’s departure of McDonald’s Corporation, we are left with a large hole in our commercial corridor and several large vacant properties will need to be repositioned or redeveloped. Moving forward, we need to carefully look at high-end luxury developments within our commercial district. However, it is imperative that these developments are well thought out, meaningfully structured, and consistent with the unique Oak Brook brand. We also need to bring in more revenue-generating businesses including newer stores, hotels, and restaurants. I am happy to inform you that after the Board recently approved the high-end major developer with an international reputation (Hines) will be investing around $500 million dollars on a phenomenal mixed use project including office, residential, retail, a boutique hotel, and a beautifully landscaped dynamic town center. This Hines conceptual project will soon be going to our Plan Commission for further deliberations. I am also happy to report to you that a single major corporation is currently very closely looking at securing the McDonald’s main campus, and as I understand they intend to leave the beautiful open space untouched. Additionally, the Hub group headquartered in Oak Brook has been growing rapidly and has just secured financing to build an additional twin building. Needless to say, we are on the right track on our path to meaningful economic development. Of course, standing still and doing nothing is not an option for us. Let us continue the progress, continue to remain business friendly so as to grow our economic base, without the necessity of any new taxation of any kind.

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Dear Friends and Residents:

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We all look forward to an early Spring!

I just wanted to take this opportunity to let everyone know of some Administrative changes that took effect at the beginning of 2019 in our Human Resource Department.

For some time, Kathy Vonachen has filled the role and had the responsibilities of our Deputy Clerk and Human Resource Manager, while still retaining all the payroll functions for the Village. More importantly, all the duties of our Risk Management are included in Kathy’s present position. We have experienced a number of new administrative duties, state and federal mandates that have strained our Clerk’s Office, and Human Resources warranting a change in our operations. Additionally, when it comes to our auditing process, there was a need for a segregation of duties for payroll, insurance issues, medical issues, and the addition of new employees into our system.

With that being said, Kathy Vonachen has been promoted to the new Human Resource Director/Deputy Clerk position. Kathy has been with the Village for over ten years and has done an incredible job. Kathy has brought a new sense of leadership, commitment, dedication and clarity to her department. Kathy has an exceptional knowledge of our payroll, Clerk’s duties and has leapt into the workings of the Human Resource field. She is a very precise individual who works overtime to make sure the Village’s and our employee’s needs are met.

Additionally, Rose White, who was our part-time Administrative Assistant, has been promoted to a full-time position in the Human Resource Department. Since coming to the Village, Rose has displayed a great work ethic which warranted her coming on full-time. I would hope you join with me in congratulating both Kathy and Rose and wish them success in their new roles.

Our Golf Course Clubhouse renovation is almost complete. We have installed a larger patio area with fire pits, new outdoor furniture, fans, lighting and a beautiful new pergola. The Pro Shop has been completely remodeled with a new customer counter and new furnishings. Both of these new enhancements will allow our Golf Course to enrich the experience for those who play, shop or just want to dine in the new outside area.

Summer is right around the corner and we hope to see all of you at the Taste of Oak Brook and our wonderful fireworks display on Wednesday, July 3rd.

Also, the Village has decided to continue their relationship with Pineoak Partners for the 2019 Polo Season with nine polo matches this year.

From the Manager’s Desk

BY RICCARDO F. GINEX

Riccardo F. Ginex
Village Manager
(630) 368-5026
villagemanager@oak-brook.org
We have been concerned with incidents of vehicle burglary or theft and have worked at heightening public awareness. The vast majority, almost 95% of vehicles entered have either been left unlocked, or worse yet, the key fob left inside the vehicle accounting for all of the vehicle thefts. The other concern is that if a person leaves their vehicle unlocked, almost everyone has a garage door transmitter that will then allow an offender access to your home as well.

We are not alone in this phenomena. Many of you may be following us on Twitter or Nextdoor and have seen our “9 PM Routine” tweets and wondered what they were all about. The 9 PM routine is a national crime prevention movement. It is designed to remind residents to lock their cars, and locate their key fobs at 9 PM before they retire for the evening. The hope is that everyone will develop the habit of insuring their vehicle is secure, and help us to reduce crime. We know that these are strictly crimes of opportunity and suspects are checking specifically for unlocked cars. They do not want to make noise or more work for themselves.

So while the news is positive for Oak Brook, we can never let our guard down. During my public speaking presentations, I always tell residents, “We must remain vigilant, but not paranoid.” Please be aware of your surroundings, set your burglar alarm when leaving home even for a short period of time. And PLEASE lock your doors and keep your key fob with you. We need your help to keep Oak Brook the safe community it is.

While some of the news is of a concern, I am very pleased to report that we have seen a drop in serious crime in Oak Brook in 2018 as compared to 2017. We have much to be proud of and to consider our community an extremely safe place to live.

Overall, the crime we reported to the Illinois State Police and the FBI showed us going from 596 serious Part 1 Offenses in 2017 to 562 in 2018 for a 5.7% reduction in crime. Residential burglaries dropped 33% from 6 to 4, burglary to motor vehicles in our residential area dropped 18% from 28 to 23, and in our commercial area 28% from 29 to 21. The one area that rose modestly was motor vehicle theft in our residential area from 3 to 4 and in our commercial area from 6 to 12.

Follow me on Twitter: @chiefkruger
Follow us on Twitter: @oakbrookpolice
Follow us on FaceBook: @oakbrookpolicedepartment
OAK BROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT TESTING NEW TECHNOLOGY

As a result, during the first week in February, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), through its Safety, Health and Survival Section and in cooperation with the Emergency Responder Safety Institute (ERSI), issued an emergency safety and survival alert to all Fire Chiefs and Chief Officers throughout the country. The Fire Service can no longer simply sit back. This growing national trend needs to be effectively addressed.

Back in 2015, HAAS Alert, an independent technology company launched an aggressive mission toward eliminating preventable First Responder collisions. The HAAS Alert Safety Cloud™ collision prevention service is operational and protecting personnel and fleets from over 60 departments across the US and Canada. The system is designed to send real-time digital alerts to motorists as they approach nearby responding and on-scene emergency, rapid response vehicles and other critical roadway operators. Service is compatible with any type of fleet vehicle and delivers alerts to drivers via smartphone navigation apps and in-car infotainment screens.

Taking an active role in recognizing the dangers, the Oak Brook Fire Department is currently testing this technology, having installed the devices in all five (5) of the department’s front-line fleet of responding vehicles.

According to our most recent analysis of the data generated in the last two weeks of December 2018, nearly 5,000 drivers traveling within the Village were alerted to the Fire Department’s presence on emergency scenes.

We are optimistic that this new technology, which has no cost to the general public, will prove itself to be a valuable tool in preventing and avoiding collisions between the general public and first responders.

Public Disposal of Unwanted or Expired Medications

A question often asked by our general public is, where or how do I dispose of unwanted, old or expired medications.

The proper removal of medicine from the home will help prevent accidental poisoning of all family members and most importantly, young children. Proper disposal can decrease drug diversion or abuse of certain medications and lessen the negative impact of pharmaceuticals on the environment. Studies have shown the presence of drugs such as antibiotics, hormones and cardiac medications among others in our nation’s waterways. Water treatment plants are unable to remove these compounds before they reach the environment. The majority of this contamination is most likely due to the natural excretion of the medication or its metabolized by-products from individuals taking the drug. While flushing unused medications may be a small part of this emerging environmental concern, it is a key behavior that can be easily modified.

Obviously, the disposal of any type of medication in either public waste disposal systems, or flushing them down the sink or toilet is discouraged.

As part of a new task force initiative, Edward-Elmhurst Health is launching a Medication Take-Back program to provide an easily accessible and safe place for the general public to dispose of unwanted or expired medications.
Located at Elmhurst Hospital in Elmhurst, safe medication disposal kiosks have been installed in the vestibule of door 28 near the Emergency Department just to the right of the main Emergency Department entrance at Elmhurst Hospital, 155 E. Brush Hill Road in Elmhurst, and near the South Lobby in the walkway between the South parking garage and South Lobby off of Osler Drive of Edward Hospital, 801 S. Washington Street in Naperville. Both of these two locations are accessible to the public at all hours of the day or night, 365 days a year. There is no cost for the disposal.

**Fire Sprinkler Tax Incentives**

Fire sprinklers are an important component in commercial, multi-family and single-family residences protecting property as well as lives, yet a common reason for not installing a sprinkler system is the installation cost. According to the National Fire Protection Association, a house fire can become deadly in less than two minutes. The Village of Oak Brook is proud to have joined the National Fire Protection Association's 13D Fire Sprinkler Initiative back in 2011 enacting and enforcing an ordinance requiring residential fire sprinkler systems in all newly constructed homes. Currently, the Village boasts having approximately 110 homes fully protected and is among 110 communities in northeastern Illinois identified as Fire Safe Communities because of residential fire sprinkler ordinances for new single-family homes.

As tax day approaches, we would like to remind everyone that in December of 2017, the United States Congress passed legislation that provides a tax incentive allowing a property owner to immediately write-off the full cost of a sprinkler system. We encourage building owners and developers to further investigate this tax incentive. Homeowners should check with their insurance carriers, as many offer discounts on the insurance premiums on new homes with sprinkler systems as well as existing homes retrofitted with sprinkler systems.

**Barry Liss**
Fire Chief
(630) 368-5200
bliss@oak-brook.org
THE TASTE OF OAK BROOK
Festival of Food, Fun and Fireworks

RESTAURANTS
Participating Oak Brook Area Restaurants

CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES
Balloon Artists
Face Painting
Oak Brook Park District-
Bounce House
Petting Zoo
Pony Rides
Stilt Walkers

DETAILS
Free admittance with parking available for $20.
The Police Department will provide families with lost and found tattoos. Some children’s activities, food and beverages will require the purchase of tickets.
The beverage tent will be featuring beer, wine, Sangria, water and soda drinks.
Rain date for the fireworks only display is Thursday, July 4th.

SPECIAL NOTE
• The Village of Oak Brook will no longer allow alcoholic beverages to be brought in to the Event.
Beer, wine and Sangria will be available for purchase at the Event.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VillageofOakBrook @OakBrookVillage (630) 368-5096 www.oak-brook.org

Smartphone Users: Scan Smartcode to Enter Website
Village of Oak Brook

Consolidated Election – April 2, 2019

Election of Candidates for Municipal, Park District and School District Officials

For the April 2, 2019, Consolidated Election (Election Authority -- 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL)
• First day - Thursday, February 21, 2019 (40th day prior to an election)
• Last day - Monday, April 1, 2019 (1 day prior to an election)

For the April 2, 2019, Consolidated Election (locations throughout DuPage County)
• First day - Monday, March 18, 2019 (15th day prior to an election)
• Last day - Monday, April 1, 2019 for Permanent Sites (1 day prior to an election)
• Last day - Saturday, March 30, 2019 for Temporary Sites (2 day prior to an election)

Early Voting locations throughout DuPage County beginning Monday, March 18, 2019.
• Fox Valley Mall and Stratford Square Mall
• Note: Yorktown Mall is no longer serving as a Early Voting location.

Early Voting at the Village of Oak Brook – Butler Government Center 1200 Oak Brook Road -- Early Voting Dates:
• March 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, 2019
  • Monday thru Friday -- 8:30 AM To 7:30 PM
  • Saturday, March 23 – Time is 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
• March 25, 26,27,28, 29,30 2019
  • Monday thru Friday -- 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM
  • Saturday, March 30 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Additional Information is available on our Village Website at www.oak-brook.org
Charlotte Pruss, Village Clerk  630-368-5052
DuPage County Election Commission  630-407-5600  www.dupageelections.com

Warm Weather Encourages Door-to-Door Solicitors

The season of door-to-door sales people is upon us. The Village of Oak Brook requires that all Commercial Solicitors must apply for a permit from the Village. A background check for local violations is completed for each individual that has requested permission to solicit door-to-door in the Village of Oak Brook with the intent to protect the residents of the Village.

Non-Commercial Solicitors must register with the Village for the purpose of identification.

Federal litigation has specified that religious organizations and political parties are exempt from any Village requirements of licensing or registration. Many religious organizations do cooperate and at least provide us with information and are willing to wear our badges.

The Village does not regulate solicitors distributing handbills as long as they do not participate in personal contact with residents unless the resident pursues contact.

Further information can be found at our Village of Oak Brook website at www.oak-brook.org or you can contact the Village Clerk’s office at 630-368-5052.

Free “No Solicitors” signs are available at the Village Hall and solicitors must honor those signs and not attempt to contact you.
LIBRARY NOTES

Each April, the Oak Brook Public Library is honored to join libraries all across the country in celebrating National Library Week. This event aims to highlight the many ways libraries transform their communities through the services and expertise they offer. This year, National Library Week takes place from April 7 to April 13. Stop in that week for special activities and programs.

April is also the month the Friends of the Oak Brook Public Library hold their annual Used Book Sale. This sale has over 7,500 gently used items that are carefully selected from generous donations. The books are organized by genre and the sale also includes a wide array of DVDs and CDs. Do not miss this wonderful opportunity to find treasured titles at low prices. The sale runs from Thursday, April 11 to Saturday, April 13. There is an early entrance fee of $5 per person to enter the sale on Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm. After 2 pm, there is no entry fee for the remainder of the sale. There is an additional $5 charge for those wishing to use an electronic scanning device within the book sale. Cash or check will be accepted. Members of the Friends are permitted free early entry. If you want first crack at the books and want to save $5, become a member of the Friends today! We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and assist with the sale. If interested, please contact the Library.

In addition to the book sale, the Friends of the Oak Brook Public Library will have a Silent Auction which runs from March 11 until April 13 in the lobby of the Library. The auction has a dozen or so items that are sure to catch your attention. Some of this year’s topics include cookbooks, Chicago architecture, orchids, the Beatles, Downton Abbey and a signed Sara Paretsky novel. Make sure to stop in and place a bid.

If the programs listed don’t draw you to the Library this Spring, how about the Library’s new streaming service Kanopy? Kanopy showcases more than 30,000 documentaries, classic and independent films. The service is available at the Library or can be viewed from home with an Oak Brook library card. Reach out to one of the Library’s reference librarians for more information or a demonstration of this great new service.

And last but not least, remember that the Library has nearly a 100,000 informative and entertaining items awaiting your perusal and checkout! Don’t be a stranger this Spring. We hope to see you soon.

BY JACOB POST

LIBRARY CALENDAR

APRIL

Medicare 101
Tuesday, April 2 @ 10 am
What is Part A, B, C and D? When should I apply for Medicare? What is the difference between an Advantage Plan and a Supplement? This workshop is presented by DuPage County Senior Services staff who are SHIP (Senior Health Insurance Program) counselors.

Illinois Watercolor Society Meeting & Demonstration
Saturday, April 6 @ 10 am
Featured artist Jim Winn studied in Illinois and has spent his career painting the Midwestern landscape. He has had numerous one-person exhibits in Chicago and surrounding cities. Don’t miss James Winn’s very motivating and inspiring presentation on how to transform yourself from a painter to an artist.

Kym Frankovelgia Spring Concert
Saturday, April 20 @ 2 pm
Join Kym Frankovelgia for a wonderful afternoon of music. She will start out with a terrific selection of favorites and will accept requests for songs. Her repertoire includes Broadway hits, funny selections, romantic or touching music. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

The Blessed Bananas Puppet Show with Tayyaba Syed
Saturday, April 27 @ 11 am
Local author Tayyaba Syed is always in search of a good story. She finds inspiration in the everyday, which helps her weave engaging stories. Her work includes 20+ book titles, bylines in publications like NPR, and 100+ literary presentations thus far. Her debut children’s book, The Blessed Bananas has won three gold book awards, and she loves performing it as a beloved puppet show. Ages 3-8, but all are welcome!

MAY

Evergreen Concert: The Sinatra Experience
Sunday, May 5 @ 3 pm
The Friends of the Library presents The Sinatra Experience with James Taylor Cooper as Frank Sinatra. Stand up and sing along with timeless gems such as Lady Is A Tramp, Under My Skin, My Way, Luck Be A Lady, Come Fly With Me, Fly Me To The Moon and many more. Seating begins at 2:30 pm and fills up fast. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Kym Frankovelgia Spring Concert
Saturday, April 20 @ 2 pm
Join Kym Frankovelgia for a wonderful afternoon of music. She will start out with a terrific selection of favorites and will accept requests for songs. Her repertoire includes Broadway hits, funny selections, romantic or touching music. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library
Retirement: What’s Your Plan?  
**Tuesday, May 7 @ 7 pm**  
This seminar goes beyond just the basics and takes a deeper dive into retirement planning, awareness, analytics and strategies. Professionals from GCG Financial will discuss advanced planning techniques, such as Sequence of Return analysis, long-term health care strategies and stress testing potential financial situations or events that can affect the health of your retirement.

Yoga and Self-Care for Busy People  
**Saturday, May 11 @ 2 pm**  
In an era of mounting stress and anxiety it’s common to neglect self-care. Julie Gentile will discuss her new book, *108 Yoga and Self-Care Practices for Busy Mamas*, which will teach you practical ways to improve your self-care, including yoga stretches and simple meditations, so that you can more fully enjoy your busy life.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky forever changed the world of ballet with Swan Lake and The Nutcracker. Join Young Kim for an afternoon lecture about the life and music of this Russian composer, while enjoying some of his symphonies, concertos, operas, ballets and chamber music.

Meditation for Optimal Well Being  
**Thursday, May 30 @ 7 pm**  
People have been practicing meditation for centuries and today we see a surge in its popularity as new benefits continue to be discovered. Renate Lanotte will show you how to incorporate the simple techniques to include the positive effects of meditation into everyday life.

Walt Whitman: An American  
**Friday, May 31 @ 1 pm**  
Walt Whitman forever changed American literature with his free verse style. Mark your calendar to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Walt Whitman.

JUNE  
**Illinois Watercolor Society Meeting & Demonstration**  
**Saturday, June 1 @ 10 am**  
After retiring from corporate graphic design, featured artist George Bruce studied watercolor under Dick Shiple, took several workshops in watercolor from nationally known artists and later discovered the world of oil pastel from George Shipperley. He thoroughly enjoys the non-objective approach to oil pastel and his work is shown in various places in Wisconsin and Illinois.

Stonewall 1969: Birth of the Modern Gay Rights Movement  
**Saturday, June 15 @ 2 pm**  
The summer of 1969 marked a turning point in the LGBTQ movement during the Stonewall Riots. Join College of DuPage instructor Frank Serafino as he recounts the struggle to end discrimination in the areas of religion, law and the medical profession over the past 50 years.

RTA Mobility  
**Wednesday, June 19 @ 10 am**  
Accessible Metra, Pace and CTA buses and trains are easy to use and Sarah Blair of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) would love to show you how! There will be time for questions and signing up for a Reduced Fare card to get half off on Metra, Pace and CTA, if eligible. Handouts and maps will be provided.

The Todd Downing Music Show  
**Thursday, June 20 @ 11 am**  
Singer, songwriter and comedian Todd Downing has been entertaining and educating kids for many years. With his guitar, puppets and unexpected quips, he keeps audiences surprised and delighted. Ages 18 mos. – 8 yrs., but all are welcome!

Wizard of Oz 80th Anniversary – Judy Garland Concert with Robyn Vitson  
**Saturday, June 22 @ 2 pm**  
Robyn Vitson returns to take you on a magical journey down the yellow brick road to Emerald City en route to Kansas. Fans still love this beloved movie after 80 glorious years and Robyn has a wonderful tribute planned for everyone!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

Wild and Wacky Family Fun Show with Brian Wismer  
**Saturday, June 29 @ 1 pm**  
This program truly follows our summer theme: “It’s Showtime at the Library!” Join Brian Wismer as he has the entire family entertained! This fantastic show includes a combination of family trivia, games, magic, Simon Says and many other interactive family activities!
BY JASON PAPROCKI

FINANCE REPORT

2019 Budget Approved

The Village Board approved the 2019 Municipal Budget on December 11, 2018. The 2019 Budget continues to be a fiscally responsible financial plan that will enable the Village to continue to provide the community with high quality municipal services and special events that enhance the quality of life of all residents and meet the needs of the business community.

There are a number of internal and external factors taken into account when compiling the municipal budget. Some of the issues the Village faces include long-term stability of the sales tax base, increasing pension obligations, rising health care costs, and the funding for vehicle, equipment, and building capital improvements.

The Village’s General Fund cash reserve balance deserves special mention, as it continues to be an important aspect in the Village’s position of fiscal strength. One of the Village’s financial policies is to maintain a cash balance reserve of at least six months of operating expenditures in the General Fund. The projected ending cash balance for 2019 in the General Fund is $17.5 million, which is equal to 9.3 months of operating expenses. This is $6.2 million above the Village’s six-month operating reserve requirement. In total, the Village projects to end 2019 with a healthy cash balance of $26.1 million across all funds. It’s common practice for certain funds to accumulate and reserve money over a period of time before expending it on major capital projects. In most cases, this accounts for any budgeted losses you will see in individual funds.

The total Village-wide 2019 budgeted revenues are $54.3 million, which is up $2.1 million, or 4.0%, compared to the 2018 Budget. This is mainly due to increases in projected building permit revenue, ambulance fees, interest income, interfund transfers, and water rates. The total 2019 budgeted revenues include $25.3 million in the General Fund, which is the Village’s main operating fund. The General Fund houses many key functions of the Village, including police, fire, public works, library, and general administration. Sales taxes for the General Fund account for nearly half of the General Fund revenues. General Fund sales tax revenue is projected to be $12.3 million in 2019, or 1.0% lower than last year’s budget. The Village collected nearly $12.3 million in general sales tax for 2018, which was down nearly $177,000 from 2017.

The total Village-wide 2019 budgeted expenditures are $68.8 million, which is up $12.5 million, or 22.2%, compared to the 2018 budget. This is primarily due to an increase in major capital improvements in the Hotel/Motel Tax, Infrastructure, Water, and Sports Core Funds. Some of the major capital projects for 2019 are:

- Salt Dome Design and Construction, $4.0 million
- Harger Road Bike Path Construction, $1.8 million
- Annual Street Resurfacing, $2.3 million
- Concord, Ivy, Devonshire Watermain Replacement, $2.9 million

Contributions to the Village’s public safety pension plans are budgeted at $4.1 million in 2019, which is an increase of approximately $85,000 from 2018 contributions. The Village has been committed to paying 100% of the recommended actuarial contribution in order to have the pension funds completely funded by 2040.

We will continue to evaluate our operations to make certain we are providing services to our citizens and corporate business partners as efficiently and economically as possible. Thank you to everyone for their continued commitment in making Oak Brook a great community to live and work.

The 2019 approved Budget and Five Year Plan are available on the Village’s website at https://www.oak-brook.org/304/Financial-Documents. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Water Rate Increase

The residential rate increased from $10.00 to $10.50 per 1,000 gallons and the non-resident rate increased from $11.81 to $12.40 per 1,000 gallons. The monthly fixed charge of $10 per account remains unchanged.

The rate increases were recommended as part of a water rate study that was performed in 2018. A copy of the full study can be found on the Village website at: http://www.oak-brook.org/186/Water-Rates.
WELCOME 2019 GOLF SEASON!

As I write this, it’s one of those sunny, frigid days that the thought of golf would be impossible, except for those fortunate enough to be someplace warm.

The staff at the golf course have been very busy this winter making interior upgrades and finishing exterior upgrades at the club house. I can’t wait for all of you to enjoy the new pro shop configuration, it’s an exciting new look that I hope everyone will be proud of and enjoy.

The remaining areas – the lounge and bathrooms – will be upgraded as soon as it is fiscally possible; it is all part of a three phase strategic plan.

Additional upgrades will include cart path improvements and replacement of our aging tee signs.

So, hopefully by the time you read this, the golf season will be already in full swing and what was supposed to be a ‘mild winter’ will be behind us.

Jeff Kawucha our Head Golf Professional and Claudine Boettger our Assistant Golf Professional and the rest of the staff are ready to make your 2019 golf season at OBGC one of the best.

As the year progresses, we hope to see everyone enjoy the Sports Core in whatever capacity suits you. Don’t forget the polo season starts in June and runs through September with nine polo Sundays planned. Please see the Village website for details.
Economic Development Update – Spring 2019

Commercial Areas Revitalization Plan Update – The Plan update was before the Plan Commission on three separate meeting dates in November, January, and February. The Plan Commission provided an affirmative recommendation on the Plan update at their February meeting and forwarded the Plan to the President and Board of Trustees for a meeting on March 26, 2019. For further information and updates concerning the Plan, please see Village News at www.oak-brook.org.

Hines/Oak Brook Commons – The project proposal for the 17.5-acre McDonald’s Plaza redevelopment was before the Planned Development Commission at a public hearing on February 28, 2019. The mixed-use redevelopment project at the former McDonald’s headquarters consists of restaurants, retail, residential apartments and condominiums, office, a park and hotel uses. The project was continued to the Planned Development Commission’s meeting on March 28, 2019 for further review and discussion. Updates on the project can be reviewed at www.oak-brook.org.

KidZania – As part of the Sears renovation and re-tenanting, the children’s education experience and destination will be occupying the 3rd floor of the former Sears store and will be about 80,000 square feet in total floor area. In the KidZania concept, kids independently explore a kid-sized city with over 100 exciting careers that they can participate in and role-play. The Oak Brook store will be one of three (3) U.S. locations for KidZania which currently has 24 locations worldwide, and is expected to open in the spring of 2020. To learn more, see www.kidzania.us.

Carvana – The pre-owned auto retailer received a temporary certificate of occupancy the week of March 25, 2019 and will begin sales/operations this spring. The purchase of vehicles is conducted on-line and a customer can either have the vehicle delivered directly to their home or they can pick it up at the vending machine at 720 Enterprise Drive, which is their brick-and-mortar store in Oak Brook. For more information, see https://www.carvana.com.

April Showers Bring…Flooding Hazards

Water can cause unexpected, hidden, and massive damage to the indoor air quality, electrical, fuel gas, thermal, and structural components of your home. The Village of Oak Brook has adopted the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code which contains specific guidelines for addressing water damage in structures. Development Services inspectors are available to visit your home and provide expert assistance with your remediation plan. As your village employees, we are there to view the damage, review the work plan, and verify that the work is carried out according to the approved plan. This will involve permits, the cost of which are typically covered by the insurance company. Even if they are not we provide the most economical and professional third-party oversight found anywhere.

If you have water damage or flooding in your home, please contact Development Services 630/368-5101, and/or development_services@oak-brook.org so that we can help return your home to the safety that you deserve.

Tony Budzikowski
Director of Development Services
(630) 368-5104
Tbudzikowski@oak-brook.org
Internet Security Reminders

Older Americans are increasingly digitally savvy — but they are still a prime target for online scams.

Nearly half (42 percent) of adults ages 65 and older now own smartphones, a number that’s quadrupled in the last five years, according to a report by Pew Research Center conducted last year. Internet use by seniors has similarly jumped — and for the first time, half of older Americans have broadband at home.

But with all that access to technology comes the increased risk of becoming a victim of cybercrime.

In fact, internet scammers disproportionately target older Americans because they tend to be wealthier, more trusting and less likely to report fraud, according to the FBI. Another 2015 report estimated that older Americans lose $36.5 billion each year to financial scams and abuse.

Tips to seniors – and everyone – for staying safe online:

- Choose a strong password. Passwords should be 12 to 15 characters long with strategically placed special characters adek_TaPOSITIONPag eZagVZSHWi(xWwYf bSSei advea` VBLU of your online accounts. To help keep track of them all, use a password manager, like LastPass, Dashlane or KeePass.

- Keep your antivirus software up to date. That will help prevent hackers from accessing your computer, laptop and smartphone, as well as alert you to websites and downloads that could be suspicious.

- Use only trusted Wi-Fi resources. Free Wi-Fi seems convenient, but hackers can also use it to intercept your internet communications. Before joining a network at say, a coffee shop or retailer, confirm that the Wi-Fi connection you want to join belongs to the business you know and trust. When in doubt, use your personal Wi-Fi hotspot, or the network connection on your smartphone.

- Google it. Research any unfamiliar websites or email solicitations before giving up your information. Often, hackers create a link that may appear, at first glance, to be a legitimate website to trick you into giving up your personal data.

- Don’t give your personal info. Be particularly wary of any request to provide information such as your date of birth, Social Security number or bank account.

There are an increasing number of scams perpetrated by professional thieves who target vulnerable seniors, but you can protect yourself by knowing what to watch out for.

Director of Information Technology

(630) 368-5174
jfox@oak-brook.org
This winter was the busiest we have had in a few years with above average snow accumulation, Public Works staff was busy plowing, salting and filling potholes. Staff was also working with a contractor at the Sports Core property, removing invasive brush “Buckthorn” we are also removing Ash trees and standing Dead Trees. This year the work areas included around the Tennis Courts, in front of the Bath and Tennis building and around the Golf Maintenance Building. Staff is also trimming back the brush in the Right-of-Way, where it continues to encroach onto the areas along the roadway.

With the late fall of the leaves last Autumn, and the early snow fall at Thanksgiving, Village crews were still able to pick up 6,161 cubic yards of raked leaves; however some yards may still have fallen leaves to be disposed. Starting April 2nd, yard waste collection will resume on Mondays along with the normal scheduled curbside waste pickup. Also be advised, the Village does not offer a brush pickup. Brush must be disposed through a Tree Service or landscape contractor. Small amounts of branches may be tied together in bundles approximately 4 feet long and 2 feet in diameter, not to exceed 50 pounds, a yard waste sticker must also be attached.

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With the weather warming it’s time to take care of some simple, yet important housekeeping tasks. Homeowners sure drainage pathways that take water away from foundations are pitched away from your home and clear of debris. Keep drainage in mind during the upcoming garden and spring clean-up season. Avoid trapping water against your homes foundation with too much soil or mulch. Gutters, downspouts and area drains have a tendency to collect debris over the winter. Now is a great time to ensure these drainage features are clog-free and running free.

Spring is also a good time to check timers and scheduling of your home’s irrigation system.

As a water conservation reminder, outdoor watering is permitted as follows:

**Odd-Numbered Street Addresses**
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

**Even-Numbered Street Addresses**
Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

6:00 AM until 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM

**WATERING IS PROHIBITED ON MONDAY**

Watering cans or hand-held watering devices may be used at any time on any day.

Customers with private wells are encouraged to utilize their wells for all outside watering purposes.

Newly planted sod or seed may be watered for a maximum period of two (2) weeks from the date of installation. Please notify the Village’s Water Department at 630 368-5270.
For more information visit onlyinoakbrook.com
How to Bring the Outdoors in at Your Oak Brook Bath & Tennis Club Wedding

Being surrounded by 20 acres of natural woodlands, Oak Brook Bath & Tennis Club provides a gorgeous backdrop for your wedding and cultivates a warm and welcoming atmosphere for your guests. However, couples still love to enhance the secluded rustic charm of our historic clubhouse by transforming our 3,500 square feet of space to bring the outdoors in and help carry out their naturally beautiful ceremony and reception ideas.

When you select Oak Brook Bath & Tennis Club for your wedding, have peace of mind knowing that your event is the only one taking place during your designated time. So go let your wedding dreams soar into the stars knowing you will have our undivided attention.

5 Ways to Bring the Outdoors in for a Wedding

Cultivate a Cozy Winter Wonderland
Most couples planning winter weddings fall in love with our climate-controlled indoor space with welcoming country lodge décor. The stone double-sided fireplace and stunning wood ceilings create a cozy atmosphere that welcomes all your whimsical wedding ideas. Lately, couples planning weddings with winter wonderland themes are looking for creative new ways to feature seasonal elements. Cotton balls and greenery are leading the charge in elegant seasonal centerpieces.

Unique strategy: Break out of the norm and dare to hold your Oak Brook wedding outside. With the right tent rental and décor, you’d be amazed by what a cozy vibe you can create using a heated tent in our patio area. Wood rounds, bark and hay bales are a nice way to warm up a tent’s décor.

Provide Mesmerizing Views

Your guests will be captivated by the beautiful grounds and serene setting of the Oak Brook Bath and Tennis Club. Our floor-to-ceiling windows with views of a tranquil pond are about as relaxing as you can get. In the warmer months, when the fountain is on—it runs 24 hours a day, where guests can enjoy this site from the main Oak Brook room.

Unique strategy: Remember that your venue itself may have features that captivate guests. People have been known to gaze up at our 35-foot vaulted ceilings that create a vast and airy feel synonymous with the outdoors.

Integrate Seasonal Beauty

The flowers and landscaping seen through the floor-to-ceiling windows of our secluded clubhouse bring a seasonal charm to your wedding’s fresh menu filled with seasonal fruits and vegetables that are bursting with brilliant flavor and artistically presented to match your elegant décor.

Unique strategy: To add an extra touch of beauty and seasonal colors to your wedding experience, garnish drinks with petals. This is a wonderful way to elevate our elegant reception area with two bars.

Bring the Greenery Inside!
From wreaths to centerpieces, greenery continues to be a key wedding trend. And you can take this décor a step further by bringing potted plants and trees inside Oak Brook Bath & Tennis Club. This is a refreshing way to make a statement about your appreciation of the outdoors and provides endless opportunities for personalization.

Unique strategy: Be proud of your bold decision to not only integrate but also feature the outdoors inside your wedding space by decorating indoor trees with twinkling lights!

Shine a Light on Your Natural Wedding Dreams

Our preferred vendors can help you use lighting to cultivate your dream wedding atmosphere. Guests can dance the night away on our stunning patio under string lights or under the gorgeous oil rubbed bronze chandeliers in our remodeled main Oak Brook room. In either space, you can dazzle and delight guests with your personal style that draws the outdoors inside.

Unique strategy: Work with a lighting rental company to use gobos to project silhouettes of leaves and stars on the walls inside Oak Brook Bath & Tennis Club.
Our incredible venue includes some of the most astounding indoor or outdoor visual elements in architecture and nature. The unparalleled qualities begin with a towering 35-foot vaulted ceiling and floor-to-ceiling windows, commanding spectacular views of the wooded acres, lush landscaping and the sparkling pond with fountain creating an aura of sophistication unique to our space and community. Our venue is ready and waiting for you to express your imagination and share in your vision.
OAK BROOK POLO
THE PRIDE OF OAK BROOKRETURNS
JUNE 9TH, 2019

For more information about our upcoming season please visit us at www.oakbrookpoloclub.com

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E: info@oakbrookpoloclub.com