



Village of Oak Lawn

A Community United E-Newsletter

October 2, 2008

Keeping residents up to speed with the latest Village news

RESIDENTIAL TAX APPEAL PROCESS

All homeowners should have recently received their reassessment notices for the 2008 tax year payable in 2009. Please note that this does not affect the amount you will pay in the calendar year of 2008. You have the right to appeal your property tax assessment and there are a couple of avenues in which to do so. You can appeal to the Cook County Tax Assessor's Office or the Cook County Board of Review

There are different bases for appeals such as: Lack of Uniformity (you'll need at least three property comparables of similar homes close in proximity to your home); Overvaluation (this is for new homeowners who are being assessed at 10% more than their purchase price), Property Description Error (this usually applies to square footage, if the appeal is based on this the County will do a field inspection and remeasure your home), Damage to Property; You may have multiple or other arguments than the four listed on which to base your appeal.

Appeal forms to the Cook County Tax Assessors Office and the Cook County Board of Review are available at the Oak Lawn Village Hall in the Clerk's Office for your convenience.

Appeals to the Cook County Tax Assessor's Office. Appeals to the Cook County Tax Assessor's Office need to be filed by October 20. You may file electronically at their website www.cookcountyassessor.com, by mail or drop off your completed "Residential Assessed Valuation Appeal" form at the Assessor's Office at Worth Township, 11601 S. Pulaski Road or at the Bridgeview Courthouse, 10200 S. 76th Ave. You can find comparable properties at the Assessor's website. You will need your Permanent Index Number (PIN) to do the search. If you do not have access to a computer, the Assessor's Office at Worth Township will help you fill out the form and will find the comparable properties and submit the form for you. Please note that the Assessor's Office at the Bridgeview Courthouse will only provide you with the forms and accept them upon completion, they will not find comparable properties for you. Worth Township hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. The phone number is 708.371.2900.

Appeals to the Cook County Board of Review. Even though the deadline to appeal to the Cook County Board of Review has not been set, you may prefile your appeal now. It is not necessary to appeal to the Tax Assessor's Office first. You may appeal directly to the Cook County Board of Review. Appeals can be mailed to the office or dropped off at its Satellite Office at the Bridgeview Courthouse, 10200 S. 76 Ave, Room 237. Personnel from the Board of Review will navigate you through the process of finding assessments of other properties. You will be notified by mail of the time and place of your hearing. You must be prepared at that time to present any evidence you have in support of your claim. You will also be notified by mail of the Board's decision. You may contact Commissioner Brendan F. Houlihan at 312.603.3644. or go to the Board's website at www.cookcountyboardofreview.com.

TAX REASSESSMENT AND APPEAL PROCESS FORUM

Thursday, October 23

7:00 pm

Oak Lawn Senior Center

5330 W. 95th Street

Mayor Heilmann along with Commissioner Brendan Houlihan of the Cook County Board of Review are hosting a forum to explain your 2008 tax reassessments (payable in 2009) and the appeal process.

QUIET ZONE UPDATE

In the summer of 2008, Village staff met with Christopher Burke Engineering, Metra, Interstate Commerce Commission, Federal Railway Association and Illinois Department of Transportation to determine what modifications and upgrades would be required to achieve the Quiet Zone. The agencies had no objections to the Quiet Zone as long as the Village made the required modifications.

Christopher Burke Engineering is working on design plans and once those are completed they will submit plans for permitting. The Village anticipates those permits in April 2009.

The Community Development and Growth Management Department will ask the Board of Trustees for approval to proceed with construction bidding, after the design is permitted and costs are well defined. Should the Board approve this and after the bidding process, construction could begin in late spring or early summer of 2009 with Quiet Zones in effect by summer, 2009.

The Village of Oak Lawn 1st Annual Pumpkin Festival



**WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE 1ST
ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL IN OAK LAWN!**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2008

10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

THE VILLAGE GREEN

LOCATED AT 94TH & COOK AVENUE

NORTH OF THE OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

**BRING THE FAMILY TO
ENJOY SOME FUN!**

**HAY RIDES, BOBBING FOR
APPLES, PONY RIDES AND
PUMPKINS FOR SALE!**

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU
THERE!**

FALL ON THE GREEN 2008 - *Our thanks*

How fortunate we were to have good weather for Fall On The Green 2008. Thousands again came out and enjoyed three days of sunshine, fine food and drink, arts and crafts, events for children, and in all a special three days for Oak Lawn families.

My special thanks to all of those who worked so hard to make this such a wonderful event. Trustee Tom Phelan, Director of Business Operations Chad Weiler, his assistant Deeane Adasiak and the Special Events Commission helped coordinate another great weekend event. I would also like to thank all of the members, friends and spouses of the St. Catherine's and St. Linus' Mens Clubs; volunteers from the Park Lawn Foundation; and the more than 250 teenagers from Oak Lawn who came out to lend a hand.

Many Oak Lawn employees came together to lend a hand for Fall On The Green. Thank you to all Oak Lawn employees, whether public works, police, fire, or finance departments, for stepping up to the plate for this. Last, but certainly not least, we must also thank our many corporate sponsors. These companies partner with Oak Lawn to fund Fall On The Green and make it a success for our community. When all is tallied we hopefully will make another good contribution to the Park Lawn Foundation, a tremendous organization that we are proud to assist through this annual event.

Thanks,

Mayor Dave Heilmann



Voter registration is available in the Clerk's Office until Thursday, **October 7**. The Clerk's Office is located on the 2nd Floor of the Village Hall, 9446 S. Raymond Ave. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am until 5:00 pm. In Person Registration will be available at the County Clerk's Office October 8 through October 21. The County Clerk's Office is located at 69 W. Washington, Chicago. 312.603.0906.

Early Voting will be available in the Clerk's Office beginning Monday, **October 13** through Thursday, **October 30** between the hours of 8:30 until 5:00 pm. The Clerk's Office will be opened on October 13 for Early Voting only. It will also be opened on Saturdays, October 18th & 25th for Early Voting only from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

The Southwest Conference of Mayors & Metropolitan Water Reclamation District are co-sponsoring a household hazardous waste collection. This is a great opportunity to rid your home of hazardous waste products. Car pool to save time.

Saturday, October 11
8:00 am – 3:00 pm
119th St. & Ridgeland Ave.

ITEMS TO DISPOSE

Anti-freeze	Auto batteries	BBQ propane tanks-empty
Drain cleaners	Fire Extinguishers-empty	Fluorescent Bulbs
Fuels	Fungicides	Furniture Strippers
Household Batteries	Household Cleaners	Insecticides
Medicines	Mercury	Metal Polishes
Oil Based Paints	Paint Removers	Pool Chemicals
Solvents	Thermostats	Used Oils
Weed Killers		

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Business & School Waste	Computers	Electronics
Explosives	Fireworks	Latex Paint
Medical Wastes	Smoke Detector	Tires

Oak Lawn Local History Club

The Oak Lawn Local History Club is seeking the donation or loan of historic items for a special Village of Oak Lawn Centennial Exhibit in early 2009. Please contact Kevin Korst at 708.422.4990 for further information

SPORTS & RECREATION

Day Trip to St. Charles Scarecrow Festival & Riverboat Ride

When: Friday, **October 10**

Info: 708-857-2200 or visit www.olparks.com.

**Hearts for Hope Halloween Bash
October 24
Willowbrook Ballroom**

Funds raised from this event will be earmarked to help start up a comprehensive Diabetes Clinic at Hope Children's Hospital. If you are interested in making a contribution or attending, please contact the Office of Development at 708.684.3764.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Community Nutrition Network & Meals on Wheels Foundation**

Community Nutrition Network and Meals on Wheels Foundation are in **dire need** of volunteers to assist with their mission: providing nutritious meals and services to older adults in suburban Cook, Grundy, and Kendall Counties to improve their quality of life. They are in need of Meals on Wheels Drivers and Group Dining Site Volunteers.

Drivers deliver a route of meals using their own vehicles. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Group Dining Site Volunteers lend a hand by helping prepare and serve or coordinating/sponsoring an activity, group outings, dancing, singing and parties.

To become a volunteer in the Oak Lawn area, please contact Marie Arrigoni at (708) 422-5180 or arrigoni@cnnmow.org

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU JOB OPPORTUNITY

The 2010 Census Operation has begun and there will be numerous employment opportunities available. One of the offices will be located in Oak Lawn. For more details call the toll free recruiting line at 800.470.8896.

SCHOOL NEWS

Arts & Crafts Fair

What: Arts & Crafts Fair sponsored by the Oak Lawn Community High School PTSA

When: Saturday, **10/18**, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Where: Oak Lawn Community High School, 9400 Southwest Highway

YOUR HEALTH

Advocate Christ Medical Center's Cessation Classes

What: "Freedom from Smoking" course presented by the American Lung Association.

When: Seven week program, Tuesday, **October 7 through November 18** at 6 pm.

Where: The Harbor Room at Advocate Christ Medical Center

Cost: \$60 with a \$30 refund upon completion of the course.

Info: 708.684.4229

FREE MENTAL HEALTH SCREENINGS

The Village of Oak Lawn Family Services Department will be conducting free mental health screenings. If you think you might be experiencing symptoms of depression or think someone you know might be, you may attend one of the screenings. You will fill out a brief written questionnaire; learn about the symptoms of depression and how to help a friend or family member whom may be at risk. Health care professionals will be on hand to talk about any concerns you may have.

Saturday, October 4

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Oak Lawn Children's Museum Fall Fun Fest
5100 Museum Drive

Saturday, October 7

7:00 am – 10:00 am

Oak Lawn METRA Station
9525 S. Tulley Ave.

Wednesday, October 8

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Oak Lawn Farmer's Market
9446 S. Raymond, (North Parking Lot)

Wednesday, October 8

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 S. Raymond Ave.

Friday, October 10

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Oak Lawn Senior Center
5330 W. 95 St.



THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN SALUTES OUR RESIDENTS IN THE ARMED FORCES

**PFC Michael J. Roberts, US Army
Captain Edward J. O'Connell IV, US Marine Corps
Pfc James William Mazurek, US Army
NC1 Lawrence R. Walton, US Navy
Pfc Justin K. Cerniuk, US Marine Corps
Pfc Santo J. Carollo, US Marine Corps
Lt. Colonel John Paul Klatt, US Air Force
Jamie Hojek, US Navy
Pfc Antonio Fernandez, US Marine Corps
Pfc Garrett Coffey, US Army
TSgt. Matthew R. Marcinkowski, US Air Force
Sn Daniel Villavazo, US Coast Guard
Cpl. Andrew Chesna, US Marine Corps
Staff Sgt Christopher Reich, US Army Reserves
Dennis A Youngren, SrA, US Air Force
Captain David Pfeiffer, US Air Force
Captain Craig Lanigan, Army Reserves
Michael S. Zylus, US Navy
Pfc Benjamin T. Kunst, US Marine Corps
Sgt. Enrico DeLorenzo, US Air Force
First Sgt. Daniel Miller, US Marine Corp
Rebecca Joy Inflow, US Naval Air Corps
Pfc Stephen Lukaiewicz, US Air Force
Sara Losos, AIC
Pfc Christopher Mann, US Marine Corps
1st Sgt Wade Pasquerella, 82nd Airborne
Sgt Jeff M. Marsinkowski, US Air Force
Sp4 Archie Thompson, IV
Pfc Justin Sanchez
HM3 Leslye Thompson
Sgt. Robert Sanchez, Jr.
Keith Libner, US Marine Corps
Cpl. John C. Hojek, US Marine Corps
Sgt. Kevin J. Scharwarko, US Army
Gustavo Guerrez, US Marine Corps
Pfc John W. Campbell, US Marine Corps
Spc. Don Brady, US Army
OS2 Stacy L. Johnson, USS
Cpl. John Elder, US Marine Corps
Karl Schultz, US Navy
Sgt. R.E. Carlson, US Marine Corps
Sp4 Joseph J Necom, USA
Sgt. John Patrick White
Master Sgt. Michael Dignan, US Air Force**

The Village of Oak Lawn appreciates the many sacrifices our residents in the Armed Forces make for us on a day to day basis. We ask our residents to keep all of those in the Armed Forces in their prayers. If you are an active service man or woman or have a loved one currently serving in the armed forces, please send their name and military information to mgorman@oaklawn-il.gov.

If any service man or woman would be interested in receiving the "A Community United" to keep in touch with the latest happenings in their hometown, they may do so by sending their email information to mgorman@oaklawn-il.gov.



Oak Lawn McGruff House Program

Provides a safe haven for our children.

The Oak Lawn Police Department is currently in the process of implementing a village wide McGruff House Program. A McGruff House is a temporary haven for children who find themselves in a frightening or dangerous situation. A McGruff House in the neighborhood shows someone is looking out for the children. The McGruff House Program is a partnership among law enforcement, schools, and community groups. Having a McGruff House in the neighborhood indicates someone is watching out for its children.

To begin this worthwhile program we are looking for residents who would be willing to allow their house to become a McGruff House. Interested parties can pick up a McGruff House Program Participant Application at the Police Desk inside the Oak Lawn Police Station.

After applications are received they will be screened and qualified applicants will be notified to the date and time of an orientation and training session. We will hold several sessions throughout the summer to accommodate every ones summer plans. Our goal is to have to program up and running at the beginning of the next school year.

McGruff House participants agree to help children as they go to and from school and play in the neighborhood by:

- Telephoning appropriate authorities for help.
- Reassuring or assisting children who are lost or frightened.
- Assisting children who have medical emergencies by contacting appropriate professionals.
- Assisting children who fear becoming victims of personal crime by summoning qualified help.
- Assisting children who have been victimized by crime by calling appropriate authorities.
- Reporting crime and suspicious activities to law enforcement officials, providing as much information as possible.
- Abiding by the restrictions and requirements of the McGruff House Network.

For further information or questions please contact Officer Jim Pacetti at (708) 499-7880 or jpacetti@oaklawn-il.gov.

Please join us in keeping our community safe.

SENIOR NEWS

Hundreds of Seniors in Oak Lawn have not signed up for benefits. Are you one of them?

Extra Help. The Low Income Subsidy, “Extra Help”, is available to people on Medicare to help pay for the costs of Medicare Part D drug plans and prescription drugs. This program can help you save a lot of money on the costs of your medication. Lots of people have NOT taken advantage of this program even though they are eligible.

Illinois Cares Rx. If you do not reapply soon for the prescription drug coverage through Illinois Cares Rx, you may have a lapse in your coverage beginning January 1, 2009. This means that you will have to pay the premiums for your Medicare Part D plan and may have to pay a deductible for your plan and your drugs will be more expensive.

The Economic Stimulus Payment. Up to \$300 for an individual and \$600 per couple is available from the federal government to those who are eligible and apply. If you are a senior, veteran or a person with a disability and had at least \$3,000 in qualifying (like Social Security benefits) income in 2007, you may qualify for the payment by October 15, 2008. If you haven't filed an income tax return yet this year.

Call **PLOWS Council on Aging** at 708.361.0219 for more information and help to apply for any of the above benefits. Eligibility is different for every program – don't assume you won't qualify.

Flu & Pneumonia Shots

What: Maxim Health Systems will administer flu and pneumonia shots. Prior registration is required.

When: Friday, **October 10**, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Where: Oak Lawn Senior Center, 5330 W. 95 St., 708.499.0240

Fall Rummage Sale

What: Senior Center will be hosting a Fall Rummage Sale. Donations will be accepted the Wednesday and Thursday prior to the sale. Donations may include pots, pans, dishes, glasses, plants, books, videos, jewelry and clean clothing. You may call for a pick up. Raffles and lunch will be available for a nominal fee.

When: Friday, **October 17** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm and Saturday, **October 18**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Where: Senior Center, 5330 W. 95 St., 708.499.0240

Entertainment by Carmelina Impellizzeri

What: An interactive show to delight all with Carmelina singing in nine different languages. Refreshments will be served.

When: Monday, **October 20**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Where: Senior Center, 5330 W. 95 St., 708.499.0240

Health & Wellness Fair

What: The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Health and Wellness Center. Participants will include chiropractors, nutritionists, insurance companies, senior care facilities and much more. This is a free event.

When: Wednesday, **October 22**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Where: Senior Center, 5330 W. 95 St., 708.499.0240

It is Illegal to Discriminate Against Any Person Because of Race, Color, Religion, Creed, Ancestry, National Origin, Age, Sex, Marital, Military or Familial Status, Unfavorable Discharge from Military Service, or Physical or Mental Handicap.

**THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN DOES BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW
(THE FAIR HOUSING AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1988)**

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> In the sale of rental of housing or residential lots | <input type="checkbox"/> In the appraisal of housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In the provision of real estate brokerage services | <input type="checkbox"/> In advertising the sale or rental of housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In the financing of housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Blockbusting is illegal |

Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint with the:

**Fair Housing Administrator, Village of Oak Lawn
9446 South Raymond Avenue
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453
708-499-7806**

The Oak Lawn Fair Housing Commission meets the third Tuesday during the months of January, April, July and October @ 4:00 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room

**Abacadabra Salon & Spa presents the
“Fight Against Breast Cancer Night”
Monday, October 27
5:00 – 9:00 pm**

**11006 S. Cicero Ave
708.424.7801**

Your \$30 donation will include a hand massage, neck and shoulder massage, hair consultation and lip or eyebrow wax, depending on availability. You will receive one free raffle ticket with a chance to win one of three \$100 baskets. For more details visit www.abacadabrasalonandspa.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Children’s Museum Fall Fun Fest

What: Train rides, face painting, food, music, pumpkins and much more. Get a sneak preview of the new museum.

When: Saturday, **October 4**, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Where: Parking lot of the new Museum facility, 5100 Museum Drive

Boy Scout Troop 618 Spaghetti Dinner

What: All you can eat spaghetti dinner

When: Saturday, **October 4**, 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Where: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9701 S. Brandt

Cost: Adults - \$6 Children, 4-12 - \$3

Fashion Show

What: Fashion show sponsored by the Auxiliary of Advocate Christ Medical Center and Advocate Hope Children’s Hospital.

When: Wednesday, **October 8**, 7:00 pm

Where: Lexington House, 7717 W. 95 St.

Cost: \$45 per person; \$450 per table. 708.684.5252

Uniting Women Retreat

What: A retreat featuring diverse worship, teaching drama and music with the topic “The Power of Relationships”. Continental Breakfast and Lunch provided. A free will offering to cover expenses will be appreciated.

When: Saturday, **October 18**, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Where: Moraine Valley Church, 6300 W. 127 St.

Oak Lawn's 1st Pink Pot Luck

What: Bring a dish or dessert to share and join other women for an afternoon getting information that could save your life or the life of someone you love. This is a free event to inform women about the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program. This program allows uninsured women to receive free mammograms, breast exams, pelvic exams and pap tests. There will be speakers and giveaways.

When: Sunday, **November 30**, 1:00 – 4:00 pm.

Where: Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th St.

OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Oak Lawn Park District's Lake Shore Park, 9610 East Shore Dr. has been chosen as a participant in the second year of "Staples Dream Park Challenge with the Bears" a local parks improvement initiative. During the challenge, 15 parks throughout the Chicagoland area will compete for the chance to win the grand prize of \$25,000 to be used for park improvements and a winner's celebration featuring Bears' star Adewale Ogunleye at Soldier Field. Additional prizes include \$10,000 and \$5,000 in park improvements for the first and second place runner-ups. The remaining 12 parks will receive \$500 each for their participation.

Now through November 17, Oak Lawn residents can vote once per day for Lake Shore Park at [www.Staples DreamPark.com/Bears](http://www.StaplesDreamPark.com/Bears) and pick-up a free "power card" at any Chicagoland Staples store to have their online vote count 10 extra times. Voters will automatically be entered to win a chance to meet Ogunleye in person at the Staples Dream Park Challenge winner's celebration later this year.

BUSINESS SPECIALS FOR OAK LAWN RESIDENTS ONLY

Each e-mail will feature a few Oak Lawn businesses with special offers for our residents. Just mention that you are an Oak Lawn resident and read about the offer "A Community United" email newsletter. Our features this edition are:



SPORTCLIPS HAIRCUTS, located at 106th & Cicero Ave., next to Panera, (708) 636-5490, features TV's showing sporting events, guy smart stylists and autographed sports memorabilia for sale. No

appointment necessary, open seven days a week, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 8:00 pm; Saturday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm; and Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. SportClips would like to offer Oak Lawn residents an early bird special of ***half off any service, Mon.-Fri., during the month of October, 2008, when they check in before 11:00 am.***

Thanks for taking the time to read this edition of *A Community United*. Please know that your comments and concerns are always appreciated at information@oaklawn-il.gov