



Village of Oak Lawn

A Community United E-Newsletter

November 4, 2008

Keeping residents up to speed with the latest Village news

Third Quarter Financial Report

The Village's General Fund revenues are holding up through September 30th given the state of the economy. For example, the sales tax revenues for the first three quarters of 2008 are at \$9,774,729. This is slightly below the 2007 figure of \$9,813,048 for the same three quarter period. However, our forecasts for the 4th quarter sales tax receipts are not optimistic and appear to be heading lower.

We are watching our expenses and in the first three quarters of the year virtually every Village Department has expenditures at or below the 2008 budgeted figures. But, keep in mind that the budgeted expenses for the Village for 2008 were \$2.2 million higher than 2007 and much of that is attributable to payroll increases which the village must comply with by contract. While the overall percentage increases per employee are not significant (3-4%), applying that aggregate for more than 300 employees represents a 7 figure increase each year in the cost of operations. In addition, like every household, the expenses to the Village increase every year.

The goal is to hold the line on tax increases. For the past three years, even though our expenses increased we have not raised taxes. Given the rate of inflation, the tax burden from the Village of Oak Lawn has actually decreased over the past three years. Many look at their tax bill and say "but my taxes have gone up, so how can you contend there have been no increases?". We are only talking about the taxes levied by the Village of Oak Lawn, as opposed to the County, the school districts, and other taxing bodies.

At this moment, we estimate that the Village may be looking at a \$2 million deficit we have to fill for the 2009 budget. The staff and board are working diligently to find additional ways to reduce expenses and generate revenues outside of taxing. This has been our challenge all year and remains front and center for the next 60 days. We will continue to report to you on the budget and Village finances in future Community United updates so that you are kept fully informed on what decisions are being made with your money.



Leaf Bags will be available at the Cashier's Window beginning October 14. The cost for a roll of 20 plastic leaf bags is \$8. Environmentally friendly yard waste 33g paper bags are 5 for \$2. Leaf bag pick up will begin October 15 and has been extended through December 15.

The Village Hall will be closed for business on **Tuesday, November 11** in observance of Veteran's Day. This will not interrupt garbage service.

Give a Little Back this Thanksgiving

Oak Lawn Family Service will continue in the tradition of sharing this Thanksgiving by facilitating a Charitable Drive for families in need. The program is designed to help local residents and their families experiencing a financial hardship due to illness and/or unemployment by providing food and gift certificates. Your contribution will ensure that our less fortunate residents will have a Thanksgiving meal.

Donations are being collected at the office located at 9401 S. 53rd Court between now and Thursday, November 20. Non-perishable items such as canned goods, stuffing mix or other fixings to prepare a Thanksgiving meal. Perishable items may be accepted but will require advance notice so that we can arrange for prompt pick up or delivery. Gift certificates such as Jewel, Dominick's Freshline and Boston Market would be greatly appreciated.

Please call to notify of your intent to donate, arrange delivery of donations, if you are interested in sponsoring a family or if you know of a family in need. (708) 423-3361, or at familyservice@oaklawn-il.gov.

SPORTS & RECREATION

"Guys & Dolls" – Oak Lawn Park District Theatre

When: **November 14-16 and 21-23.** Friday and Saturday shows are at 8:00 pm.
Sunday shows are at 3:00 pm.

Cost: Adults - \$20. Children and Seniors - \$19.

Where: Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110 St., (708) 857.2200

Youth Indoor Soccer Draft League

What: For girls and boys ages 6 – 13. Teams will practice in December and play begins in January. Age divisions are determined by the child's age as of September 1, 2008. Coaches are needed. Fee is \$79 for residents and \$105 for non residents. **Registration Deadline is November 19.**

Info: 708.857.2420

Turkey Shoot Basketball Free-Throw Contest

What: Win a turkey at this free throw competition. Teams are made up of one parent and one child and are grouped by the children's age. All ages welcome. You must register in advance.

When: Sunday, **November 23**, 11:00 am

Where: Community Pavilion, 9400 S. Oak Park Ave.

SCHOOL NEWS

Ridgeland School District 122 Preschool Screening

What: Screening 3 or 4 year olds that live in District 122 for preschool. Call for an appointment.

When: **November 7**

Where: Harnew Elementary School, 9101 S. Meade

Info: Call 708.599.5550 ext. 215 for an appointment

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU JOB OPPORTUNITY

The 2010 Census Operation has begun and there will be numerous employment opportunities available. For more details call the toll free recruiting line at 800.470.8896.

YOUR HEALTH

Three ways to avoid getting a cold

1. Keep your hands to yourself – One of the quickest ways to catch a cold is via your hands. Research shows that a cold virus can last up to three hours on a light switch, doorknob, table, telephone or hand railing. Avoid these public surfaces as best you can. Instead, use your own cell phone, turn light switches on with your wrist or the backside of your hand and use your own pen. Try to not sneeze into your hand; do so into your elbow as an alternative.

2. Get clean – Wash your hands frequently to avoid catching a cold. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that you spend 15 – 20 seconds washing your hands. Wipe down tables, desks, telephones, doorknobs and other common surfaces frequently with disinfectant to prevent catching someone else's cold. The CDC also reports that alcohol based hand wipes and gels can also be effective in helping you avoid the cold.
3. Get your vitamins – Studies show that getting the daily recommended amount of vitamins and minerals each day is another good way to steer clear of catching a cold. Take a multivitamin daily, get adequate rest (about seven to eight hours of sleep each night), exercise regularly and drink plenty of fluids and water. This will keep your immunity up and give you a great chance of avoiding the common cold.

THE SANCTUARY

A Women's Wellness Group

A place where women can connect together in a spirit of support to learn, share experiences, and explore possibilities for personal growth.

- Open to:** Women who are residents of Oak Lawn
When: Friday evenings, November 7 - December 19, 2008
(except November 28) 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Where: Oak Lawn Family Service
9401 S. 53rd Ct.
708.423.3361
Fee: \$5.00 (Each Friday meeting)

For additional information and to register please contact:

Joanne Dal Santo ext. 43

Johanna Huitsing ext. 52

email familyservice@oaklawn

(Please type The Sanctuary or Women's Group in the subject)

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@cnmow.org

Leaf Raking for Oak Lawn Seniors

The Oak Lawn Partnership Council will hold their annual "Servathon" for Oak Lawn residents in need of assistance with raking leaves at their homes on Saturdays, November 15 and 22 from 8 am – 1 pm. Volunteers need to be 14 years of age, unless accompanied by an adult. Girl/Boy Scout troops; sports teams welcome with chaperones. Transportation and lunch will be provided. Please contact (708) 499.7832.

PADS Homeless Shelters

To volunteer to work at one of 29 overnight shelters in the South Suburbs call 708.754.4357 and ask for Denise.

TEEN SCENE

High School Indoor Soccer Competitive Leagues

What: Teams will play against local high school and club competition teams. Fee is 775 for teams with 51% or more Oak Lawn residents and \$795 for teams with 50% or less Oak Lawn residents.

Info: 708.857.2420



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

**Pfc Kyle Taylor, US Marine Corps
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 Pasquerrella, 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.

SENIOR NEWS

Rules of the Road

What: A course given by the Secretary of State’s office designed to give drivers the knowledge and confidence to pass a drivers license renewal exam. You must pre-register.

When: Tuesday, **November 18**, 10:00 am – Noon

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

“Medication Cornucopia, Considerations for Consuming Common Meds”

What: Informative session with Pharmacist Peter Herout and staff from Advocate Christ Hospital regarding the use and interactions of common drugs.

When: Wednesday, **November 19**, 10:00 am

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

Free Rides for Seniors

What: Seniors 65 and older, may take free public transit rides on fixed routes by CTA, RTA, Metra and Pace. Applicants are required to complete a short form and present a government issued identification card to verify age. A photo will be taken if needed.

When: Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Family Harvest Fest

What: Fun and educational evening with a light meal with stories of the Native American past. Learn traditions and life styles as told by folktale artist Laurie Snaer.

When: Saturday, **November 15**, 5:30 pm.

Cost: Adults - \$10. Children (10 and under) - \$5.

Where: Stony Creek Clubhouse, 5850 W. 103 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:

Kids Eat FREE
on Mondays!*

Jason's deli®

*Limit 2 free Junior Meals
per purchase of an adult entrée
Dine-in only after 4 PM

6260 W. 95th St.

708-233-0368

jasonsdeli.com
for menus and more

Gift Certificate

No. _____

This Gift Certificate Entitles - VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN RESIDENT

To \$10.00 Off any salon or spa service

and/or \$5.00 off any hair or skin care product

Expires **DEC. 31ST 2008**

VALID
TUESDAY - SATURDAYS

Nancy Koss
SALON & SPA inc.

5401 West 95th Street • Oak Lawn, IL 60453 • 708.636.3444

The Grant/Widel Team

Terry, Kai and Dawn
Coldwell Banker
Residential Brokerage

708.424.4000

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BANKER** 

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

“List your home with us by March 31, 2009, and we will pay the \$395.00 processing fee.”

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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