

Winter 2019

Oswego News

The official newsletter of the Village of Oswego, Illinois

Take the trolley to Christmas Walk!

Oswego welcomes the holidays Friday, Dec. 6th p. 6

OSWEGO

Winter is coming

Get ready with helpful tips from Public Works, Building & Zoning, and Oswego Police. p. 8-11

**EASIER WAYS TO PAY! HERE'S WHAT'S
CHANGING ON YOUR UTILITY BILL p. 13**

Celebrate! We've broken ground on exciting new restaurants, parking and more downtown! p. 12



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Seasons greetings, Oswego!

We are nearing the holiday season with Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the new year right around the corner. We have had a busy few months that have given us here in Oswego a lot to be thankful for and to feel truly blessed to live in our wonderful community! We have exciting activity including both private sector projects and government initiatives.

New construction is underway downtown! We approved public improvements on Block 11 in August, and in September, we held a groundbreaking ceremony with Imperial Investments for a three-story multi-use building. They quickly followed with the announcement of a second project in Block 11, the Dairy Barn. One, and hopefully, both buildings will be open for business in 2020. We also closed on the former Alexander Lumberyard in October and had a groundbreaking ceremony with Shodeen in November.

We know with these new developments we must provide safe passage for our residents and link both sides of Main Street. Our first traffic study for a stoplight at Washington and Main Streets came back favorably and in September we held a pedestrian safety open house to collect public comments.

While the new developments downtown are very exciting, we have been busy on the periphery as well. The Village received a land donation adjacent to the Park N Ride on Orchard Road for an outdoor entertainment venue. We are in the process of collecting community input and will have several future announcements. We also approved final plans for a 7-Eleven now under construction on Route 71 that will open next fall. We have had several businesses open, including two unique restaurants, Pho Son and Asadoras Argentinas, with Home of the Hoagy and Yummy La Michoacana soon to follow.

We have been busy on the government side as well. Our intergovernmental group that kicked off in July had a big win for the taxpayers of Oswego! This winter, the Village will store road salt for School District 308 for a savings of \$187,762. The Village Board recently passed a 4% reduction in water rates and at the same time moved several water related projects forward into this year's budget. The Village board is currently discussing a property rate reduction as well.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with your thoughts, concerns, or ideas. Working together, we will keep the future bright in Oswego! I look forward to seeing you and your family at Christmas Walk presented by Allied First Bank on Friday, Dec. 6.

Wishing you a warm holiday season,

Troy Parlier
Oswego Village President

OSWEGO VILLAGE BOARD

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OSWEGO NEWS

Oswego News is the official newsletter of the Village of Oswego, published quarterly and mailed to more than 14,000 Oswego postal customers. Comments, suggestions and questions, including advertising, should be directed to:

JENETTE STURGES

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

VILLAGE OF OSWEGO

100 PARKERS MILL

OSWEGO, IL 60543

630-551-2392

JSTURGES@OSWEGOIL.ORG

DEPARTMENTS

ADMINISTRATION 630-551-2360

BUILDING & ZONING 630-554-2310

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 630-554-3622

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 630-551-2335

FINANCE 630-554-0864

POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY) 630-551-7300

PUBLIC WORKS 630-554-3242

VILLAGE CLERK 630-554-3259

UTILITY/WATER BILLING 630-554-2282



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Street closures are limited to areas immediately around construction projects. All businesses and Hudson Crossing Park will remain fully open and accessible throughout construction.

STREET CLOSURES ARE IN EFFECT ON ADAMS, HARRISON, JACKSON STREETS

CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY in downtown Oswego. Street closures are limited to roads that will be completely reconstructed as a part of their neighboring developments. That includes portions of Adams, Harrison, and Jackson Streets.

All businesses in downtown Oswego are open and fully accessible, including Hudson Crossing Park, which can be accessed from the Fox River Trail or the corner of Washington and Harrison Streets. Parking will be available as usual in front of downtown businesses. Grab a

coffee or a pint with friends, and on your way in, catch a glance at the progress being made on these exciting new developments.

Construction on both The Reserve at Hudson Crossing and Block 11 is expected to continue throughout the winter, weather permitting.

Check out our groundbreaking photos on page 12, and for updates as they happen, sign up for email alerts from the Village of Oswego. Visit www.oswegoil.org and click on the blue 'Email Alerts' button. ■

FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK

WATCH MEETINGS FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME

Log on to our website at www.oswegoil.org and click on Meeting Agendas & Videos on the homepage. Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., followed by the Regular Village Board meeting at 7 p.m.

NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

We have the solution. Several employees at Village Hall are certified Registrars. Staff is usually available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit www.oswegoil.org and click on 'I Want To.' Information can be found in the 'Apply For' section. More information can also be found on the Kendall County Election & Voter information page at www.co.kendall.il.us.

United States
**Census
2020**

MAKE THE 2020 CENSUS COUNT

THE NEXT decennial census is just around the corner in 2020. An accurate snapshot of our community helps Oswego get the funding, services and business support that we deserve and need. Visit census.gov for more information.

The 2020 Census will take place in March and April 2020, with April 1, 2020, marked as Census Day. New this year households will be able to submit their Census questionnaires online. Look for an invitation in the mail to complete the Census online.

A full and accurate response to the Census ensures that Oswego gets the appropriate legislative representation and federal and state funding allocations our community deserves. The Census Bureau is required by law to protect any personal information it collects and to keep it strictly confidential. The data is used only for statistical purposes.

Want to work for the Census?

The 2020 Census is currently hiring a variety of staff to support the Census efforts. If you are interested in supporting this important event or looking for an opportunity to earn some extra money, visit 2020census.gov/jobs for more information. ■

SHOP SMALL IN OSWEGO ON SATURDAY, NOV. 30

WHEN YOU shop here in Oswego, more of your tax dollars stay in the community. When you spend \$100 at a local shop, about \$68 continues to circulate in the local community. That's compared to just \$14 spent at a national retailer, where profits go out of state.

So support your community by

shopping locally this holiday season! Shop Small Saturday is Saturday, Nov. 30, and our independent businesses are celebrating with specials and giveaways from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout downtown Oswego.

Visit our local Oswego businesses and get your holiday shopping done with rare finds and unique gifts you can find nowhere else. ■



Find small business resources on the new Oswegrow.com

OSWEGO NOW has an online home for our small business owners and entrepreneurs. Whether you're just starting out with a new business idea, or you're ready to expand, **Oswegrow.com** has something for you. Find information on new workshops, connect with Village economic development staff or Oswego's business librarian, and access databases for market research.

Oswegrow is a partnership between the Village of Oswego, the Oswego Public Library District, and Fox Valley SCORE to provide Oswego's entrepreneurs and small business owners with resources to help their businesses grow and succeed. Workshops are free and are typically held the third Thursday of each month.

Follow @Oswegrow on Facebook, or find us online to learn more! ■



Oswegrow.com offers market research databases, ways to connect with Oswego's business librarian and economic development staff, and more.

Free workshop: The Top 4.5 Business Deductions
Find tax tips at this workshop for small businesses, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 17, at the Oswego Public Library. Details are at **oswegrow.com**.

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Friday, Dec. 6

TAKE THE TROLLEY TO CHRISTMAS WALK!



PRESENTED BY  ALLIED FIRST BANK

Oswego's beloved holiday tradition returns Friday, Dec. 6, to ring in the holiday season with a tree-lighting, Santa, a parade and more!

THE 2019 OSWEGO CHRISTMAS WALK, presented by Allied First Bank, will be held from 5 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6, throughout downtown Oswego, with festive fun and time-honored traditions fun for all ages.

giveaways and prizes and food for sale all night! Bring your wish list and camera and visit Santa at his new location at Fox River Academy of Music, 26 W. Van Buren, adjacent to the trolley stop.

Main Street festivities begin at 5 p.m. Go skating on the faux ice skating rink, watch an ice sculptor, slide down the giant inflatable sled hill, take a ride on the Toyland train and much more – all for free. Plus, dozens of local Oswego organizations will offer games, crafts,

Help Cindy Lou Who usher in the holiday season with a Seussian twist on the traditional tree-lighting ceremony. The tree lighting begins at 5:30 p.m. at the corner of Main and Jackson Streets, and features live choral music.



Christmas

Christmas

TICKETS Sold HERE

TICKETS SOLD AT ENTRANCE





At 8 p.m., make way for the silent, illuminated fire truck parade featuring all your favorite holiday characters down Main Street.

FREE TROLLEY SERVICE

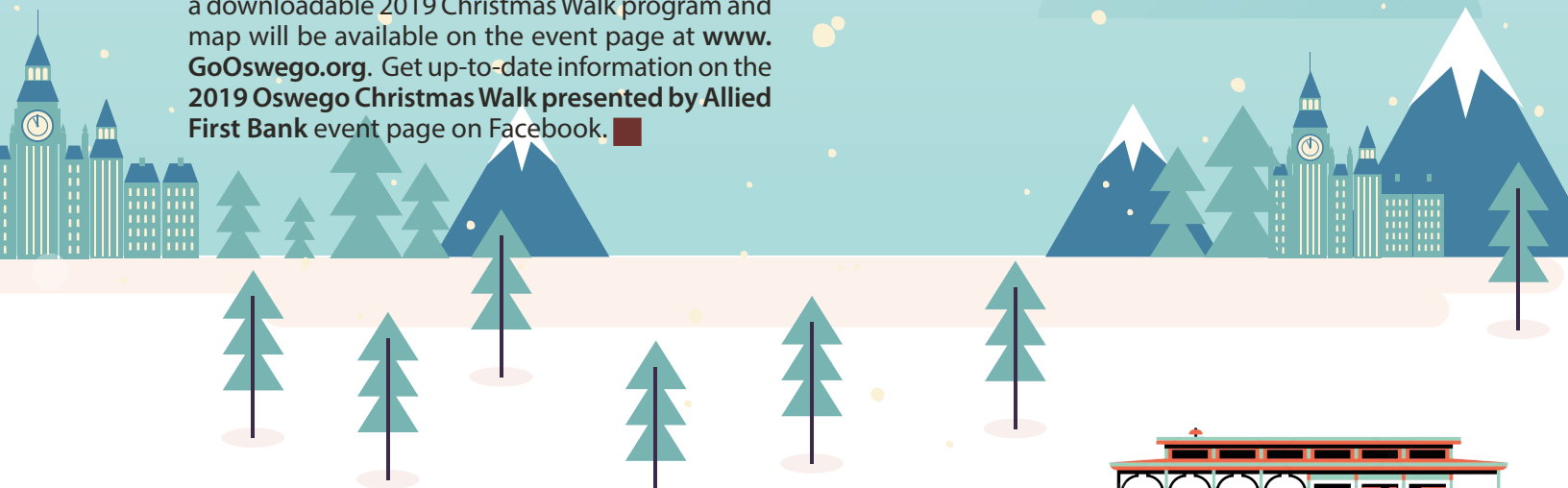
Parking is limited in downtown Oswego this year. Avoid the congestion and ride the trolley with some of your favorite Christmas Walk characters. Trolleys will operate a shuttle route from Oswego High School (football field side) to Symphony at the Tillers to the corner of Main and Van Buren Streets. Trolley service is free, thanks to sponsors Shodeen Group, Symphony at the Tillers, and Hennessey's River View Ford, and will run from 3:45 to 9:30 p.m.

WANT MORE?

A complete list of the weekend's activities, including a downloadable 2019 Christmas Walk program and map will be available on the event page at www.GoOswego.org. Get up-to-date information on the **2019 Oswego Christmas Walk presented by Allied First Bank** event page on Facebook. ■

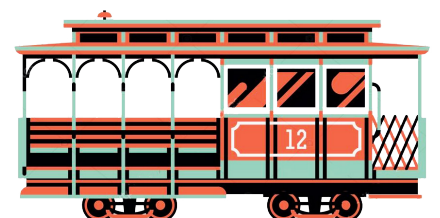


Top: The silent illuminated fire truck parade begins at 8 p.m. on Main Street. Above: Ride the trolley with Anna and Elsa to arrive at the Christmas Walk in style. Credit: Portrait of Light Photography.



Bring Christmas Walk cheer! Volunteer!

We need volunteers to help with games, the parade, and much more. In exchange, you'll get the highly coveted Christmas Walk hat, free food and lots of warm smiles. Sign up for your timeslot at www.oswegoil.org. Click on 'Volunteer for Christmas Walk!'



PREPARE FOR WINTER WITH THESE TIPS

PREPARE YOUR MAILBOX

Village of Oswego snow plow drivers are careful to avoid damaging mailboxes, however, with limited space to pile snow and hundreds of miles of roadway to plow during each snowstorm, drivers cannot avoid pushing snow against mailboxes.

Secure your mailbox now before winter weather strikes and the ground is frozen:

- Check that your mailbox post is straight and that the box is not leaning over the curb.
- Replace damaged or rotting posts.
- Check the connection point between the box and the post to ensure that the box is securely fastened.

If your mailbox is damaged during a snow storm, report it within 3 business days of the snow event by calling Public Works at 630-554-3242, clicking on Report an Issue on www.oswego.org, or by submitting a request through the Oswego Click 'n Fix app available for most smartphones.

A Public Works representative will determine if the damage is caused by a plow blade or vehicle. If so, the Village will reimburse the homeowner up to \$75 for mailbox replacement. If the damage is caused by snow coming off the plow blade, or some other undetermined cause, the Village cannot provide reimbursement. All receipts must be submitted by April 30th, 2020, to be reimbursed. No reimbursements can be made after that date, and all costs will be the responsibility of the homeowner. ■



Secure your mailbox before the snow falls to prevent damage by snow plows.



Village plows clear hundreds of miles of roadway each snowfall.

ALL ABOUT SNOWPLOWING

SNOW PLOWING CREWS in the Public Works Department work hard to keep you safe during the winter driving season.

In addition to plowing, Public Works crews use an anti-icing program that includes two different applications of a liquid mixture of salt brine, calcium chloride, and an agricultural product (typically beet juice). Crews custom-blend the mixture for each snowstorm based on projected pavement and air temperatures and wind speeds to efficiently slow roadway icing.

This mixture is applied to roads up to 48 hours before it snows, and can be seen in longitudinal stripes along the pavement. It is applied again directly to the

rock salt just prior to distributing the salt onto the roadway. When applied to the rock salt, the liquid mixture helps the rock salt activate and work in colder temperatures, plus reduces how much the salt bounces when it hits the pavement.

The anti-icing system has several benefits. Most importantly, it helps crews remove snow and ice from the pavement faster and at lower temperatures. Second, it reduces the average amount of salt applied during each storm by 15 to 20 percent – that saves money and is good for the environment.

When plowing, crews prioritize collector roads such as Douglas Road and Boulder Hill Pass as these roads provide access for large areas. Crews then address neighborhood streets. The Village contracts with a private service to plow cul-de-sacs, which are labor intensive.

The State of Illinois plows US Routes 30 and 34, and Illinois Routes 71 and 25. Kendall County plows Orchard Road.

Visibility from within snowplows is limited. Keep a safe distance, and remind children to also keep away from plows, including building snow forts away from streets. ■



HOW TO AVOID FROZEN WATER PIPES

FROZEN WATER PIPES affect a quarter-million families nationwide each winter. This damage is largely preventable.

Before winter hits, disconnect garden hoses and, if possible, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance of freezing in the short span of pipe just inside the house.

When temperatures plummet, a trickle of hot and cold water might be all it takes to keep your pipes from freezing. Let warm water drip overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall, and keep your thermostat set at the same temperature

both day and night.

Before you leave town, set the thermostat in your house no lower than 55°F. Ask a friend or neighbor to check your house daily to make sure it's warm enough to prevent freezing. And if you'll be gone long, shut off and drain the water system.

If your pipes freeze, never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame because it could cause a fire hazard. Water damage is preferable to burning down your house!

If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff valve in the house. ■

IMPORTANT DATES

DEC. 25 & JAN. 1

NOTRASH COLLECTION

Groot Industries will not pick up residential trash on Wednesday, December 25th in observance of Christmas Day and Wednesday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day. Trash and recycling pickup will be delayed by one day during those weeks. ■

THRU JAN. 10

FREE CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Groot will collect Christmas trees after the holidays through Friday, Jan. 10. Place your bare tree, free from lights, ornaments, tinsel, or any decorations by the curb on your normal scheduled garbage day. Do not bag your tree or place a yard waste sticker on it. After the second week in January, residents will be required to wait until April when the yard waste program starts up again, and a sticker will be required at that time. ■

NO PARKING ON SNOW-COVERED STREETS

Parking is prohibited on Village streets when two inches (2") or more snow has accumulated. Keeping cars off the streets helps Village crews clear the roads faster and prevents your car from being plowed in. Vehicles parked on the streets during in snowy conditions are also more likely to be struck by other vehicles. Street parking is allowed again once the snow stops and the streets have been plowed curb to curb. ■



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SHOVEL SIDEWALKS, HYDRANTS AND DRIVEWAYS THIS WINTER



Although plow drivers take care to selectively place snow, sometimes snow must be placed at intersections and heaped on parkways.

Help keep yourself and your neighbors safe by shoveling curb ramps and digging out fire hydrants so they can be accessed quickly in a fire.

When clearing snow, do not deposit snow onto the roadway. Shoveling, plowing, or blowing snow into public streets causes driving hazards and is prohibited by Village ordinance. Keep garbage cans and recycling totes out of the street so the plows do not hit them. ■

Ella, the Public Works pup, helps keep her neighbors safe by digging out neighborhood hydrants. Good dog, Ella.



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FROM THE VILLAGE ARBORIST

PROTECT TREES AND SHRUBS FROM WINTER FREEZES

TREES NEED a little extra care in the winter months, too. Exceptionally cold winter temperatures can damage or kill typically hardy trees and shrubs, as evidenced by yellowed boxwoods killed by last winter's polar vortex.

Here are some easy things that you can do to prepare your trees and shrubs for the upcoming winter season:

- Place mulch 3-4" deep around trees and shrubs to conserve soil moisture and insulate roots from cold temperatures.
- Protect evergreens and delicate shrubs from wind and salt spray with burlap. Drive wooden stakes into the ground around the shrub. Then, wrap


burlap around the stakes and staple the burlap the stakes.

- Use a ring of chicken wire with stakes around small saplings and shrubs to protect them against rabbits.
- Carefully remove heavy snow from the branches of hardwood trees before it freezes to the limb to reduce the chance of limbs breaking. Removing ice that is encased on branches can cause additional damage, so it is best to let the ice melt off naturally.

These simple tips can help to ensure that your landscape will survive the harsh weather that is predicted for Oswego this winter. ■



Wrap delicate shrubs in burlap to protect them from the cold temperatures. Piled leaves also act as insulation.



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FROM THE OSWEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT



On Oct. 5, the Oswego Police Department and Oswego Fire Protection District partnered for a public safety open house. Residents toured the new police headquarters, saw policing demos, and dined over hot dogs with Oswego police officers.

GET YOUR FURNACE AND FIREPLACE READY

DURING THE WINTER your furnace will turn on and off nearly 9,000 times. To keep your heating system running safely and efficiently, call a qualified contractor and schedule a check-up for your furnace. You can also take these steps:

- Check your flame. Flames should be mostly blue and steady. A pale yellow or wavy flame could be a sign your furnace is not working properly.
- Check your venting system. Soft, rusted or broken vent piping can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Be sure your furnace or boiler is free of dust, rust and any other signs of corrosion.
- Check air filters regularly. Clean or replace them as needed.
- Make sure that furnace panels and grills are in place and that the fan compartment door is closed when the furnace is on. Leaving those doors open could cause carbon monoxide to build up in living areas.

Cozy up around the fireplace this winter, but first:

- Clean your chimney once a year.

- Clear away any debris, such as bird nests at the top of the chimney.
- Check the chimney flue for blockages.
- Spark arresters should be installed on wood burning fireplaces. If you already have spark arresters, be sure they have been installed correctly.
- Be sure all dampers are operational and open and close properly.
- Keep the screen closed at all times when using the fireplace.
- Keep the area in front of the fireplace clear of all flammable materials, including paper, wood, or furniture.
- Never use charcoal lighter fluid or similar liquids to start a fire in the fireplace. These are extremely flammable and quickly become dangerous.
- Fireplaces should be Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved.

Contact the Building & Zoning Department at (630) 719-4750 for building permit and inspection requirements for the installation of a new fireplace. ■

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

GET A CAR CHECKUP

Have your car inspected ahead of the cold weather. Here are some items that should be inspected. Check for:

- The battery and charging system
- Clean air and oil filters
- A working heater and defroster
- Tire tread and pressure (including the spare)
- Excessive wear on belts and hoses
- Windshield wipers and washer fluid levels
- Working lights
- Cooling system fluid for winter temperatures
- Leaks in the exhaust system

CARRY EMERGENCY GEAR

Equip your vehicle with the following:

- Ice scraper
- Brush or broom
- Windshield washer fluid
- Shovel
- Flashlight
- Warning signs
- Flares
- First aid kit
- Warm blankets and extra clothing

DRIVING SAFELY

Allow extra time. Trips can take longer, especially on icy roads.

Keep your gas tank full in case you are delayed or rerouted during a bad storm.

Keep windshield and windows clear. Use your window scraper, car defroster and a clean cloth to keep the windows free of fog.

Slow down. Snow and ice make stopping distances much longer, so leave more distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead. Bridge decks and shady spots can be icy when other areas are not. Avoid sudden stops and quick direction changes, and watch for flashing lights on other vehicles.



Breaking ground on a new downtown Oswego

THIS FALL construction began in earnest on two major developments that will transform downtown Oswego. On Sept. 11, Yorkville-based Imperial Investments broke ground on a three-story building that will feature office space and a first-floor farm-to-table restaurant. The building, on the former Village Hall site on Main Street, will anchor a reimagined Block 11, which will be completely reconstructed to accommodate more restaurants.

On Nov. 5, Shodeen broke ground on the first phase of The Reserve at Hudson Crossing, the two-building, six-story development of luxury apartments, retail, restaurants and free public parking decks. Watch for announcements of exciting new openings by the end of 2020. ■

Top: The Oswego Village Board and Imperial Investments Director of Development Mike Mann break ground at 113 Main Street. Right: Village President Parlier thanks partners on The Reserve at Hudson Crossing. Below: Village staff, the Oswego Village Board, and representatives from Shodeen break ground on The Reserve at Hudson Crossing.



NEW UTILITY BILL PAYMENT SYSTEM

Register with the new citizen self service site to set up automated payments and more

The next time you log in to pay your water bill, you will be prompted to create an account with the Village's new bill pay system.

THE VILLAGE OF OSWEGO is changing to a new, user-friendly utility billing citizen self service (CSS) system for utility bills issued on or after Friday, Nov. 15, 2019. The new system will allow you to pay your bill, view your bill, sign up for automatic bill pay via a checking account or credit card, view your payment and consumption history, sign up for e-bills and much more.

As of Nov. 15, 2019, you will no longer be able to pay your bill through the Village's current online bill pay site. You will be redirected to register and pay at the new CSS site.

What you need to know about direct debit and credit payments

If you are already using direct debit autopay through your checking account, you do **NOT** need to take any action. Your payment will continue to be deducted on the due date.

If you are currently a credit card autopay customer, the Nov. 15 bill cannot be automatically charged to your credit card. You **DO** need to register and pay with the credit card that you would like to authorize for payment at the new CSS site at www.oswegoil.org on or after Nov. 15.

Get your bill electronically

If you would like to receive your bill by email, you must register and sign up for e-bills at the new CSS site.

You can still pay by mail, drop box or in-person

As always payments may also be mailed to *Village of Oswego, PO Box 5450, Carol Stream, IL 60197-5450*, dropped off in our payment drop box in front of Village Hall, sent electronically through your bank, or paid at the utility billing counter inside of Village Hall. ■

MORE WAYS TO PAY!

MANUALLY PAY EACH BILLING CYCLE

Access the new citizen self service (CSS) system at www.oswegoil.org and manually pay your utility bill each billing cycle. You will need your **account number and customer ID#**, which are both displayed on your bill, to initially set up your online account.

SET UP DIRECT DEBIT FROM YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT

Set up direct debit automatic payments (DD AUTO PAY) to have your utility bill payment automatically deducted each billing cycle from an authorized checking account. To set up DD AUTO PAY, you will need to have your **account number and customer ID#** as well as your bank account information.

Note: If you are already using direct debit autopay through your checking account, you do not need to enroll in this option again. Your bill payments will continue to be automatically withdrawn on the bill due date from the checking account you have previously authorized.

SET UP CREDIT CARD AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS

Set up credit card automatic payments (CC AUTO PAY) to have your utility bill payment automatically charged each billing cycle to an authorized credit card. Visa, Mastercard and Discover are accepted.

Note: If you are already using credit card automatic payments, you **MUST** register at the new CSS site. The Nov. 15 bill cannot be automatically charged to your credit card. To set up credit card autopay, you will need your **account number and customer ID#** as well as your credit card information. Your first credit card payment must be done manually. Subsequent payments will then be automatically charged on the due date. You are responsible for updating all credit card information on your account at the CSS site.

PAY BY E-CHECK

Online payments by check will now be accepted. You will need to have your **account number and customer ID#** as well as your bank information. ■

PROPERTY OF THE SEASON



444 S. Main Street

TRAVEL SOUTH on Main Street from downtown and you'll discover a timeline represented in the homes that line the street. Each property, from an 1850s stone blacksmith shop at Main and Tyler Streets to a 1900s classical revival estate at Main and Judson Streets, marks a period and a set of ideals about home ownership. Each has a lineage of owners that trace back to earlier periods in Oswego history, but some also connect Oswego to broader ideals. The home at 444 S. Main Street is a good example.

Built around 1950, this ranch home, with its large windows protected under horizontal roof planes, may seem overly familiar today, but the origin of its style is anything but ordinary. Even for the 1950s.

The home exhibits characteristics of the Usonian home, envisioned and promoted by architect Frank Lloyd Wright, as an alternative to centralized, urban living. Single-story, compact, with a distinctly horizontal emphasis in its roofline, the home represented a lifestyle that Wright promoted

through the publication of three books beginning in 1932; *Disappearing City*, *When Democracy Builds*, and *The Living City*. The Usonian ideal embodied his holistic proposal called Broadacre City that continued to increase in awareness with the publication of his third book in the 1950s.

Wright linked his vision to egalitarian principles: good design for all, use of natural materials, and land ownership. He promoted technology in the home like radiant floor heating and capitalized on the growth of auto culture and communication technologies as a means to free people from urban alternatives. He envisioned a particular version of what many of us recognize today as suburbia.

The form and materials of 444 S. Main Street draw from that same vision. The home is the product of Naperville builder Donald A. Tosi who designed similar homes throughout the region before his passing in 2009. Most notably, Mr. Tosi collaborated with Wright protégé Bruce Goff on the Sam & Ruth Van Sickle Ford home in Aurora. ■





DECEMBER

06 Take the trolley to **Christmas Walk!** The holiday season kicks off at 5 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Oswego. Park at Oswego High School or Symphony at the Tillers to pick up the trolley that drops you off in the heart of the festivities. See page 6 for details.

07 Meet Santa and chow down on pancakes for a good cause at **Breakfast with Santa!** Tickets are available at www.oswegofoundation.org and proceeds benefit classrooms in Oswego 308 schools.

07 Buy a tin and head to downtown Oswego for freshly baked cookies at the **Cookie Walk!** Tins are available for purchase in advance from Marmalade Tree, Bentley's Pet Stuff, and Happenstance Goods while supplies last.

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10 The **Oswego Village Board** meets at 7 p.m. at Oswego Village Hall to vote on Village business. Meetings are open to the public and include a public forum for those wishing to speak. A Committee of the Whole meeting precedes at 6 p.m. to allow more in-depth discussion on issues before they reach a final vote before the Board. Agendas and streams of live meetings are available at www.oswegoil.org.

24 Village offices are closed for **Christmas Eve**.

25 Village offices are closed for **Christmas Day**. Trash collection will be delayed by one day.



JANUARY

01 Village offices are closed for **New Year's Day**. Trash collection will be delayed by one day.

06-10 It's the last week for curbside **Christmas Tree collection**. See details on page 9.

14 The **Oswego Village Board** meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall.

17 Join Oswegrow for **The Top 4.5 Business Deductions**, a workshop for small businesses, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Oswego Public Library. Details are at oswegrow.com

20 Village offices are closed in observance of **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**.



FEBRUARY

04 The **Oswego Village Board** meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall.

08 Grab the girls and catch an afternoon movies by, for, and about women at **LUNAFEST**. Brought to you by the Oswego Cultural Arts Commission, this celebration of women in film includes a small makers market, and a variety of sweet treats. Proceeds from this event benefit Mutual Ground.

17 Village offices are closed for **President's Day**.

18 The **Oswego Village Board** meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall.

29 Leap into 2020 and learn about all the exciting new things happening around Oswego at the Oswego Area Chamber of Commerce' **Hometown Expo**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oswego High School. Meet new businesses, visit the Hometown Expo Community Art Competition, get your documents shredded and more.

08 It's like Galentine's Day on the big screen! Join the Oswego Cultural Arts Commission for **LUNAFEST**, featuring funny, dramatic and thought-provoking films by, for, and about women! Get details at www.GoOswego.org.

LUNA **FEST**



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 Visit www.oswegoil.org for information about services, live board meetings, and much more.

 Sign up for email alerts and get reminders about Village services, information about events, and other ways to get involved in your community. Go to www.oswegoil.org and click on **E-Mail Alerts**.

 **@VillageofOswegoIL** for news and helpful reminders
@GoOswego for events and more!

 **@OswegoIL60543** for news and helpful reminders
@GoOswego for events and more!

On the cover: The annual Christmas Walk Silent Illuminated Parade will begin at 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6. **Credit:** Portrait of Light Photography



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