# Spring 2020 News The official newsletter of the Village of Oswego, Illinois On the horizon Find out what's coming next in economic development in Oswego p. 445 OSWEGO POLICE FORM TEAM TO HELP RESIDENTS EXPERIENCING MENTAL HEALTH CRISES P. 11 **United States** Cheers! Wine on the Fox returns to Return your Census forms to ensure Oswego is fully Oswego on May 2 & 3! counted! **DISCOUNT TICKETS ON SALE NOW! p. 10**

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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:

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#### FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT



### Happy spring, Oswego!

Spring is the time of renewal and rebirth. In Oswego it couldn't be more evident! We were very fortunate to have mild weather this winter which extended the construction season. We have taken advantage of it and our projects have gone vertical! New downtown developments on Main Street and Washington are well underway. The steel frames and concrete foundations have given way to walls and floors. Our public improvements are running ahead of schedule. We hope to have some of the roads open as well as the parking deck before the end of the year!

These are not the only projects going on. You can now see walls at the Delta Sonic site on Route 34 and the 7-Eleven on Route 71 is rapidly approaching completion. We have also welcomed several new restaurants to Oswego. In addition to the commercial buildings we have active residential construction going on in multiple sites including Seasons of Southbury, Hunt Club, Deerpath, Ashcroft Place, Ashcroft Walk, and the Estates of Fox Chase. Turn the page for more exciting details on new additions!

We are very excited about the development going on and we are equally excited and proud of our community events. Looking back, we had a beautiful December night and spectacular turnout for the Oswego Christmas Walk. We hosted thousands of people downtown and it appeared all had a wonderful time. That was followed up with the downtown Cookie Walk and the Oswego Chocolate Walk in February. This spring, Wine on the Fox will return to its roots and showcase Illinois wineries.

In May, we are privileged and honored to host the Middle East Conflicts Wall of Honor at Village Hall. The Wall of Honor represents our fallen heroes from 2001 through 2018. Faces of the Fallen is a visual tribute to each service man or woman killed in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, Desert Storm, and Desert Shield. The Wall will be on display from May 22 to May 31. We will be releasing a full schedule of activities to complement this display as we honor the brave service men and women that gave the ultimate sacrifice.

We are truly fortunate to be a part of such a great community. I want to recognize an example of what makes Oswego special. As many of you saw, one of our downtown businesses sold Christmas trees this year. They closed for the holiday on December 23 with many unsold trees still on their grounds. They left the trees available and asked only for a donation you could afford or just a like or share on Facebook. Thank you Dusty Road Merchants for your act of kindness for our residents.

I look forward to seeing you at our spring community events! Don't hesitate to introduce yourself and share a story or two. Please keep sharing your thoughts, concerns, and ideas. Working together we will keep our community great!

Troy Parlier

Sincerely

Oswego Village President

#### FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK



#### VOTE EARLY AT OSWEGO VILLAGE HALL MARCH 2-12

Early voting will be held at Oswego Village Hall from March 2 through March 12. Early voting times are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. There is no early voting at Oswego Village Hall on Sundays. More information is available at **www.co.kendall.il.us.** 

The last day to vote early in this election is **March 16, 2020,** at the office of the election authority, the Kendall County Clerk's Office, 111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville.

#### **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**.

For more election and voter registration information, visit www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/

#### WATCH MEETINGS FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME

Log on to **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.

#### INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

Visit **www.oswegoil.org** and click on *I Want To*. Information can be found in the *Learn About* section.



### SIGN UP FOR VILLAGE OF OSWEGO MEETING AGENDAS -- STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX!

The Village recently implemented a new, more efficient delivery method for receiving meeting agendas for Committee of the Whole, Village Board and Planning & Zoning. Visit the Village's website at **www.oswegoil.org** and click on *Meeting Agendas & Videos* on the home page. Scroll to the middle of the page and submit the email address where you would like to receive the agendas. You will be prompted to complete additional sections and choose the topics (agendas) you would like to receive.



# ON THE HORIZON

New restaurants and amenities in downtown, more shops in our major retail corridors, more homes, a new ampitheater, and so much more. Here's what's coming soon to Oswego in 2020.

IT'S BEEN A LONG WINTER, but that hasn't stopped the forward momentum of several new developments coming to Oswego throughout 2020 and beyond.

In downtown Oswego, crews have spent the winter excavating and laying the foundation for the first phase of The Reserve at Hudson Crossing, the six-story mixed-use development that will bring new restaurants and shops, hundreds of new residents, and covered free public parking to downtown. The public parking deck is anticipated to open by the end of this year. Expect new restaurants and shops along Washington Street by summer 2021.

Across Washington Street, the in-progress construction of 113 Main Street dominates the skyline. The new three-story building will bring a sit-down restaurant to the new Block 11, and the developer has also announced plans to revive Oswego's beloved ice cream spot as the Dairy Barn.

New construction continues in other retail corridors around Oswego, too, which will bring new services and amenities to Oswegoans this year. On Route 71 and Washington Street, a new 7-Eleven has begun construction and should be open before Slurpee Day



Construction has kept moving all winter long at 113 Main Street. You can watch progress on both this project and The Reserve at Hudson Crossing live-streamed on our downtown construction page, **GoOswego.org/coming-soon**.

this summer. On the east end of town, construction continues on Delta Sonic's new flasgship location, which will bring state-of-the-art, environmentally friendlier car care to Route 34.

#### TRY SOMETHING NEW FOR YOUR TASTEBUDS

On Route 30, Chicago favorite RV's Home of the Hoagy



is slated to open soon, bringing hoagies, poutine and other indulgent comfort foods to Oswego. It'll join a host of other recent new culinary developments around Oswego, including Vietnamese noodle shop Phở Sơn, Mexican dessert shop La Yummy Michoacana, Argentinian burger spot Asadoras, and Menchies Frozen Yogurt, all of which have recently opened to expand Oswego's palate.

Construction is also underway on several new retail spaces on Orchard Road, including a new Burger King, the new Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois Resource Center and more

#### **NEW AMPITHEATER**

Orchard Road is about to get a lot more exciting in other ways, too. In October, the Village Board accepted a donation of land to be used for a new community music venue near the Park N Ride Lot on Station Drive. The new park space will provide another amenity for the community to gather and enjoy entertainment in the summer months. Watch this spring for upcoming opportunities to provide your input into the new ampitheater's design.

#### STAY UP-TO-DATE ON DEVELOPMENTS

You can watch the excitement building for yourself with two new livestreams of construction on Block 11 and The Reserve at Hudson Crossing. Check them out on www.goOswego.org/coming-soon.

For up-to-date information on everything new in Oswego, follow us on Facebook @OswegoIL or Twitter @OswegoIL60543.

And for news and reminders straight to your inbox, sign up for email alerts by visiting www.oswegoil.org and clicking on the blue *Email alerts* button.

Development continues along several corridors in Oswego. Above, a flagship location for Delta Sonic will open along the Route 34 corridor, bringing state-of-the-art car care services to town, just across the street from one of Oswego's four business parks.



# Family. Friends. Community.

Janna Misek Ins Agcy Inc Janna Misek, Agent 1136 Douglas Road Oswego, IL 60543 Bus: 630-554-1540 Mon-Thurs 9:00am to 8:00pm Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm Saturday 9:00am to 12:00pm Se habla Español

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State Farm, Bloomington, IL

# RESPOND TO THE CENSUS FOR FUNDS, REPRESENTATION

Census workers will be in Oswego this spring to count residents who don't respond online or by mail.

THE U.S. CENSUS only comes around every ten years, so make sure you're counted this spring!

In March, every household will receive a Census survey that will play a big role in how much of \$675 billion dollars is distributed to our city, region and state.

Every 10 years, the Federal government counts every person, of all ages, through the decennial Census. The population, demographic and geographic information collected is used to

appropriate funds, grants, and support to states, counties and municipalities. The population is also used to update legislative representation based on population.

For the first time ever, people are being invited to complete the Census online. The survey will ask questions related to sex, age, race, and other demographic data, but not citizenship status. Each household will receive a letter with information on how to complete the Census online, by phone, or through a paper questionnaire. Complete your Census questionnaire quickly or expect to receive several reminder mailings from the Census Bureau. Workers will then begin field operations in May, following up with residents who have not completed the form by mail or online, asking them to complete the Census survey in person.

For more information about the 2020 Census, and to view the Census questionnaire or to apply for a job with the Census, visit 2020Census.gov. The Census process will continue throughout the year and Census takers will deliver apportionment counts to the president and Congress in December 2020.

#### BE ALERT FOR FRAUDSTERS

The Census Bureau will never ask for payment. If an individual is requesting payment in any way (via telephone, mail, email, or in person) and claiming to be with the Census, report this fraudulent activity to police.

All Census employees are issued a badge that includes their name, photo, Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date, as well as a Censusbranded bag and electronic devices bearing the Census Bureau logo. All initial

communications with the Census Bureau will be done though mail only – never by email or phone. There may be follow-up by phone afterwards but only after a resident has provided a phone number for that purpose.

For more information on the Census, visit the U.S. Census website at www.







Census workers have been in Oswego ensuring addresses are correct in anticipation of the 2020 Census. Residents are encouraged to fill out their Census forms online or by mail before Census Day on April 1, 2020.

# Lisa Wheeler

Oswego's Hard-working, Helpful, Hometown Real Estate



"Thank you, Lisa Wheeler, for making real estate fun, easy and exciting! You were awesome to work with."

- Lisa Woltman, Oswego



Call/Text: 630-580-8000 Email: lisawheeler@kw.com



Each office independently owned and operated. If your property is listed with another broker, this is not a solicitation.





Conserve water and save money by being careful with your sprinkler placement, avoiding sidewalks and driveways.

### CONSERVE WATER THIS SPRING WITH SMART SPRINKLING

IN OSWEGO, our source of water is a deep underground reservoir. According to the Illinois Office of Water Resources, water is being withdrawn twice as fast as it is being replenished. Therefore, we all need to take steps to use water properly, and the Village has enacted regulations which limit when residents can water lawns.

All properties with even-numbered street numbers may use village distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for yard watering on evennumbered calendar dates between 4 a.m. and 9 a.m. and between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

All properties with odd-numbered street numbers may use village distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for yard watering on oddnumbered calendar dates between 4 a.m. and 9 a.m. and between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

All non-addressed properties including, but not limited to, subdivision entrances, roadway islands, and parkways may use village distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for yard watering on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. and between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

There are no restrictions when a person is using a hand-held watering device to water or sprinkle gardens, trees, shrubs, or other plants.

The automatic watering of trees and shrubs by means of root feeders within the drip line of the tree or shrub will follow the even/odd restrictions stated above.

Planting sod or grass seed is prohibited during the months of July

and August.

Property owners or residents who want to continuously water a newly seeded, slitseeded, or sodded areas of more than ten (10) square yards, must obtain a water permit at the Village Hall or Public Works. There is no fee for this permit; however, violators will be fined.

Residents wishing to fill a swimming pool may have water brought in by tank through a private contractor or may use a private garden hose. The filling of swimming pools with hydrant water is prohibited. Residents using a private hose must follow the water conservation rules above.

If the filling will take longer than the conservation limitations, a water permit can be obtained allowing the hose to run for a period of 48 hours.

#### FREE WOOD CHIPS!

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT has free wood chips available for residents. These wood chips are the product of our brush pick-up program and other tree removal. This coursely cut wood is from a variety of species, not the fine, uniformly sized and colored mulch you might purchase at a home improvement store. Still, these wood chips are effective at keeping water from evaporating from soil and will break down into nutrients for your garden.

Pick up wood chips at the Oswego Public Works Facility, 100 Theodore Drive.





# BRUSH AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION

#### BAGGED YARD WASTE COLLECTION STARTS APRIL 6

Groot's yard waste pick-up program will begin the week of April 6th and will continue weekly through Friday, November 27th.

Yard waste is defined as grass or shrubbery cuttings, leaves, small tree limbs and other materials accumulated as the result of the care of lawns, shrubbery, vines and trees. Yard waste material will be collected only if it is placed in a 30-gallon Kraft paper bag with one Groot Industries yard waste sticker affixed to the front of the bag. Yard waste stickers do not expire regardless of any dates which may appear. Yard waste stickers purchased in 2020 will cost \$2.25 each.

Kraft bags and stickers are available at local retail grocery and hardware stores. Yard waste will be collected on the same day as your regularly scheduled garbage day. Please have your yard waste, trash, and recycling at your curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day.







Correct (left) and incorrect (right) brush piles for collection. To ensure that your brush is collected, place it neatly at the curb with cut ends facing the same direction before 7 a.m. on Monday of your collection week.

### **BRUSH PICKUP STARTS MAY 4**

THE VILLAGE of Oswego offers free brush collection throughout the season.

#### **ZONES**

The Village collects brush on alternate weeks by zone. There are two separate residential brush collection zones. See the map below. A list of the neighborhoods located in each zone can be found on the Brush, Leaves and Yard Waste page at www.oswegoil.org.

#### RESTRICTIONS

Brush is defined as tree and bush branches less than 5 inches in diameter. The brush collection program is not intended to handle branches, logs, or tree stumps as a result of large-scale tree trimming or removal. Crews will not pick up logs, wood, root balls, cuttings, or grass clippings. Crews will place an

#### **ZONE COLLECTION DATES**

Zone A	Zone B
May 4	May 11
July 6	July 13
October 5	October 12

Special collections are held following major storms that cause downed limbs. For announcements of these collections, sign up for email from the Village of Oswego at www.oswegoil.org. Click on Email Alerts.

orange tag on your door indicating the reason they did not pick up the brush if it is the wrong material or placed at the curb too early.

#### FOR COLLECTION

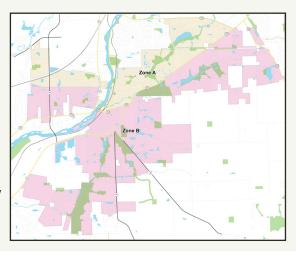
Place brush at the curb by 7 a.m. on Monday morning of the designated week but no earlier than noon the Friday before. The Public Works trucks will pass through an area once and will not return for brush placed after the deadline. Place unbundled brush parallel or perpendicular to the street in neat bundles with all cut ends facing the same direction. Do not pile brush higher than four feet or put brush in a container or in the street. The Village does not accept landscaping waste, tree branches, or tree removals as a result of contracted work. Crews will not remove brush from commercial, industrial or other non-residential properties.

#### **BRUSH COLLECTION ZONES**

**Zone A** includes all properties east of the Fox River and north of Route 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and north of Mill Road. (Marked in tan.)

**Zone B** includes all properties east of the Fox River and south of Route 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and south of Mill Road. (Marked in pink.)

A list of neighborhoods by zone is at www. oswegoil.org/government/departments/public-works/brush-leaves-yard-waste. aspx



### FROM THE ARBORIST START THE GROWING SEASON OFF RIGHT

With springtime and warmer temperatures coming, it is a good idea to do some early yard cleanup and inspections to help ensure a beautiful and healthy landscape this season.

Remove fallen branches and debris. This will make it easier to see the base of your plants and trees to better see any damage.

Look for areas where melting snow and rain accumulate. Plants and trees will not do well in soil that is constantly wet. You may need to simply add soil to better drain the water.

Prune out dead branches from trees. This will give room for living branches to grow as well as removing falling hazards.

Remove any Christmas lights that may still be wrapped around your trees. If left on, they can strangle and kill

branches or be grown inside the tree which will kill or severely weaken the tree.

Check mulch levels and replenish as needed. Mulch should be laid 3-5" deep around trees but should stay a few inches away from the trunk. Exceeding this is called "volcano mulching" and should be avoided as it may cause canopy dieback, girdling roots, root rot, and insect infestations, which will ultimately kill your tree.

Remove competing plants, such as grass, weeds or ivy, from under your trees or plants. These unwanted plants will steal water meant for your trees roots and they may choke out the tree or plant.

Following these simple tips will greatly help your landscape and property look its best this coming summer and will give you a good reason to get outside as soon as the warmer days finally arrive.

#### MAY 4-29

#### WATER MAIN FI USHING

The Public Works Department will flush water mains during the four-week period of May 4 through May 29. Crews will begin flushing each day at 7:30 a.m. Public Works will put up signs to alert residents of the upcoming flushing. Please watch for these signs which will be placed throughout the Village the week before the flushing.

Should you notice discolored water coming from your cold-water faucet, simply run the water until the water clears up. This usually takes only a few minutes. Do your laundry before 7 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on days that Village staff are in your neighborhood to avoid rust discoloration of clothes. If your clothes become discolored, notify the Public Works Department at 630-554-3242.

The Public Works Department flushes all fire hydrants in the spring and fall under the recommendation of the Illinois EPA. Flushing scours the water mains by running high flows of water through fire hydrants to get rid of iron deposits that could produce colored water and allows Village staff to evaluate the operation of fire hydrants.

#### SPRING CLEANUP WEEK

APRIL 20-24

Each spring and fall, Groot Industries collects additional household waste, yard waste, and bulk items from residents at no extra charge. This year, the spring cleanup will be the week of April 20 on your regularly scheduled garbage day.

Yard waste must be placed in 30-gallon Kraft bags but stickers will not be required during this week only. Please place all items, along with your regular garbage and recycling, at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your regularly scheduled collection day. Groot Industries will not pick up appliances or white goods except by special appointment. Contact Groot Industries at 630-892-9294 at least 24 hours in advance for this special pick up. Extra fees may apply. Plastic bags containing yard waste are not accepted. If you have any questions regarding this collection week, please contact the Public Works Department at 630-554-3242.

#### PARKWAY TREES AT HALF PRICE!

The Village has a significant backlog of trees to be planted. If your parkway tree is removed for any reason, homeowners can move to the front of the list for replacement trees by choosing to participate in the 50/50 tree replacement program. This program allows homeowners to select the species of the tree from a list provided by the Village. If you choose to participate in the 50/50 replacement program, you will be responsible for half of the cost of the tree which the village purchases wholesale. You are not charged for the removal, the stump grinding or the planting. Contact the Public Works office at 630-554-3242 to sign up for this program.



#### MEMORIAL DAY

#### NO TRASH COLLECTION

Groot Industries will not pick up residential trash or recycling on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. Trash pickup will be delayed by one day that week.

#### APRIL 25

#### TV RECYCLING EVENT

The Village of Oswego and Groot will hold a free recycling collection for TVs and computer monitors on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Public Works Facilty, 100 Theodore Drive.

This collection is for TVs and computer monitors only, and is only open to Village of Oswego residents, with ID required. The will be no charge for this collection. Got other electronics? Call Groot at 630-892-9294, and have them collected right





# Toast the return of spring May 2 & 3!



OSWEGO WELCOMES spring each year with a toast! Join your neighbors and the Village of Oswego at Wine on the Fox, on Saturday, May 2, and Sunday, May 3.

Try dozens of wines from independent Illinois wineries, enjoy live music, food, and engaging spaces for children to play. Then buy your favorite bottles and cases to take home to savor the day.

This year's event will be held again at Village Square Park at Oswego Village Hall to avoid construction dust, and features a return to our festival's roots, with wine from Illinois vineyards. Proceeds help support other events and amenities in Oswego all year long!

Buy your wine package in advance online and get more tickets for your money. Discounted early bird tickets are on sale now at www. wineonthefox.com and go on sale in person at Village Hall on March 2.



Raise a glass! Invite your friends for an afternoon of fun with live music, food and wines from around Illinois. Proceeds from Wine on the Fox benefit Oswego events and community amenities like fireworks, holiday decorations and more.



59 S. Main Street Oswego, IL 60543 630.551.2300

**Bike Sales** Service & Rentals Bike Rentals - \$16 for 2 hours!

Organized Shop Rides - Road and Mountain! Bike Repair Classes available throughout the year, call for details.

www.oswegocyclery.com

### Have 401(k) questions? Let's talk.



Jim Cargo Financial Advisor 1063 Station Drive www.edwardjones.com

Edward **Iones** MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

FROM THE OSWEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

### POLICE TAKE 'ONE MIND' PLEDGE

New Crisis Intervention Team helps officers respond to residents experiencing mental health crises

THE OSWEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT has implemented a Crisis Intervention Team to better serve the reisdents of Oswego who are living with mental health-related issues. The CIT is designed to improve a police officer's ability to safely intervene in a situation, link individuals to mental health services, and divert them from the criminal justice system when appropriate.

The department has taken steps to fulfill the One Mind Pledge established by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The pledge is an initiative that focuses on bringing the local community, public safety, and mental health organizations together to become "of one mind." The pledge commits the department to implementing four practices: (1) Establish a clearly defined and sustainable partnership with a community mental health organization,

(2) Develop a model policy for responding to people affected by mental illness, (3) Train 100% of sworn officers and selected non-sworn staff in Mental Health First Aid, and (4) Provide advanced training for selected officers who serve on the Crisis Intervention Team.

In May 2019, Oswego Police hosted a kickoff meeting with members of the mental health community, first responders, judicial system members and community members to learn about the program and to formalized a committee that meets quarterly. Committee members include representatives from Community Unit School District 308, Rush Copley Hospital, AMITA Health Mercy Behavioral Health Services, Oswego Fire Protection District, National Alliance on Mental Illness of Kane-South, DeKalb, and Kendall Counties, Kendall County Health

Department, KenCom Public Safety Dispatch, and the Kendall County State's Attorney's Office. This committee will ensure that the community is aware of the program and will support those residents in need of mental health services.

By summer 2020, Oswego Police will have met all the requirements of the One Mind Pledge, and already the Department has teamed with the Kendall County Health Department in order to provide more comprehensive follow-up for individuals who experience a mental health crisis involving a police response.

More information about the CIT program can be requested at **oswegopoliceil.org**, by clicking **Contact OPD**. The site also include other helpful information can be found about the department's Citizen At Risk Program and KenCom's Premise Alert Program.



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#### **Pretty Convenient**

Hair Extensions Studio Downtown Oswego



# SAVE A LIFE. TAKE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID.

Just like CPR classes, members of the public can get training to know what to do in a mental health or addiction-related emergency. You'll learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations, and where to turn for help. Mental Health First Aid classes usually take just one day and are available at area hospitals for as low as \$10. Find a class nearby at www.mentalhealthfirstaid. org.

#### CONGREGATE MEAL PROGRAM AT NOON MON WED THURS

We Invite the Community to Support OSC by joining our Step-Up Campaign to raise funds to keep our Meal, Education & Wellness Programs going strong!

Call 630-554-5602 today to Join and Support our on-going Campaign!



156 E. Washington St., Oswego (630) 554-5602

(630) 334-3602

www.oswegoseniorcenter.org

Oswego Senior Center is open to all area Seniors age 60 or more!



# Preseration Matters

AS WE ARE LAUNCHED into a new decade, the Historic Preservation Commission encourages Village of Oswego residents to take a look at our beautiful, aging architecture. Preserving historic structures can offer many opportunities for a community's future. A city needs its old buildings to maintain a sense of permanency, heritage, and character.

New construction may make sense for chain stores, but other business, such as bookstores, restaurants, and small boutiques, often thrive in old buildings, which inspire creativity and incite new ideas. As Jane Jacobs once wrote, "old ideas can sometimes use new buildings [but] new ideas must use old buildings."

Historic buildings also have intrinsic value. Buildings of a certain era, namely pre-World War II, tend to be built with higher-quality materials such as rare hardwoods and detailed finishes we don't often see in new construction. A century-old building might be a better long-term investment than its brand-new counterpart. The key to successful preservation is knowing how to maintain these buildings while adapting to an ever-evolving society.

Many buildings are designed and constructed to meet specific needs or purposes. When those needs and purposes change, some buildings are spared from demolition to be repurposed to serve the community in new ways. The building standing at 27 Main Street is a good illustration of historic architecture adapted for new purposes.

William Oscar Parke constructed this front-gabled, limestone building around 1845 and used it to operate both his store and the town's post office. The original builders designed the structure's gable ridge to protrude outward, creating a built-in hoist point for lifting heavy loads from the back of wagons.

Parke would not be the last merchant to sell goods and services from this location. A variety of businesses cycled through the building over the next 170 years, including a grocery store, a service station, an automobile repair shop, a jewelry store, a bank, and even a bowling alley. In the 1920s, Earl Zentmyer operated his Ford automobile dealership out of the building. Then came the Jacqueline Shop where Jacqueline and Ken Pickerill sold women's apparel. Now, the building houses American Male & Company, The Prom Shoppe, and Bella-Gia Boutique.

Over the years, owners have remodeled and expanded the building to accommodate different businesses and services. This is a great example of how Oswego merchants found ways to repurpose a historic building to capitalize on new opportunities. Today it stands as a reminder of Oswego's heritage, adding to the historic character of Main Street while also nodding to progress and change.



Top to bottom: The building at 27 Main Street, pictured in 1927, 1958, 2010 and 2020, has served as a post office, grocery store, auto shop, bank, bowling alley, and several retail shops over the past 166 years.

## GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH Oswegrow THIS SPRING

GOT BIG PLANS for your small business? The Village of Oswego and the Oswego Public Library District developed Oswegrow to connect small business owners like you to free workshops, mentors, and other resources.

Take the leap by joining Oswegrow for a free workshop this spring! All workshops are free and are held at the Oswego Public Library's downtown Oswego campus: STARTING A SIDE GIG WHILE WORKING FULL-TIME Thursday, March 19 at 8:30 a.m., presented by Marie Herman

SOCIAL MEDIA ROUNDTABLE Tuesday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m., moderated by Sarah Troyer

'IS THIS THING ON?' SPEAK AND BE HEARD Thursday, April 16, at 8:30 a.m., presented by Theresa Sperling

HOW TO CLAIM OWNERSHIP AND PROTECT YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY Tuesday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m.,

presented by Fox Valley SCORE mentor Allison Cychosz

#### PROGRESS THROUGH DIVERSITY

Thursday, May 21, at 8:30 a.m., presented by Stacey Limacher

Get more details, find additional resources, and register at www. oswegrow.com.



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# YOUR CANNABIS QUESTIONS, ANSWERED

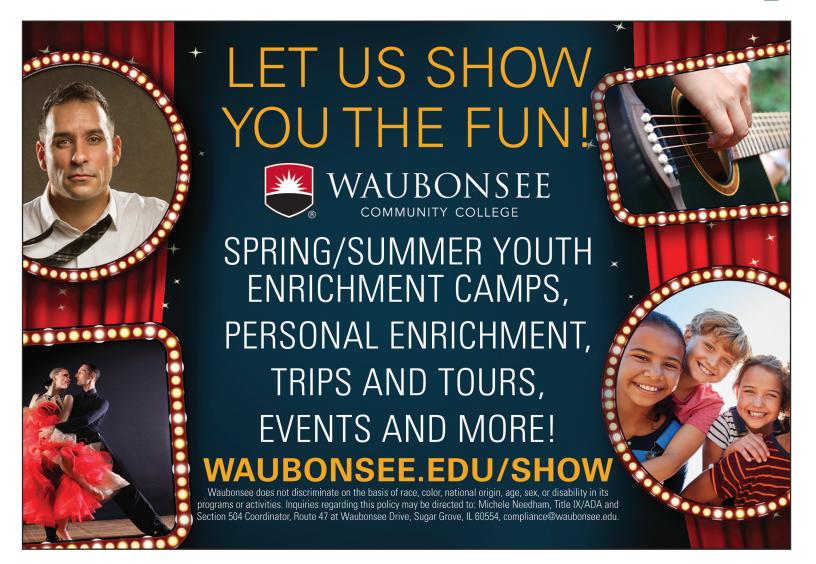
On Jan. 1, recreational cannabis was legalized throughout the State of Illinois. Here are answers to the most frequently asked questions heard around town.

What rules do I need to know? It's a lot like alcohol. Just like alcohol, recreational cannabis is legal only for residents aged 21 and older. Just like alcohol, driving under the influence of cannabis is illegal. Additionally, cannabis must be purchased from a state-approved dispensary, there are limits on how much you can have at one time, and cannabis cannot be consumed in public places like parks or public buildings.

Have DUI arrests gone up? It's a bit early for the data on DUIs to demonstrate significant increases in cannabis-related DUI arrests. However, Oswego Police are taking additional steps to catch drivers who are impaired, including adding on-site drug testing at police headquarters. Do not drive while under the influence of any mind-altering substances -- you're putting yourself and others around you in danger, and you will be arrested.

Will Oswego get a dispensary? In December, the Village Board approved an ordinance that would allow cannabis dispensaries and production facilities in certain zoning districts in Oswego. However, only a limited number of initial state licenses for dispensaries have been issued. Village staff are working to identify new businesses that will be a good fit for the community, offer desired services to residents, create a source of tax revenue, and not impose negative effects on surrounding areas.

Where could a dispensary go? Retail dispensaries would be limited to retail areas outside of downtown. Like liquor stores and similar businesses, dispensaries would be prohibited from opening near existing schools, daycare centers, parks, and nursing homes.





#### MARCH

Vote early at Oswego Village Hall. **Early voting** at Village Hall is open to voters registered in Oswego. Details on page 3.

The Oswego Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Oswego Village Hall to vote on Village business. A Committee of the Whole meeting precedes at 6 p.m. Watch online at www.oswegoil.org.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

It's **Election Day**. Polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Check **www. co.kendall.il.us** for your poling place.

Side hustlin'? Join Oswegrow for **Starting a Side Gig While Working Full-time** at 8:30 a.m. at the Oswego Public Library. Details at **oswegrow.com.** 

Meet Village President Troy Parlier and learn about Village operations at **Coffee with the Mayor** at OPD headquarters. Details at **oswegoil.org.** 

Get the most out of your marketing efforts at Oswegrow's **Social Media Roundtable** at 6:30 p.m.



#### APRIL

Hop on over to downtown Oswego for the **Bunny Hop!** Meet the Easter Bunny and go on an Easter egg hunt from shop to shop at our downtown businesses. Details at **facebook. com/DowntownOswego.** 

Curbside bagged **yard waste** begins on your regular garbage day and continues all summer. Details on page 8.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Got the skills, but lacking the confidence? Join Oswegrow for 'Is This Thing On? Speak and Be Heard at

**'Is This Thing On? Speak and Be Heard** at 8:30 a.m. Go to **oswegrow.com** to register.

It's **Spring Cleanup**Week! Toss extra trash
an bulk items at the curb on your regular
garbage day for free! Details on page 9.

**Rain barrel pick-up** is also this week from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oswego Public Works Facility, 100 Theodore Drive. Order a discounted rain barrel at **www. theconservationfoundation.org** 

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Recycle your old TVs and monitors at our **TV Recycling Event** from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Public Works Facility, 100 Theodore Drive. Got other electronics to recycle? Visit our Garbage & Recycling page on **oswegoil.org**.



#### MAY

Bring the neighbors and celebrate the arrival of spring with wine samplings, live music, food and fun at **Wine on the Fox!** Proceeds benefit special events and amenities in our community all year long. Find early bird ticket deals at **www.wineonthefox.com**.

Curbside brush collection begins in Zone A. (Zone B starts the following week.) Check your zone on page 8.

04-29

Crews will be conducting **water** 

**main flushing.** Avoid washing clothes during working hours. Details on page 9.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Bosses, learn about creating more inclusive workplaces at 8:30 a.m. at **Progress Through Diversity.** Register at **oswegrow.com.** 

Oswego Honors Veterans with a series of memorial events and activities,

series of memorial events and activities, including the Middle East Conflicts Wall at Village Hall. Details on the back cover.

Join the Oswego American Legion Post 675 in honoring those who have died in service to the country for a **Memorial Day** parade through downtown Oswego. Village Hall will be closed and garbage collection will be postponed one day all week.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

# COMING IN JUNE 05-06

Score unique finds and tidy up the place in the most eco-friendly way possible!

The **Community Garage Sale** will be held Friday, June 5, and Saturday, June 6, in driveways throughout Oswego.

Register online at **www.oswegoil.org** beginning May 4, then check back for a map of participating homes.

## Follow us on social media for more announcements and event information:



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MAY 22-31, 2020

# Oswego honors its veterans

Organizers are planning two weeks of memorials, benefit concerts and other activities around Memorial Day, including the arrival of the Mideast Conflicts Wall of Honor.

THIS YEAR, the Oswego community will honor veterans with ten days of activities in rememberance of the sacrifices of those who have died in military service.

The Fox Valley Veterans Breakfast Club, in conjunction with the Village of Oswego, will bring the Mideast Conflicts Wall of Honor to Oswego on Friday, May 22, through Sunday, May 31. The Wall of Honor represents fallen heroes from 2001 through 2018. The Wall of Honor will be on display for the public, free of charge, 24 hours a day, at Oswego Village Hall, 100 Parkers Mill, with an opening ceremony planned for Saturday, May 23.

A closing ceremony and other events honoring veterans will be held throughout the week, including a torch-lighting ceremony May 24 on Main Street, a car show on May 30 at the Park N Ride lot, and the annual Memorial Day Parade produced by American Legion Post 675 which steps off at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 25, in downtown Oswego.





Oswego Village Hall will be open 24 hours a day for members of the public to view and reflect at the Mideast Conflicts Wall of Honor.

A full schedule of events will be announced throughout the spring. Watch for more from our local news outlets and on social media:



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