

# Oswego News



100 Parkers Mill  
Oswego, IL 60543  
630-554-3618  
(fax) 630-554-3306  
www.oswegoil.org

Volume 23, Issue 1

*Serving the Village of Oswego Since 1833*

Spring 2015



## In Bloom

Let the Village of Oswego put a Spring in your step



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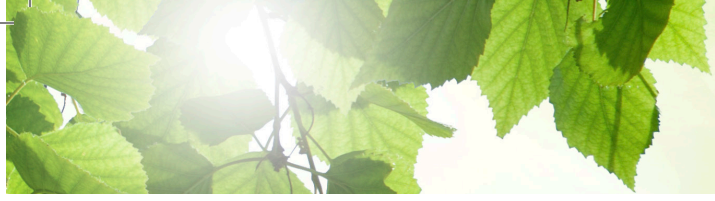
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**REMINDER:**  
*No Parking 2am - 6am  
on Village Streets*



Dear Fellow Oswegoans,

Hard to believe that it has been almost eight years leading Oswego through some interesting times. Let's take a look at what we have done together. We have solidified our borders with boundary agreements with every adjoining municipality. We have planned for our future by bringing the community together to adopt a strategic plan, downtown plan, water system plan, comprehensive plan, and capital plan. We brought economic development efforts in-house for greater accountability and responsibility. We work very closely with the Chamber of Commerce now. In fact, we now work very closely with our surrounding communities through Metro West Council of Government and Kendall County Mayors and Managers. We have increased our environmental advocacy through recycling events, going paperless, and using 100% green power.

While going through one of the worst financial crises since the Great Depression, we were able to maintain Village services, right-size the Village staff, and ensure sufficient revenues and fund balances were present to meet the challenges. We went above actuarial recommendations to fund the police pension. While this was going on, we were even able to expand our community events.

The list goes on and on... As I close this chapter and end my presidency, I recognize that the successes were because of you. Thank you for all who have contributed and volunteered your efforts. I welcome the new leadership and urge you to ask how we can help make Oswego the best place to live, work, and play. I know that I will. See you around town, and thank you for the many blessings.

Sincerely,

*Brian LeClercq*  
Village President



**Effective September 2, 2014, homeowners who do not operate a business out of their residence will not be required to register their alarm systems.**

## Oswego Village Board

- Brian LeClercq..... Village President
- Tina Touchette.....Village Clerk
- Gail Johnson .....Village Trustee
- Judy Sollinger .....Village Trustee
- Pam Parr .....Village Trustee
- Scott Volpe.....Village Trustee
- Terry Michels.....Village Trustee
- Tony Giles.....Village Trustee

## Administration

- Steve Jones .....Village Administrator
- Jeff Burgner ..... Chief of Police
- Christina Burns .....Asst. Village Administrator/HR Director
- Vijay Gadde.....Economic Development Director
- Mark Horton.....Finance Director
- Tom Panke .....Interim Building and Zoning Manager
- Jennifer Hughes .....Public Works Director
- Rod Zenner ..... Community Development Director

## Oswego News

This newsletter is published quarterly and mailed to 13,000 Oswego postal customers. Comments, suggestions and questions are welcome.



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Oswego, IL 60543  
Offices: 630-554-3618  
Fax: 630-554-3306  
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## Village Departments

- Administration .....551-2360
- Building & Zoning .....554-2310
- Community Development .....554-3622
- Economic Development .....551-2335
- Finance.....554-0864
- Police (Non-Emergency) .....551-7300
- Public Works .....554-3242
- Village Clerk .....554-3259
- Utility / Water Billing .....554-2282
- Newsletter Advertising.....554-4636

Published by the Village of Oswego



## Elections

2015 Consolidated Election

April 7, 2015

One (1) Village President Position  
Three (3) Trustee Positions  
\*\*Each for a four (4) year term

### The following terms are expiring:

- Village President Brian LeClerc
- Village Trustee Tony Giles, Gail Johnson, Terry Michels

### To register to vote you must:

- Reside in the County thirty (30) days prior to any election
- Be 18 years of age by election day
- Have a permanent dwelling place within the County
- Be a citizen of the United States
- Have two (2) forms of identification, a photo ID and bill with current address (i.e. utility bill)
- If a naturalized citizen, you will be required to bring the naturalization paperwork or know the court, city, state and date of naturalization for completing the registration form
- Village Hall Deputy Registrars are available Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm
- For more information, contact the Kendall County Clerk's Office at 630-553-4104 or at [www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/](http://www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/)

### Dates to Remember:

- Last day to register to vote----- March 10, 2015
- Early Voting----- March 23, 2015 through April 4, 2015
- Early Voting will not be held on April 3rd due to the Good Friday holiday

Did You Know....

The Village Clerk's Office has a new page.....

Please visit [www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org)  
Choose the Government tab and click on "Village Clerk"

We appreciate  
**YOUR BUSINESS!**

### Business Registration Requirement

- All persons conducting business within the Village shall register their business
- All businesses must renew annually
- Registration applies to both home and commercial businesses
- Commercial businesses must:
  - Verify properly zoned
  - Obtain a certificate of occupancy
  - Schedule an on-site inspection
  - Pay required fees
  - Be issued a business registration certificate before opening or conducting business
- Home businesses must:
  - Verify the home occupation is permitted
  - Pay required fees
  - Be issued a business registration certificate before opening or conducting business
- Non-for-profit organizations will be required to register. Please contact the Village Clerk's Office for more information

### Registration Fees and Fines

- Certificate of Occupancy Fee = \$90.00
- Commercial Registration Fee = \$50.00; Annual Fee = \$25.00
- Home Registration Fee = \$25.00; Annual Fee = \$10.00
- Non-For-Profit Registration Fee = \$0.00
- Failure to obtain a business registration will result in a first offense fine of \$55.00.
- Business registration applications can be obtained from the Village Clerk's Office or from the Village's website at [www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org)

**Top 5 free attractions in Oswego.**

Tourism Bureau  
Village of Oswego

- 1. Fox Valley Winery**  
Spend some time in front of the cozy fireplace or wander through the gift shop to see the work of local artists. The first 8 tastings are free then it's up to you to decide which bottle you will be taking home!
- 2. Hudson Crossing Park**  
Overlooking the scenic Fox River, you can let the kids loose on the playground, bring a picnic lunch or launch your canoe or kayak and Paddle the Fox River.
- 3. Veterans Memorial Plaza**  
The memorial is dedicated to members in our community who have been involved in wars throughout our country's history. The memorial includes the Veterans Walk and leads directly to Hudson Crossing Park.
- 4. Little White School Museum**  
Step back in time at this historic museum. The building is home to a community history museum and genealogy archive.
- 5. Lincoln Highway Mural**  
This must see mural is hand painted and tells the story of the famed highway and commemorates the Boy Scout's placing highway markers across the nation in 1928.

**2015**

**Movies In the Park**

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, "Up"

June 17<sup>th</sup>, "Boxtrolls"

July 15<sup>th</sup>, "The Lego Movie"

August 5<sup>th</sup>, "Big Hero 6"

Join us on the plaza at Village Hall. Movies begin at 8:30pm or dusk.

Village of Oswego  
OSWEGO CULTURAL ARTS

## ■ Turf Damage Repair Tips

A likely cause of brown or dead grass along driveways, roadways, and sidewalks is due to salt. You can fix this for a minimal cost and with just a little effort.

Lightly rake the damaged area to remove any dead grass and to loosen the turf base. Apply a granular gypsum material to help neutralize the salt left being in the soil. Apply gypsum at a rate specified on the label. Application rates are typically around ten pounds per one hundred square feet. Cover the area with a light layer of topsoil. Incorporate a general blend of grass seed to the area at a rate of one half pound per one hundred square feet. Lightly rake the area and dampen with water daily until the seed germinates. Maintain weekly, depending on weather conditions.

You can purchase repair materials at your local garden center.

## ■ Public Works Department Consolidates Offices

The Public Works Department is now under one roof. Department administrative staff recently relocated from the Village Hall to the Public Works Facility in order to provide better communication with field employees.

We provide the following services at the Public Works Facility:

- Free mulch for your garden (available 24-hours a day)
- Electronics recycling - 2nd Saturday of each month
- ECO Reuse and Recycling Extravaganza- April 18 & September 12
- Sand bags (available at select times, visit our website for more information)
- Hydrant meters for construction

The Public Works Facility is located at 100 Theodore Drive. We are located east of Plainfield Road and south of Oswego High School, next to the school buses. Our hours are 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday and phone number 630-554-3242.

## ■ Hydrant Flushing April 13 – 30

The Public Works Department will be flushing fire hydrants during the two-week period of April 13 – 30 (weather permitting). Crews will begin flushing at 7:00 a.m. Please do your laundry before that time or after 6:00 p.m. on these days to avoid rust discoloration of clothes. If you see discolored water, open your cold-water faucets in your house. The water should clear up within a minute or two. If you continue to see discolored water after a few minutes, contact the Public Works Department at 630-554-3242.

The Public Works Department flushes all fire hydrants in April and September under the recommendation of the Illinois EPA. Flushing moves fresh water into areas of the water system that have low or very little usage. We do this to help remove iron deposits that could produce colored water and, in some instances, plugged water meters.

The department will be putting up signs to alert residents of the upcoming flushing. These signs will be placed throughout the Village the week before the flushing.

## ■ Brush Pick Up

The Village will implement brush collection by zones this year. There will be two zones. Zone A includes all properties east of the Fox River and north of US 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and north of Mill Road. Zone B includes all properties east of the Fox River and south of US 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and south of Mill Road. We will collect brush from each zone once each month beginning in April. The last pickup will be in October just prior to the start of the leaf collection program. Collection weeks are as follows:

Zone A	Zone B
April 6-10	April 13-17
May 4-8	May 11-15
June 1-5	June 8-12
July 6-10	July 13-17
August 3-7	August 10-14
September 3-7	September 10-14
October 5-9	October 12-16

Place all brush at the curb by 7:00 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.

Brush is defined as tree and bush branches that are less than 5" in diameter. Place unbundled brush parallel or perpendicular to the street in neat bundles with all cut ends facing the same direction. *Do not put brush in a container or in the street.* We will not pick up logs, wood, root balls, cuttings, or grass clippings. Crews will place an 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 prior to the deadline.

The Village provides this service for residents. The Village does not accept landscaping generated by contractors.

## ■ Oswego Makes Reporting an Issue Easy on Your Smartphone or Computer



Since July 1, 2014, residents and Village personnel have generated more than 1,500 work requests to fill potholes, repair streetlights, and replace dead trees, among many other types of requests. You, too, can easily report issues – simply visit the Village of Oswego website at [www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org) or download the mobile app. It makes reporting a problem to the Village easier

than ever. We encourage you to attach a photo or video, as a visual reference which will help the Village quickly identify the problem. Residents can track the status of reports and follow the issue from the time it is reported until it is resolved. Village staff responds to requests Monday through Friday between 8 am and 3 pm. If this report comes in on a holiday, weekend or after-hours, Village staff will read it on the next business day. If you would like to report an issue with your smart phone, please download our Oswego Click n' Fix mobile app. NOTE: For emergencies or other urgent matters that require immediate attention or a police response, dial 9-1-1.

If you have a smartphone, and would like to report an issue, please download the Oswego Click 'n Fix app. It is available for download on the following platforms:



## ■ Ogden Falls Tower Painted

The Village completed painting of the Ogden Falls Water Tower this past October. Seven Brothers Painting, Inc., Shelby Township, MI, painted and installed safety improvements at a cost of \$371,000. The tower stores 1.5 million gallons of water to help maintain pressure in the water system and to ensure that we have adequate water to fight fires.



## ■ Spring Cleanup Week of April 13 – 17

Clean your house and yard -- Groot Industries will take away your residential household waste, yard waste and bulk items free. This is a limited offer, as they will only provide this service during your normally scheduled garbage day the week of April 13 -17.

Residents must place yard waste in the 30-gallon yard waste bags. **PLASTIC BAGS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!** NO stickers will be required (this week only). NOTE – you cannot put out appliances or electronics. Place all items, along with your regular garbage and recycling, at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your normal scheduled garbage day. If you have any questions regarding this pick up, please contact the Public Works Department @ 630-554-3242.

## ■ Yard waste pick up

Yard waste pick up began the week of March 30 and will continue weekly until Friday, November 27. The State of Illinois defines yard waste 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. Examples of yard waste include grass clippings, leaves, branches, limbs, weeds, logs, and garden plants. Your waste material will be collected only if it is placed in a 30-gallon paper bag with one Groot Industries yard waste sticker affixed to the front of the bag. Yard waste will be collected on the same day that your regular trash is collected. Please have your yard waste, trash and recycling at your curb by 6:00 a.m. on your collection day. The bags and stickers are available at local retail grocery and hardware stores. Stickers may be purchased for \$1.00 at:

Village Hall - 100 Parkers Mill Rd.  
 Ace Hardware – 4500 Route 71  
 Home Depot – 3080 U.S. 34  
 Jewel Foods – 2450 Route 30  
 Meijer's Store – 2700 U.S. 34  
 Montgomery Market Place – 11525 Douglas Rd., Montgomery  
 Walmart – 2300 U.S. 34

For more information on the brush program, contact the Public Works Department at (630) 554-3242.

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- Contributed **\$20,000** in **scholarships** to Oswego and Oswego East High Schools
- **\$10,000** in **athletic donations** to both high schools
- **Platinum Oswego Chamber member**
- **Founder** of the Oswego Crosstown Challenge
- **Financing** local business growth

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## ■ Spring To Do's

It's that time again! Flowers are flourishing, birds and bees are bustling, and spring fever abounds. It is up to all of us to keep our Village clean and safe.

So what might be on your "Spring to Do List" to improve your property and neighborhood?

**Small Vegetation:** Start looking at the grass and weeds again. With rain and warm weather, you might be surprised how much has grown. Grass and weeds should not get over 8" tall. Spray them, cut them, or even cover them with landscape cloth and ground cover. Are bushes hanging over the sidewalk? If they are, they should be trimmed.

**Landscape Materials:** Speaking of landscaping, make sure those bark dust, bark chips, rocks, soil, and home repair supply deliveries are deposited into your yard or driveway and not on the street or sidewalk.

**Inappropriate Storage:** Now is the time to clean up all of those odds and ends that you missed over the colder months. Get rid of those last bags of yard debris. Clean up the tree limbs and brush piles. Dispose of the forgotten Christmas tree. Dispose of the extra appliances and furniture. Donate inoperable vehicles to charity. If you just can't bear to part with it, be sure it is in a fully enclosed storage facility like a shed or garage.

**Sheds:** Need to put up a shed for all that extra stuff? Before you build, check with the building department to obtain a building permit to ensure that it meets all of the setback and size requirements. Better to check now than to "un-build" later!

**Right of Way Maintenance:** Did you know that the area of Right of Way adjacent to your home is your responsibility to maintain? This is true even if it is behind your home or outside your fence. If you have a street or sidewalk on the side or back of your home, be sure you are monitoring this area in addition to the front for overgrown vegetation, weeds, and garbage.

**Pets:** Don't forget our furry friends. Dogs that are left chained outside may get bored and then bark out of anxiety and frustration. Cats left to roam freely may be burden on your neighbors and their landscaping. Be fair to your pets and neighbors. Make sure your pets are adequately contained and their containment area cleaned. Be sure to provide fresh water and shelter from sun and rain. Consider feeding pets indoors to avoid attracting unwanted pests. When walking pets, remember the leash and scoop laws.

## ■ Your Address is Not Just for Mail Delivery

When lives and property are at stake, every second counts. Properly posted address numbers can be a vital link to your safety. A missing, incorrect, or poorly marked address can delay emergency response when seconds can literally mean the difference between life and death!

In the interest of public safety, the Village requires that all homes and businesses display a correct, visible street address.

The address numbers must be affixed to the front of the building, so they are clearly visible from the roadway on which the building is addressed. In addition, if the building is also served with an alley, the address must also be placed on the rear of the building or

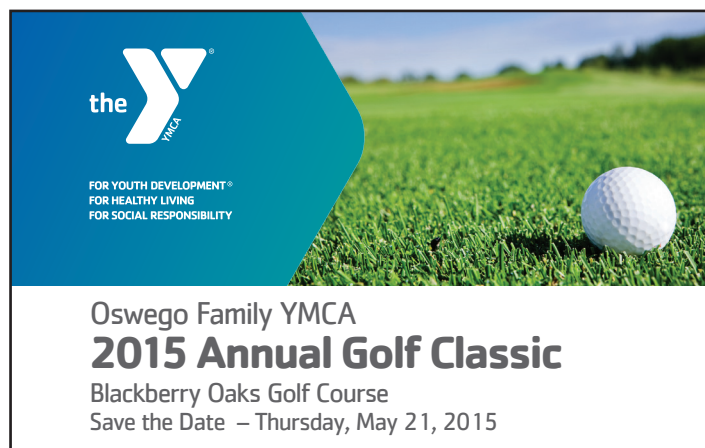
garage to properly identify the building from the alley. Addresses shall be posted with letters or numbers that are a minimum of four (4") inches in height.

## ■ Call J.U.L.I.E. Before You Dig

As part of a statewide "Dig Safely Illinois" education campaign, representatives of JULIE and the Village of Oswego are promoting the importance of calling the Illinois One-Call System before any digging projects and stressing safe digging practices to professional and non-professional excavators.

"The far-reaching consequences of unsafe or careless digging practices can take a staggering toll in terms of costly delays, environmental or property damage, liability, personal injury, and even loss of life", said Kevin Chmura, public relations manager at JULIE, Inc. "Digging responsibly is the only way to dig in Illinois. Loss of utilities can leave communities without such vital services as police, fire, and medical protection."

According to state law, anyone that is planning an outdoor project that requires any type of digging, whether the project is large or small, should call JULIE first by dialing 811. Operators are available to receive and process calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The call to JULIE and service provided by members are free to excavators.



## COMMON OUTDOOR PROJECTS

Common examples of outdoor projects that require a call to JULIE before digging include putting up a fence, installing a swing set, a mail box post, or new water feature, building a deck or room addition, preparing a new garden area, or adding new trees or shrubs.

**JULIE's** tips for outdoor digging projects include:

1. Call JULIE (dial 811) before you dig
2. Wait the required amount of time (two working days)
3. Respect the marks
4. Dig with care.

**JULIE** (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators), also known as the "Illinois One-Call System," is a not-for-profit corporation that provides professional and non-professional (i.e. homeowners) excavators with free locating and marking of underground facilities simply by dialing 811. JULIE serves as a notification service for underground facility owners, taking information about planned excavations, and distributing this information to its membership. It is then the responsibility of each facility owner to mark the location of their underground facilities at the excavation site. JULIE neither owns nor marks any underground facilities.

**JULIE, Inc.** promotes an easier, safer digging environment and serves the entire state of Illinois outside of the city of Chicago, which is covered by DIGGER. Illinois law requires all persons digging to call JULIE by dialing 811 at least two working days prior to the start of excavation and to begin that project within 14 calendar days from the call. The 48 hour notice does not include Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays.

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[www.farmersagent.com/kboncela](http://www.farmersagent.com/kboncela)

## ■ Retail Trends for Existing & New Businesses

Are you an existing business looking to change your merchandising mix or are you a new business trying to figure out what type of business you want to open? Here are some retail trends, including a list of expanding retail sectors for 2015.

Nationwide, about 40,000 new retail stores are expected to open in 2015, according to retail consulting firm Retail Coach. A Deloitte survey indicated about 70 percent of retailers have plans to open brick-and-mortar stores this year indicating physical retail is still in high demand. Mid-America Real Estate Corporation predicts a little over 2 million square feet of retail construction in 2015 across metro Chicago, some of which would trickle down to Oswego area.

One of the trends is acceleration of existing phenomena – growth of fast-casual restaurants and redevelopment of well-located properties. Made-to-order pizza restaurants such as Blaze Pizza and Pie Five Pizza are expanding in the Chicagoland market.

Any new business looking for a site needs to have the right strategy for the right location. Consumer analytics are increasingly playing a larger role in the site selection process. If you would like to have a copy of consumer analytics for Oswego, please send your request to: [vgadde@oswegoil.org](mailto:vgadde@oswegoil.org)

## ■ Expanding Retail Sectors in 2015

- Fitness/Health/Spa Concepts
- Drug Stores
- Thrift Stores
- Grocery (Smaller Format)
  - Discount
  - Ethnic
  - Organic
  - Upscale
- Fast Food
- Fast Casual Dining
- Automotive
- Discounters
- Dollar Stores
- Off-Price Apparel
- Pet Supplies
- Sporting Goods
- Wireless Stores

## ■ Who's Opening and Where

Marmalade Tree in downtown Oswego is reopening under new ownership.

Prohibition Junction Sports Bar & Grill at the Oswego Junction opened on Super Bowl Sunday.

A new Dunkin Donuts and Taco Bell are now open in the Orchard Road corridor.

Lou Malnati's opened recently. It is located in the same building as TCBY along Route 34.

DSW is slated to open in July.

River View Ford is moving forward with their expansion plans. They have submitted plans with construction starting at the end of June and completing by January 2016.

## ■ Welcome New Businesses

### Commercial Businesses Registered in January 2015

Kendall Auto & Truck Repair  
Mirror Mirror  
The Barbara Shop  
Prohibition Junction Sports Bar & Grill  
Taco Bell  
Thrivent Financial  
Traffic Force Technologies, INC  
Beldon Home Solutions  
Mattress Firm (Two Locations)  
Paw Prints Photography  
Perfectly Imperfect Me

## ■ New Workforce Training Program

Businesses seeking workforce training may be eligible to apply for a loan from Kendall County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and get the training from Waubensee Community College. Contact an account representative at 630-906-4152.

**Small Business Workshops by SCORE**  
March 31, 2015, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Twelve sessions presented by experts on topics including business planning, customer relations management, market research, social media and email marketing – all in one day. May choose three sessions to attend. Register at: [scorefoxvalley.org/forum2015](http://scorefoxvalley.org/forum2015)

## ■ Contact Us

Visit our website for vacancy reports on retail, office, and industrial properties and to sign up for monthly ED e-Newsletter:

[www.oswegoil.org/ED](http://www.oswegoil.org/ED)

630-551-2334 \* [vgadde@oswegoil.org](mailto:vgadde@oswegoil.org)

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State Farm Home Office, Bloomington, IL



## 2015 Spring Property of the Season

### 365 S. Madison Street



Oswego Historic Preservation Committee is excited to present 365 S. Madison as our Spring Property of the Season. This simplified Queen Ann style cross-gabled home was originally built as a carriage house to the home at 371 S. Madison Street sometime around 1900. The story, passed down from earlier homeowners, was that the carriage house sat further back on the lot and was moved forward and transformed into a residence possibly when the lot was subdivided.

The house has two-toned gray and white half-circle and diamond shaped shaker siding in the gable of the home and bluish-gray wood siding surrounding the rest of the home. Two circular replacement windows grace the front; the first in the front gable and the second above the large wooden front porch. A second story addition was added to the rear of the home after the Miller family purchased the house in 1982. Previously, only a small single-story addition had been built.

The oldest section of the carriage home still rests on the early 1900s era stone foundation. The yellow pine floors and the wooden 5 panel doors in the two front bedrooms date to the original home as well as the stairway treads. A fire had occurred at some point in the home's history and a renovation by the Millers found charred wood beneath the plaster in the kitchen and front parlor area. The story told by a former neighbor was that an unattended iron had overheated causing the small fire which was extinguished before serious damage.

L.B. Judson platted this section of Oswego on November 1, 1856. All lots in Block 3 were sold together to Charles Southerland and wife Elizabeth. Charles was born in Hanover, Germany and came to America, settling in New York. He and his family came to Oswego in 1849. Mr. Sutherland was a boot and shoe dealer with

a well-kempt building on Main Street. In 1864 Charles and his wife Lizzie sold all lots to Sarah Kennedy. Kennedy sold part of the block back to Charles in 1871 and retained the rest of the block. Charles met an untimely end a few years later. Mr. Sutherland died after being struck by a heavy object from behind while walking home on January 18, 1876. Upon investigation cause of death was a serious skull fracture. The Kendall County Record reported February 10, 1876 on his suspicious death and coroner's inquest hearing by stating,

*"The jury rendered their verdict accordingly, to wit: that his death was caused by wounds inflicted by parties to the jury unknown. This carries with it the presumption that upon somebody is resting the crime of murder. The children of the deceased are all living abroad and none of them were present at the funeral."*

Sadly, Charles' wife Lizzie died four short months later of Apoplexy. No criminal charges were ever filed.

Frank O. Hawley bought all lots in block 3 in 1886. Mr. Hawley was born and bred in Oswego and grew to great prominence within the community. He was Mayor of Oswego for a time, sat on the local school board, and was once the Democratic candidate for Congress against Republican I.C. Copley. Frank Hawley made a name for himself in the real estate business, buying and selling Oswego properties for many years. Mr. Hawley sold the lots six years later to Mrs. Emma Van Doozer in 1893.

Emma was the daughter of John and Frances Pearce. She married Benjamin F. Van Doozer (better known as Frank) on March 22nd 1883. The adventurous couple moved to the Black Hills, Dakota Territory, where their son Rex was born in 1887. The couple were living in Aurora in 1900 when Emma began selling off the lots in block three to her cousins; the Jessup Family. Father Frank bought the lot which was eventually split into smaller lots for his children, Daughter Jane Jessup Vaughn, and brothers Charlie and David.

Jane Jessup married Richard Vaughn in 1914. Sadly, she was widowed in 1921. In 1937 Jane sold the home to the Old Ladies' Home of Aurora. They kept possession of the property for 5 years until they sold the home to Lloyd and Betty Collins. Betty Collins spoke fondly of the home and liked to share the story of how her daughter would play near the curved landing at the top of the staircase. Here the warm sunshine would flow in from a small window bringing year-round warmth. Susan Miller, who owned the house years later, shared that her daughters loved to play in that very space as children. The Collins family lived in the home for fifteen years.

The property passed through several hands over the next two decades. Dean and Maxine Stahley sold to Della and Robert Herren, Della then sold to Paul and Joyce Krahn. Dale Krahn sold the home to Jeff Corneils in 1971. He lived there for a time before moving to Yorkville. The home passed to Eric and Susan Miller in 1982. The Miller's took loving care of the property raising two daughters there. They lived in the home until 2004 when they sold the property to John and Nancy Hilger of Oswego and moved into the home next door. The Hilger's have maintained the home and the property since 2004.



In this ever changing digital world, it's crucial for parents to "Parent Online" and know what apps their children are using. Parents are the 1st line of defense when it comes to Online Safety. According to a 2014 Pew Internet study, teens are sharing more information than ever. This study reported that while teenagers are still active in the social media their parents know, they are increasingly seeking privacy and perceived anonymity on other sites. Teens are using a variety of apps, gravitating toward the highly visual apps that provide instant sharing (and instant gratification). Now that established social networks like Facebook and Twitter are staples of GenX and Baby Boomers, teens are migrating away from them. Teens simply don't want to hang out where Mom and Dad do. Remember, that if your teen doesn't want you to see their posts, they can simply start a new account and not tell you about it.



**Instagram:** An online photo-sharing, video-sharing, and social networking service that allows users to take pictures and videos, change the way a photo looks using digital filters, and share them on social networking sites. It's known as Selfie central! Parents need to make sure the privacy settings are set to allow friends they know to see the images. Also, the Geo-location feature needs to be turned off to mitigate online predator risk. Required age of use is 13 years old. This is an app commonly used by younger kids today.



**Twitter:** Because of how big of a resource Twitter has become for getting real-time news and connecting with high profile individuals and celebs like musicians, bands, actors, politicians and more -- teens have quickly taken a liking to the 140-character micro blogging social network. And because it's so easy to use from a mobile device, it's all the more convenient to access. Remember, that if your teen doesn't want you to see their posts, they can simply start a new account and not tell you about it.



**Snapchat:** This app allows kids to send photos and videos. The images theoretically disappear within 10 seconds so some kids are using Snapchat to sext. It's known as the sexting app. Kids may think the photos disappear for all time, but a screenshot capture can be taken easily, and the image can go viral quickly. In addition, Snapchat has known security vulnerabilities such that their database of customer names and phone numbers was recently hacked. Snapchat restricts usage to those 13 years and older.



**Kik Messenger:** A quick instant messaging service that allows teens to text their friends (who are also using Kik) and add photos and videos to the text message. It's rated 17+ but many young teens are using it without their parents' knowledge. Kik is very popular and has 90 million users. Kids may be exposed to highly sexualized, inappropriate content that includes graphic images.



**Vine:** Owned by Twitter, Vine lets older teens create and post short looping videos. Yes, the app is restricted to teens that are at least 17 years old because of the mature content which includes offensive language, nudity, drug use and sex.



**Yik Yak:** The website promotion raises obvious red flags. Yik Yak says the app "acts like a local bulletin board for your area by showing the most recent posts from other users around you. It allows anyone to connect and share information with other users without having to know them." Yik Yak has made the news recently because of its anonymous cyber bullying capabilities and use. Users are able to chat anonymously with people in their geographic vicinity by enabling the GPS feature of this app.



**Omegle:** The home page of Omegle invites people to Talk to Strangers. This says it all about the app and kids. Not talking to

strangers is one of the first things we teach our kids. Parents need to be vigilant about who their kids are chatting with online too. Omegle is a haven for sexual predators. This App is not for kids' period. Kids are able to connect Omegle to their Facebook account to find chat partners with similar interests. When a tween or teen selects this feature, an Omegle Facebook App will receive their Facebook "likes" and match them with a stranger with similar likes.



**Ask.fm:** A question and answering service that gives tweens and teens the opportunity to ask and answer controversial questions anonymously. This site is highly integrated with popular social networking sites like Facebook, Tumblr, and Twitter. Users can invite their friends and followers to ask them questions by posting links on their timelines or Twitter feeds. Unfortunately, and sadly, this site is ripe with abuse and has been linked to several cyber bullying incidents that have resulted in suicides. Age requirement is 13 years old.



**uMentioned:** Get the juiciest stories, darkest secrets, and funniest moments shared by students on your campus." The homepage promotion has an image with the caption, "I slept with my TA and got an A for the semester. I wonder what he was grading..." iTunes has deemed this app as appropriate for 12 year olds and above. Even though they also indicate the app has: Frequent/Intense Profanity or Crude Humor, Infrequent Mild, Mature Suggestive Themes and Infrequent, mild alcohol, tobacco, or drug use or references.



**Whisper.sh:** Whisper, an iPhone app, lets users share and post their "deepest, darkest secrets" anonymously through pictures and texts. Unlike the app Snapchat, Whisper doesn't claim that user posts "disappear forever." In fact their privacy policy reads, "You understand that Whisper Text does not guarantee confidentiality with respect to any User Content you submit." This is a clear privacy alert for kids and parents!



In this day and age teenagers are more tech savvy than most adults. They chat on their smartphones with their peers, download all the popular apps, and are greatly familiar with their device settings. Another recent thing that a lot of teens do on their smartphones is hide pictures, messages, and apps. Find out how teens are doing this and discover what you should be looking for on teens' phones. One such app is **KeepSafe**. It allows you to upload pictures and videos into the app from the phone gallery and keeps them secured under a password. **Vault** is also a popular hiding app that allows users to hide photos, videos, text messages, contacts and apps. Just like KeepSafe, it is only accessible via password. **Secret Calculator** appears as calculators on the icon and when you open them. The user usually has to perform a combination of tasks in order to access the content; for example, pressing and holding a specific button and entering the password.

**So Now What?** Remember, your child's safety is more important than their privacy. As a parent, you aren't being nosy by checking their cell phone on a regular basis; you are being responsible. Perhaps your family could establish family media rules, such as having to check with a parent before downloading a new app or game. Having a common charging area so you can easily check phones could also be a good system for your family.

Also, take the time to explain to them (at an age-appropriate level) why you are asking them questions and checking their phone and privacy settings. Many children do not realize just how much information they are putting out there and how dangerous it can be.

If you have an older teen, and find some questionable apps on their phone, it may be a good opportunity for a discussion. Here are a few conversation starter ideas:

Conversation starter for YikYak-- What kind of things would a person want to post anonymously? How would you personally use this app? What would you post anonymously? Why?

Conversation starter for SnapChat -- Why do you want to send pictures that disappear? Would you be okay with anyone seeing that pic?

Conversation starter for Whisper -- Why would you tell your secrets to strangers? If you are struggling with something, will a stranger care or be able to help you? Do you think it would be safe to accept their help/friendship?

Conversation starter for any app -- Are you being safe with that app? Are you encouraging others or tearing them down? Are you being bullied? Are you putting out too much information about yourself?

Information provided by Assistant Principal Jim Still Yorkville High School Academy and edited by Officer Justin Pan Oswego Police Department.

## ■ Traffic Complaints

Numerous people live fast paced lives which are oftentimes over-scheduled. The hectic pace of modern living, along with the ability of technology to insulate us from the external world, often results in our tendency to negotiate local roadways with greater ease and higher speeds. An overall growth in traffic volume and the noticeable increase in vehicle speeds has resulted in many concerns by residents of Oswego that vehicles are traveling faster throughout the neighborhood streets of the Village. All Oswego subdivisions are posted with proper speed signs that are often overlooked or ignored by travelers.

We receive a lot of traffic complaints on a weekly or sometimes daily basis. Complaints can be made by phone, by utilizing the Oswego Click 'n Fix app or by filling out/ mailing in the Community Traffic Concern Form, which can be found on our website ([www.oswegopoliceil.org](http://www.oswegopoliceil.org)). Most complaints are speed related; however, other complaints such as disregarding stop signs, traffic signals, cutting through business parking lots to avoid traffic signals, etc. are common. The Oswego Police Department is committed to utilizing its available resources to respond to areas experiencing traffic problems. When a complaint is taken, we work to validate or discredit the complaint by using various tools that help us with this process.

If a speeding complaint is received, we oftentimes will deploy portable speed signs in the area of concern. These signs display a vehicle's speed to passing motorists, helping to make them aware of their speeds. These signs also record vehicle speeds, the number of vehicles, and the times of travel. After this data is collected it can show us if a problem exists based on a few drivers at various times, or numerous drivers. It can also show the amount of traffic that passes through this area. Installation of stop signs and other regulated signs are often based on vehicle traffic. Through the traffic data and any crash information, this data can show whether it does or does not warrant a stop sign.


If a traffic complaint requires follow-up enforcement activity, the problem is entered into the traffic complaint file on our computer system. Officers go to the area(s) of the violation where enforcement action is taken. Officers then enter the times spent and their enforcement action (results) taken. The Sergeant can then later look at this area and determine if it needs further enforcement or other remedies.

The Oswego Police Department also utilizes the help of Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association members (CPAAA) with traffic problem solving. These members go out in a marked CPAAA squad where they observe stop sign intersections and other violations. A courtesy letter is then sent to the registered owners of the suspected vehicle, as a friendly reminder of traffic laws that were broken.

Traffic Officers are also given directed patrols, which include traffic concerns in certain areas. These are extra patrols that are directed at a certain traffic complaint. An officer can spend up to a month or more in these areas, enforcing and educating drivers on their driving habits.

After some or all of these traffic enforcement tactics are performed, the traffic concern is re-evaluated. This gathered information is oftentimes given to the concerned citizen that made the initial complaint. The community member with the concern is often told to stay in contact with the Sergeant or their Community Policing Officer to stay informed about how the problem is being addressed and resolved.

In conclusion, residents want to feel safe and secure while they enjoy their neighborhoods. When vehicle speeds are excessive, it does not only affect public safety, but neighborhoods can lose their sense of community. Let's all slow down and respect our fellow neighbors.



# May is National Preservation Month



Spring Reuse and Recycling Extravaganza  
Saturday, April 18th, 8am - 2pm

Community Garage Sale - May 8th and 9th

Fall Reuse and Recycling Extravaganza  
Saturday September 12th, 8am - 2pm



## behrens financial

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<p>STARTING IN APRIL, NO COST FIREARM TRAINING COMING TO OSWEGO 8 and 16 hour Illinois Concealed Carry 8 hour NRA Basic Pistol</p> <p>Complements of: Dave Phistry - NRA Training Counselor Tom Yackley - NRA Master Training Counselor Register on line at <a href="http://allcalibers.com">allcalibers.com</a> For information call 630-392-3966 or 630-217-3003 email: <a href="mailto:davephistry@yahoo.com">davephistry@yahoo.com</a> or <a href="mailto:tyackley@rftteam.com">tyackley@rftteam.com</a> FOID and Photo ID required</p>	<p>IL CCW Part 1 NRA Basic Pistol</p>	<p>IL CCW Part 2</p>
	<p>April 19 May 9 June 14 July 11 August 9 September 12 October 11</p>	<p>April 18 May 10 June 13 July 12 August 8 Sept. 13 Oct. 10</p>

OTHER DATES TO BE ADDED  
Groups can be scheduled

# 2015 Oswego Business & Consumer Expo

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 9am - 2pm @ Oswego Highschool Field House

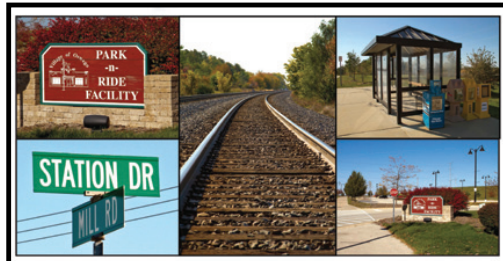
Sponsored by: Alarm Detection Systems \* Allied First Bank \* BMO Harris Bank NA \* Bridgeview Bank \* Byline Bank \* Castle Bank \* Earthmover Credit Union \* Edward Elmhurst Healthcare \* Ledger-Sentinel/Record Newspapers \* Oswego Chamber of Commerce \* Rush-Copley Medical Center School District 308 \* Village of Oswego \* Weblinx, Inc. \* WSPY FM 107.1

- Free Admission
- Over 100 Exhibitors
- Cash & Prize Drawings
- Food & Beverages Available
- Entertainment & Demonstrations
- Art Show featuring local students & amateur adults

For more information: 630-554-3505  
[www.oswegochamber.org](http://www.oswegochamber.org) or [info@oswegochamber.org](mailto:info@oswegochamber.org)



## Park-N-Ride



The Oswego Park-N-Ride operates during weekday rush hour service between the Oswego Park-N-Ride lots and the Aurora Transportation Center for the Metra BNSF Line. The Village provides two Park-N-Ride options; a West Side lot, located at Mill Road and Station Drive and an East Side Lot, located at Farmington Lakes Drive and Douglas Road.

### **Purchase your Monthly and 10-Ride Passes at:**

Oswego Village Hall & the Oswego Police Department, Plano Village Hall, Montgomery Village Hall and Yorkville Village Hall.

**Daily Fare:** Purchase on the bus from driver (exact fare required).

**Daily One Way Fare: \$3.50**

**10- Ride Pass: \$17.50**

**Monthly Pass: \$30.00**

More transit information can be found online at [www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org) or by calling 630-554-3618 or 877-IGO-4KAT



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