

Gather in downtown Oswego this spring



The Oswego Country Market returns to downtown this June. For more activities, developments, and opportunities for small businesses in downtown Oswego, turn to page 3.

■ Oswego proclaimed a Purple Heart Community

Wondering about the signs you've seen popping up around Oswego?

In June, Oswego was named a Purple Heart Community following a proclamation by Village President Gail Johnson honoring Oswego's veterans and their contributions to our community.

The Purple Heart is awarded to veterans killed or wounded in combat, and is the oldest American medal, created by George Washington in 1782. Oswego was named a Purple Heart Community after Oswego resident and Purple Heart recipient Rick Gardner proposed the idea following the activities around the Vietnam Moving Wall last year.

In addition to the Village of Oswego, the Oswego Public Library District, School District 308, and the Oswego Fire Protection District, along with several other municipalities in Kendall County have been designated Purple Heart Communities.

For more information about the Purple Heart Trail program, visit www.purpleheart.org.



Village President

Greetings Friends & Neighbors!

Simon and Garfunkel provided much of the soundtrack of my youth. I remember singing along, loudly, to "I am a rock, I am an i-i-i-island." However, poet John Donne from the early 1600's got it right when he wrote: "No man (sic) is an island."

No village, town, or city is an island. I believe, with all my heart, that we are better together. And Oswego can prove it. From sharing equipment and ideas to hiring joint staff positions with our neighboring communities, better together has proved to be highly successful and beneficial to all.

The word 'together' means "with others." It also means level-headed and well organized, as in Oswego has it all together! The opposite—alone, as in "island," then would mean imbalanced and unstable. I don't know about you, I prefer the former for Oswego.

Now, I admit as a business leader and your community leader that there are days when working "together" makes my eyes roll, my hair gray(er), and my temperament less than pleasant to be around. We've all muttered: "Oh, just let me do it myself!" But that, my friends and neighbors, will not make us better.

We will continue to build partnerships and shared service agreements with other local government units and private business so that Oswego remains a leader in the region and continues to be forward thinking, balanced, and all together. Altogether yours,

Gail Johnson

Village President



P.S. To hear more about our shared services please join me for the State of the Village address at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, at the Kendall 11 Theaters.

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Economic Development

■ Downtown comes alive this spring

This spring, downtown Oswego will be abuzz with activity – from events and programming to new developments. Here's the low-down so you can gather up your friends and join us this spring for all the fun:

New businesses

Excitement is brewing for the Oswego Brewing Company, which is slated to open in Downtown Oswego this spring. With locally produced craft beers just below the Oswego Cyclery and Oswego Extreme Segway, it's a perfect pairing for residents and visitors to relax after a long ride on our miles of interconnected bike trails.

While you're here, check out other businesses that have opened in the past several months in the heart of downtown, including A Lady and Her Tools, a unique Oswego offering that puts a twist on the girl's night out with fun, hands-on custom furniture builds.

And there's more on the horizon. The Village continues to work with the owners of Naperville-based Potter's Place to develop a plan for a new and highly anticipated Mexican restaurant along Washington Street, as well as marketing the former Village Hall property along Adams Street, for more shopping and dining options.

The Reserve at Hudson Crossing

The biggest news in what's next for

downtown is The Reserve at Hudson Crossing. In December, the Village signed an agreement with Shodeen Group for the two-building mixed-used development that includes luxury apartments, restaurant and retail space, and public parking. The Reserve will not just fill the void between Downtown Oswego and Hudson Crossing Park, but promises to transform our downtown with more residents, more shopping and dining, more parking and more charming spaces to gather. The project is currently pursuing financing and is expected to break ground sometime in 2018.

New resources for existing businesses

Are you an aspiring entrepreneur or do you run a small business? Join us at the Oswego Public Library in downtown Oswego for OsweGROW, a new small business development partnership between the Village of Oswego, the Oswego Public Library and Fox Valley SCORE. This collaboration offers monthly workshops geared towards the needs of small business owners and entrepreneurs on topics like improving cash flow and developing social media marketing.

OsweGROW can also connect you with resources including one-on-one mentorship for business plans and more. For information on upcoming workshops, follow the Village of Oswego on Facebook and look for a new



An elevation of The Reserve at Hudson Crossing. The new development will bring new residents, shopping, dining and even public parking to downtown Oswego.

OsweGROW website coming soon.

Opportunities to gather

Wine on the Fox returns to Hudson Crossing Park May 5 and 6. Come sample wine from more than a dozen wineries, grab a bite to eat, and enjoy live music in a beautiful setting. The event is family-friendly and makes for a great early Mother's Day excursion, or an afternoon out with the girls. Tickets will be available in the month prior to the event at www.wineonthefox.com.

Or skip the wine, and make a cheese plate at home. Just stop by the Oswego Country Market, hosted in downtown Oswego every Sunday morning beginning in June by the Oswegoland Park District. Sample the freshest produce, specialty foods, and handcrafted items in this open air outdoor market, and visit them online at www.facebook.com/OswegoCountryMarket.

Downtown Oswego is more than shops and dining. It's place to gather and connect. So invite the new neighbors, kick back, and join in on all the excitement that downtown has to offer.




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Public Works

■ Water conservation rules are in effect

Oswego pulls water from an underground aquifer, and the amount of water is limited. The following ordinances are in effect throughout the warmer months to ensure available water for everyone:

Lawn watering

- Properties with even-numbered addresses may use automated sprinkling or drip systems between 4 and 9 a.m. and between 6 and 9 p.m. on even-numbered calendar dates.
- Properties with odd-numbered addresses may use automated sprinkling or drip systems between 4 and 9 a.m. and between 6 and 9 p.m. on odd-numbered calendar dates.

- Properties without addresses, including roadway islands and subdivision entrances, may use automated sprinkling or drip systems between 6 and 9 a.m. and between 6 and 9 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Watering by a person using a hand-held device, such as a hose or watering can, is always allowed.

New sod and seed

- Sod and seed watering is prohibited in July and August. Anyone wishing to continuously water seed or sod must obtain a free permit from Oswego Village Hall.

Swimming pools

- Filling swimming pools with hydrant water is prohibited.
- Pool owners may use a hose, however, they must follow the odd/even rules for their address.
- If you have a new pool requiring more time to fill than water conservation limits allow, you can apply for a free permit to allow a hose to run for 48 hours.

Violators of these ordinances will be fined. For information on permits, contact Village Hall at 630-554-3618.

■ How do I get rid of?...

Yard waste

Collection begins April 2

Yard waste collection runs Monday, April 2, through Saturday, December 1, 2018. Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, very small tree branches and logs, weeds and plants.

Put yard waste in 30-gallon kraft paper lawn bags with one Groot Industries sticker attached, and set bags out at the curb by 6 a.m. on your regular garbage day. Bags and stickers are available at local grocery and hardware stores.

Food scraps and compost Check out Groot's Yard Waste Subscription program

Instead of stickers for yard waste, this optional program allows residents to place unlimited fruit and vegetable scrap and yard waste together into a tote that is then collected and composted. The program is \$120 per season and diverts biodegradable waste from landfills.

Brush

Check your zone's dates

Larger branches and limbs less than 5 inches in diameter are collected by Village staff on a zoned schedule. Zone A includes all properties that are both east of the Fox River and north of Route 34, and all properties that are both west of the river and north of Mill

Road. Zone B includes all properties east of the river and south of Route 34, and all properties west of the Fox River and south of Mill Road.

Collection weeks are as follows:

Zone A

April 2
May 3
June 4
July 2
August 6
September 4
October 1

Zone B

April 9
May 14
June 11
July 9
August 13
September 10
October 8

Place unbundled brush in neat piles with all cut ends facing the same direction at the curb by 7 a.m. Monday on the designated week, but no earlier than noon the Friday before. Do not include logs, wood, root balls, grass clippings, or landscaping generated by contractors.

Old

electronics Just call ahead!

Electronics are prohibited from landfills, and because of toxic components and changes in laws

and resale markets, have become more expensive to properly recycle. But thanks to our contracted waste hauler Groot Industries, all Oswego residents have to do is pick up the phone and call Groot at 800-244-1977 to schedule a pickup. A fee may apply for this service. For more information, visit www.groot.com.

Got more?

Free Spring Cleanup is April 23 – 27

No stickers are required from April 23 through April 27 for additional household waste, yard waste, and bulk items for Village of Oswego residents. Place your items out on your normally scheduled garbage day. Yard waste must be bagged in 30-gallon kraft paper bags. No appliances, televisions, or electronics.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT
THE OSWEGO SENIOR CENTER

Call or email for information on how to
purchase tickets

Culinary Bites Cultural Fusion
Tuesday, April 3

Independent Living & Health Fair
Wednesday, April 11

Supper Club Soirée
Featuring Jazz Combo "High Hat on the Side"
Friday, April 27

Scam Awareness
Wednesday, May 2

Ladies Luncheon
Tuesday, May 8



Oswego Senior Center

156 E. Washington Street
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www.oswegoseniorcenter.org

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Euchre, Mah Jong, Chess, Scrabble, Trips and Travel, and more!

■ Get a parkway tree at half the price

The Village replaces dead trees in its right-of-ways in the order they are reported, however, because of the emerald ash borer, there is a backlog of needed trees and it can take up to three years before the Village replaces a tree for free.

If you have had a tree removed from your parkway and you would like your tree replaced ahead of schedule, you can participate in the Village of Oswego's 50/50 Tree Replacement program. For half of the wholesale cost of a tree, you can select the species from an approved list, and the Village will remove the old tree, grind the stump, and plant the new one.

Call Public Works at 630-554-3242 to sign up and select your tree species.



The Tuliptree features unique spring blooms and is one of the tree species available for planting.

■ Call JULIE before you dig

Before digging a hole on your property, whether for a shrub or a whole house, Illinois State law requires you to call JULIE to locate potentially dangerous utility lines buried underground. Digging without locating these lines can result in explosions from ruptured gas lines or electrocution by buried power lines.

Call 811 or 1-800-892-0123 two working days before you dig. A locator will come to your property and mark the location of your lines. The service is free.

For more information, visit www.illinois1call.com.

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Police

■ Excitement is building for new police headquarters

Construction on a new facility for the Oswego Police Department continues to be within budget and is expected to open at the end of October.

When complete, the new facility will have more elbow room for growing staff. The current police facility has been the headquarters since 1991, when there were fewer than two-dozen officers and Oswego's population was still lower than 5,000 residents. Today's personnel roster includes about 70 sworn and civilian staff members who serve more than 30,000 Oswegoans, in addition to dozens of volunteer Police Explorers and Citizen Police Academy Alumni.

When complete, the headquarters will include community meeting room, plus a training center for first responders that will also serve as an emergency command center during severe weather or other community-wide emergencies. The facility's energy tower will heat the water inside the building with solar energy. Construction updates are available at www.oswegopoliceil.org and on the Village of Oswego Police, IL Facebook page.



■ Oswego police officers awarded for life-saving heroism

Four Oswego police officers have been called heroes for having risked their lives to save the life of a 71-year-old man trapped in a burning truck.

On the night of Nov. 28, Officers Brandon Dilg, Cassandra Catberro, Matthew Unger and James Novy responded to a call regarding a hit-and-run in Montgomery. Dilg arrived at the scene first, and pried open the door of the truck which was jammed by the crash and the heat of the fire and pulled the man from the vehicle with help from Unger. Officers Catberro and Novy arrived on scene and pulled the man up a hill, out of harm's way, to get him medical attention.

On Jan. 16, Officers Catberro, Novy and Unger have all been awarded the Medal of Honor from the department. Officer Dilg was awarded the Medal of Valor. All four officers were awarded the Life-Saving Award.

Thank you to these four officers and our entire police force for serving our community with selfless dedication.



Police Chief Jeffrey Burgner recounts the life-saving heroics of Officers Catberro and Dilg (pictured), and Unger and Novy (not pictured) at a Village Board meeting in December.

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MARCH

March 1 - 15

Early Voting

Village Hall

Registered voters can cast their ballots for the March 20 primary during extended hours. See page 8 for more information.

March 6

Village Board

7 p.m. | Village Hall

The Committee of the Whole meets at 6 p.m. and the Village Board meets at 7 p.m.

March 19

Village Board

7 p.m. | Village Hall

The Committee of the Whole meets at 6 p.m. and the Village Board meets at 7 p.m. This meeting has been moved to Monday to accommodate Election Day.

March 20

Election Day

At your precinct

Vote in primary elections including the Illinois gubernatorial race. Visit www.co.kendall.il.us to look up your polling place.

APRIL

April 2 - December 1

Yard Waste Collection

See pages 4 and 5 for information on how to dispose of yard waste curbside on your regular garbage day.

April 2-6

Zone A Brush Collection

April 3

Village Board

7 p.m. | Village Hall

The Committee of the Whole meets at 6 p.m. and the Village Board meets at 7 p.m.

April 9-13

Zone B Brush Collection

April 9-20

Water Main Flushing

Look for signs in your neighborhood and avoid doing laundry during the day.

April 14

Saw Wee Kee Spring Trail Run

4-5 p.m. | Saw Wee Kee Park

Join the Oswegoland Park District for a charming trail run through a blooming forest. Registration and information at www.oswegolandparkdistrict.org.

April 17

Village Board

7 p.m. | Village Hall

The Committee of the Whole meets at 6 p.m. and the Village Board meets at 7 p.m.

April 23-27

Free Spring Cleanup

Set bulk items and extra trash out curbside on your regular garbage day during this free cleanup. No sticker required.

MAY

May 1

Village Board

7 p.m. | Village Hall

The Committee of the Whole meets at 6 p.m. and the Village Board meets at 7 p.m.

May 5-6

Wine on the Fox

Hudson Crossing Park

Join us and sample from wineries across Illinois, pair it with a snack, and enjoy live music in the leafy surrounds of Hudson Crossing Park. Visit www.wineonthefox.com for tickets and information.

May 7-11

Zone A Brush Collection

May 14-18

Zone B Brush Collection

May 15

Village Board

7 p.m. | Village Hall

The Committee of the Whole meets at 6 p.m. and the Village Board meets at 7 p.m.

May 28

Memorial Day

Village offices are closed. Garbage collection is postponed by one day.

■ Where is the Property of the Season?

The Property of the Season highlights an historic Oswego building and is selected four times a year by the Historic Preservation Commission, which is seeking new commissioners. If you're interested in contributing your time and talents to preserving Oswego's history, contact Bethany Salmon at 630-551-2332 or bsalmon@oswegoil.org.

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



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■ Watch Village Meetings Online

You can watch meetings from the comfort of your own home. For more information, log on to www.oswegoil.org and click on Meeting Agendas & Videos.

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?

We have a page for that. Log onto our website at www.oswegoil.org and click on I Want To. Information can be found in the Learn About section.

Register to Vote

You can register to vote right at Oswego Village Hall. Several Village staff members are certified registrars, and staff is typically available to register citizens from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information visit www.oswegoil.org and click on I Want To. Under the Apply For heading, click on Voter Registration, where you'll find information on eligibility, required identification and more.

Additional information can also be found on the Kendall County Election & Voter Information page at www.co.kendall.il.us.

OSWEGO VILLAGE BOARD

- Gail Johnson Village President
- Tina Touchette Village Clerk
- Ryan Kauffman Village Trustee
- Karin McCarthy-Lange Village Trustee
- Pam Parr Village Trustee
- Luis Perez. Village Trustee
- Judy Sollinger. Village Trustee
- Joe West Village Trustee

ADMINISTRATION

- Daniel Di Santo Village Administrator
- Jeff Burgner. Chief of Police
- Christina Burns .Asst. Village Administrator/HR Director
- Corinna Cole . . . Economic Development Director
- Jay Hoover Building and Zoning Manager
- Mark Horton Finance Director
- Jennifer Hughes Public Works Director
- Rod Zenner Community Development Director
- Jenette Sturges Community Engagement Coordinator

Oswego News

This newsletter is published quarterly and mailed to over 14,000 Oswego postal customers. Comments, suggestions and questions are welcome at info@oswegoil.org.



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

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

**No garbage collection
Memorial Day**

**There will be no garbage
collection on Monday,
May 28, for Memorial Day.
Garbage collection will be
postponed one day for the
remainder of the week.**

Come together

Wine on the Fox
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May 5 & 6, 2018
www.wineonthefox.com for tickets

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