



Our interest-bearing Christmas Club Account is an easy way to have extra cash for the Holidays when Santa comes to town.

You decide how much to save and how often. Allied First Bank can automatically debit your checking account if you prefer, making it easier to save. Our Christmas Club pays 2.00% A.P.Y.\*

Small amounts saved regularly can give you the amount you need for Holiday travels, festivities, and gifts!

Open your Christmas Club today for next year now!

Go to AlliedFirst.com or call (630) 554-8899 for more info.

Big Enough to Serve. Small Enough to CARE!

Go Ahead, Take Advantage of a Bank for Once!

2 - Chances to win \$400! Dec 4th At the Christmas Walk - Stop by our booth for a chance to win a \$400 Christmas Club Account or listen to WSPY's 12 Days of Giveaways to win another \$400!



\*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Offer subject to change. Effective 11/1/2020. To receive APY, account holder must make the minimum deposit to open the account, of \$10. Interest rate will be paid until maturity date of October 31, 2021; interest accrues until maturity date. No accrued interest will be paid if the account is closed prior to maturity. Total aggregate dollar amount in deposits to account during any calendar month may be no more than \$1,000. No withdrawals allowed prior to maturity date.



# $Seasons\ greetings,\ Oswego!$

Here we are! The holiday season is finally here! At no time in my life have I ever looked forward to the holidays more than I do this year. We have traveled a difficult path to get here, no doubt, but we are here. There is a sense of freshness in the air, a new season. One that sings of celebration, newness and renewal.

The road traveled to get here seems one wrought with obstacles – a pandemic that affected not only Oswego but the globe. Civil unrest that was present throughout our country for an extended time and a political season that seemed to last forever and only heightened our tensions.

But...Oswego perservered. Not only survived but thrived. Amidst the turmoil surrounding us we figured it out. Our children made it to school – not the environment we chose but they are learning, moving forward. Our community has weathered the economic storm to date – yes, we have felt pain, but nearly all of our economic indicators are outperforming the state as a whole. In fact, new roads were paved, trees were trimmed, leaves were picked up, and all our capital projects moved forward.

We welcomed many new businesses into Oswego! In fact, Fox Business News highlighted our newsest downtown restaurant, 113 Main. Of the 6,500 new restaurants opened in the US, Fox Business News decided to focus on Oswego! Think about that for a second, the focus of our nation was on our Village of Oswego. Why was that?

I can answer that easily. There is an aspect about Oswego that breathes goodness. The difficult times brought out the best in our community. We pulled together with selflessness and caring to get through early dark days of the pandemic. We came out together this spring during our neighborhood care-avans, we celebrated together during our 4th of July fireworks celebration, we watched our children together in costume bring happiness and joy to our neighborhoods during Halloween. Together, we look forward to spending time with our families during Thanksgiving, celebrating Christmas and bringing in a new year full of the hopes that renew us.

Yes, indeed, there is something special about Oswego. As we close out this year and look forward to the next, I know, together, we will find that special peace, comfort and joy that makes Oswego a place like no other. God bless you and may God bless Oswego!

Wishing you-a warm holiday season,

Troy Parlier Oswego Village President

#### **OSWEGO VILLAGE BOARD**

**TROY PARLIER PRESIDENT TINA TOUCHETTE** CLERK JAMES MARTER II **TERRY OLSON PAM PARR LUIS PEREZ JUDY SOLLINGER BRIAN THOMAS** 

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**DANIEL DI SANTO** VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR **JEFF BURGNER** POLICE CHIEF CHRISTINA BURNS ASST. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR/ HR DIRECTOR

**JOE RENZETTI** IT DIRECTOR **JAY HOOVER** BUILDING & ZONING MANAGER MARK HORTON FINANCE DIRECTOR **JENNIFER HUGHES** PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR **ROD ZENNER** COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



#### **OSWEGO NEWS**

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

#### JENETTE STURGES

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR VILLAGE OF OSWEGO 100 PARKERS MILL OSWEGO, IL 60543

> 630-551-2392 JSTURGES@OSWEGOIL.ORG

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

ADMINISTRATION 630-551-2360 BUILDING & ZONING 630-554-2310 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** 630-554-3622 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 630-551-2335 FINANCE 630-554-0864 **POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY)** 630-551-7300 **PUBLIC WORKS** 630-554-3242 VILLAGE CLERK 630-554-3259 UTILITY/WATER BILLING 630-554-2282

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



113 Main, a new American restaurant planned for 113 Main Street, was featured in Fox Business News as one of the 6,500 new restaurants opening during the pandemic.

### OPENING SOON IN DOWNTOWN OSWEGO!

THIS WINTER, Oswegoans will have a new dining option, even if it's just carryout only for now. The new 113 Main, currently under construction in the new three-story building at 113 Main Street, will feature craft eats and social drinks in a dining space with an industrial architectural style with large garage doors for an airy feel.

The bar will focus on craft cocktails and beer, and the menu will include upscale casual fare featuring locally sourced foods. The restaurant is expected to open sometime in November, but for all the updates, sign up for news at 113main. com.

Around the corner along Washington Street, The Reserve at Hudson Crossing continues construction. The final trusses that comprise the roof of the six-story mixed-use development went up in October, and that project remains on schedule, with the first residents moving in next year. The Village-owned public parking deck on the first two floors is also nearing completion, and should be available to downtown shoppers this winter.

# Grants for businesses, not-for-profits affected by COVID-19

THE VILLAGE OF OSWEGO is offering grant programs to assist small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Not-for-profit organizations**

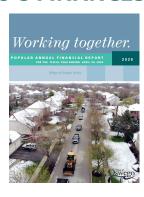
The not-for-profit program offers grants of up to \$500 to Oswego-based organizations that have been affected by or are providing services related to COVID-19. To be eligible, organizations must be based in Oswego and registered with the state as a not-for-profit organization in existence prior to March 15, 2020. Organizations with existing funding agreements with the Village are ineligible. The first round of applications will be open until Jan. 5. Apply at www. oswegoil.org.

#### **Small businesses**

The Village of Oswego will offer funding for local businesses provided through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Local CURE Program. The funds, which are administered by the Village. Local businesses impacted by COVID-19 through operational changes or reduced revenues, and who have not already received funding through the Illinois Business Interruption Grant, are eligible to apply. Visit the Village's website for complete program and eligibility information. Never miss an opportunity! Sign up for email alerts from the Village at www.oswegoil.org/alerts.aspx and click Business Announcements.

#### **LEARN ABOUT OSWEGO'S FINANCES**

THE POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT, or PAFR, is a concise, easy-to-read, explanation of the Village of Oswego's financial standing. It includes information on taxes, expenditures, funding for megaprojects and much more. Download the newly available edition for the 2020 Fiscal Year at www.oswegoil.org/government/departments/finance/additional-financial-information.aspx





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



# SUPPORT OSWEGO AND **SHOP LOCAL THIS SEASON**

WHEN YOU shop here in Oswego, more of your tax dollars stay in the community, and this year, the small businesses that keep our community thriving need our support more than ever. When you spend \$100 at a local shop, about \$68 continues to circulate in the local community. That's compared to just \$14 spent at a national retailer, where profits go out of state. So support your community by shopping locally this holiday season!

Here are a few ideas to spread even more joy for your dollar this holiday season:

Restaurants have been particularly hard-hit by the pandemic. Give gift cards for carry-out.

Treat the hard-working health care professionals and essential workers in your life to a massage or a mani/pedi.

Avoid crowded doorbusters and shop safely in small stores. Our local, independent retailers are observing state guidelines including store capacity, masks, and social distancing.

Shop with confidence, and get your holiday shopping done with rare finds and gifts you can find nowhere else.

#### FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK

#### HOW TO WATCH MEETINGS FROM HOME

You can watch the livestream of Oswego Village Board meetings on our website at www.oswegoil.org. Click on the Meetings Agendas & Videos section on the homepage. Scroll down to Upcoming Events. Once the meeting begins, an In Progress link will appear. Click on it to watch the meeting. Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00; followed by the Regular Village Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

#### **GET NEWS AS IT HAPPENS**

Residents are encouraged to follow the Village of Oswego on Facebook (@VillageofOswego) and Twitter (@ OswegolL60543) for up to the minute updates. You can also subscribe to Village of Oswego emails or text alerts by visiting www.oswegoil.org and clicking on E-mail Alerts on the homepage.

#### NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

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.



#### CONSOLIDATED ELECTION APRIL 6, 2021

#### February 25, 2021

First day of early voting begins at the Kendall County Clerk's Office in Yorkville

#### March 9, 2021

Last day to register to vote at Village Hall

#### April 5, 2021

Last day of early voting

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



Tons of holiday cheer, just different this year! Oswego's beloved holiday tradition returns Friday, Dec. 4, for a one-way stroll through Main Street.

THE 2020 OSWEGO CHRISTMAS WALK-THROUGH, A Stroll Down Main Street, presented by Allied First Bank, will be held from 4 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 4, along Main Street, with festive fun and time-honored traditions fun for all ages.

Enjoy all the sights, sounds and smells of the holiday season with extra elbow room and one-way traffic. We've eliminated high-touch activities like bounce houses and replaced them with live performances for the whole family to enjoy. Meet Santa's reindeer, and get a photo (from a safe social distance) with Santa himself. Sip hot cocoa for a \$1 donation to Oswego nonprofits, shop sales at unique downtown

Oswego businesses, watch the pre-recorded tree lighting ceremony, and get freebies from our sponsors. As always, admission is free, so don you now your gay apparel (and your face mask) and join the Village of Oswego in ushering in the holiday season.

#### SATURDAY SILENT LIGHT PARADE

The traditional end of Christmas Walk, the Silent Light Parade of emergency vehicles will instead step off at 6 p.m. on Satuday, Dec. 5, with an extended route through downtown, providing extra elbow room for onlookers. The parade begins at Old Traugher, heads east on Franklin Street, turns



left onto Garfield Street, left onto Jefferson Street, left onto Main Street, and left onto Tyler Street, ending at Tyler and Washington Street.

#### PARKING

Trolleys will not be available this year. Parking will be available in the Harrison Street lot, Oswego Village Hall, and on streets in and around downtown.

#### DON'T MISS UPDATES

In order to comply with state and local regulations, event details are subject to change. Find all the latest information at www.oswegochristmaswalk. com and sign up for email updates for the latest. You can also follow the Christmas Walk 2020...A Stroll Down Main Street, presented by Allied First Bank event page on Facebook.

#### FILL THE TRUCK!

The need is greater than ever this year, so bring a little joy and join Oswego Public Works and Bike Bald in a community toy drive! Drop off new, unwrapped toys at the Public Works truck at the intersection of Jackson and Main Street all during the



Christmas Walk. Bike Bald Group enhances the lives of children and families affected by cancer.





### 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

#### We're all in this together. State Farm® has a long

tradition of being there. That's one reason why I'm proud to support The Community of Oswego.

Here to help life go right.®



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State Farm, Bloomington, IL



# PREPARE FOR WINTER WITH THESE TIPS

# PREPARE YOUR MAILBOX

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

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

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

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

A Public Works representative will determine if the damage is caused by a plow blade or vehicle. If so, the Village will reimburse the homeowner up to \$75 for mailbox replacement. If the damage is caused by snow coming off the plow blade, or some other undetermined cause, the Village cannot provide reimbursement. All receipts must be submitted by April 30th, 2021, to be reimbursed. No reimbursements can be made after that date, and all costs will be the responsibility of the homeowner.



Village plows clear hundreds of miles of roadway each snowfall.

### ALL ABOUT SNOWPLOWING

Works Department work hard to keep you safe during the winter driving season.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



FROZEN WATER PIPES flood the homes of a quarter-million families nationwide each winter. This damage is largely preventable.

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

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

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

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

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

#### MPORTANT DATES

#### DEC. 25 & JAN. 1

#### **NOTRASH COLLECTION**

Groot Industries will not pick up residential trash on Friday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas Day and Friday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. Trash and recycling pickup will be delayed by one day during those weeks.

#### THRU JAN. 15

# FREE CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Groot will collect Christmas trees after the holidays through Friday, Jan. 15. Place your bare tree, free from lights, ornaments, tinsel, or any decorations by the curb on your normal scheduled garbage day. Do not bag your tree or place a yard waste sticker on it. After the second week in January, residents will be required to wait until April when the yard waste program starts up again, and a sticker will be required at that time.

#### NO PARKING ON SNOW-COVERED STREETS

Parking is prohibited on Village streets when two inches (2") or more snow has accumulated, and one inch (1") in downtown. Keeping cars off the streets helps Village crews clear the roads faster and prevents your car from being plowed in. Vehicles parked on the streets during in snowy conditions are also more likely to be struck by other vehicles. Street parking is allowed again once the snow stops and the streets have been plowed curb to curb.





- · Commercial Door Hardware, Doors/Frames Installed
- · Rekeying Services

ASSA ABLOY

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Key Systems

Design/Layout Master



### SHOVEL SIDEWALKS, HYDRANTS AND DRIVEWAYS THIS WINTER



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

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

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

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

#### PROPERTY OF THE SEASON



THE KENDALL HOUSE, a hotel, stagecoach inn, and tavern, was built about 1845 by Wright Murphy, an Oswego politician and attorney. The site of the hotel included the inn building itself, plus a stone barn where guests could stable their horses and an icehouse where ice was stored to cool the inn's food and drink.

Mathias Beaupre the Kendall County Sherriff from 1852-1854 took over management of Kendall House on March 1, 1853 and he and his wife moved into the hotel. The Kendall County Seat had moved to Oswego in 1846, but the county had no jail. When prisoners needed to be held on a short-term basis, such as punishment for minor offenses or for court appearances, Sherriff Beaupre housed them in the hotel guest rooms on the second floor.

After the county seat was moved back to Yorkville in 1859, there was no longer any need for three hotels in Oswego and it is likely Kendall House eventually changed usage to a private residence.

In July 1880, the Kendall House was divided into two structures and moved apart to form two separate residences.



Top: The Kendall House, c. 1885. Above: 61 and 55 S. Madison Street, c. 2020. Photos and research provided by Roger Matile at the Little White School Museum

The two structures of Kendall house would be classified in the National Folk style with their gable front and wing design. The original design has been well maintained on the north property with slight modifications. The south property has been significantly altered with an Italianate style bay window and multiple additions.







#### DECEMBER

Celebrate the season from a safe social distance at the Christmas Walk-Through, presented by Allied First Bank! The holiday season kicks off at 4 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Oswego. See page 6 for details.

The **Silent Light Parade** will roll off on Saturday night this year, with an extended route through downtown Oswego for extra social distance. Details page 6.

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

Village offices are closed for Christmas Eve

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



#### JANUARY

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

Today is the end of the first round of applications for Not-for-Profit COVID-19 Grants worth up to \$500 each. Visit www. **oswegoil.org** for more information and to apply.

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

Last chace to put o tannenbaum out to the curb for **Christmas Tree collection**. See details on page 9.

Village offices are closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



#### **FEBRUARY**

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

Awww, we love you too, Oswego!

Village offices are closed for President's Day.

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

Early voting starts at the Kendall County Clerk's Office for the **Consolidated Election**. See page 5 for details.



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



Jim Cargo Financial Advisor 1063 Station Drive

Edward Jones

Member SIPC



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**Postal Customer** 

### Connect with the Village of Oswego!

The most up-to-date information on everything happening in Oswego can be found online through our website, email alerts, and social media. Get connected to take advantage of all the services, events and more Oswego offers to its residents.



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



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



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



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



- DID YOUR PAST AGENT RETIRE?
- DO YOU NEED AN AGENT WHO UNDERSTANDS?
- ARE YOU RECEIVING THE QUALITY CUSTOMER SERVICE YOU DESERVE?
- WE OFFER PERSONALIZED SERVICE WITH LICENSED & EXPERIENCED STAFF MEMBERS.
- WE HAVE A STRONG COMMITMENT TO SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.
- OUR AGENCY HAS OVER 30 YEARS OF KNOWLEDGE & EXPERTISE TO DEVELOP AN INSURANCE SOLUTION THAT FITS YOUR NEEDS.



tbentley@farmersagent.com 630-554-8777