

# OAK BROOK

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## *news*

Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 70 - Summer 2014



**Comed Rate Increases  
Summer Calendar  
2014 Polo Season**

© 2013

## 2014 OAK BROOK POLO

Oak Brook Polo Season, which starts off with an inaugural match at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 6th. As we build up to the start, you'll soon be seeing polo posters around town, promotional materials at the Taste and neighboring parades, special deals online, additional details released on Facebook, Twitter, the Village's website, and the July cover of Hinsdale Living!



We are excited to announce that the Village of Oak Brook Board has approved the following match dates for the 2014 Polo Season.

### Match Dates and Themes:

- Sunday, July 6th (1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. matches)  
*Hat Day- Wear your favorite hat to Oak Brook Polo*
- Sunday, July 13th (1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. matches)  
*Family Day with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicago land and Northwest Indiana*
- Sunday, August 10th (1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. matches)  
*Classic Car Day- Hollywoos Returns to Oak Brook Cars from yesterday and today!*
- Sunday, August 17th (1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. matches)  
*British Polo Day- The Union Jack Flag will be flying, plenty of red, white, and blue as well as PIMMS Chukkers*
- Sunday, September 14th (1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. matches)  
*Argentina Day complete with music, dancers and more from Argentina*

### Ticket Information:

Resident tickets are available for \$15. Residents will need to show their drivers license when purchasing tickets in-person. Individual tickets are available for \$25 pre-event/\$30 event-day price and individual VIP tickets are available for \$65 each online at [www.oak-brook.org/polo](http://www.oak-brook.org/polo). Tickets are also on sale now at the following locations:

- **Village Hall:** Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Oak Brook Public Library:** Monday – Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- **Oak Brook Golf Clubhouse:** Monday – Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Tickets may also be purchased prior and during the polo matches at this location.)

### VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK ELECTED OFFICIALS/ BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gopal Lalimalani, M.D., M.B.A | President  
Charlotte K. Pruss | Clerk  
Don Adler | Trustee  
John Baar | Trustee  
Michael Manzo | Trustee  
Mark Moy, M.D. | Trustee  
Gerald Wolin | Trustee  
Asif Yusuf | Trustee

### VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK DEPARTMENTS

Police, Fire, EMS Emergency: 9-1-1  
Butler Government Center General  
Information: (630) 368-5000  
Village Clerk: (630) 368-5052  
Village Manager: (630) 368-5026  
Community Development: (630) 368-5101  
Economic Development: (630) 368-5022  
Engineering: (630) 368-5130  
Fire Non-Emergency: (630) 368-5200  
Library: (630) 368-7700  
Police Non-Emergency: (630) 368-8700  
Public Works: (630) 368-5270  
Water Billing: (630) 368-5090  
Sports Core Administration (630) 368-6400  
Bath & Tennis (630) 368-6400  
Oak Brook Golf Club (630) 368-6400

### CONNECT WITH THE VILLAGE

Website | [www.oak-brook.org](http://www.oak-brook.org)  
Facebook | "Village of Oak Brook"  
Twitter | @OakBrookVillage

Regular meetings of the Village Board are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm, with the exception of the fourth Tuesday of the months of June, August and December.

Videotaped broadcasts of Village Board meetings air on Comcast Cable Television, Government Access Channel 6 or 110 Mondays at 7pm and online at [www.youtube.com/oakbrooktv](http://www.youtube.com/oakbrooktv)

Questions or comments? Contact us.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Summer has finally arrived, and it will be an exciting time in Oak Brook! We have the annual Taste of Oak Brook on Thursday, July 3 from 4 to 9pm at the Oak Brook Polo Fields. Come sample food from some of our finest eating establishments, enjoy the entertainment and stay for the fireworks!

Next up to enjoy over the summer is the 2014 Polo season! The Polo Committee, under the guidance of Kathy Maher, Jim Pehta, Beverly Taylor, and Bob Sanford, has been working very diligently to prepare for another great season. Polo Matches are set for Sundays: July 6th, July 13th, August 10th, August 17th, and September 14th (Rain dates August 24th and September 21st). Information on ticket prices and sponsorships are included elsewhere in this newsletter and at [www.oakbrookpoloclub.com](http://www.oakbrookpoloclub.com). I hope to see you at the Polo matches!

Our new Fire Chief Barry Liss began on May 15 and is adjusting well to the Oak Brook community. He comes to Oak Brook with over 34 years of experience from Skokie and I am confident he will take the Oak Brook Fire Department to the next level. Other exciting news in the Fire Department, the Insurance Services Organization, commonly known as I.S.O., has upgraded Oak Brook to a Class 2. The new classification puts Oak Brook into an elite class of Fire Departments across the country. This reclassification could mean reduced insurance rates for businesses, although that is up to individual insurance companies. And even more great news comes from the Fire Department. On May 21 the Oak Brook Fire Department was presented with the first runner up for the Dr. Joseph Hartmann award for medical excellence on ambulance calls. This is a very prestigious award, as Dr. Hartmann is a renowned cardiologist (with special interest in emergency medical services) who I have had the honor of knowing closely since 1978.

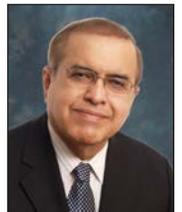
As you may know, our long-time Village Manager David Niemeyer is leaving Oak Brook after many years of exemplary service. The Village has engaged an executive search firm to help the Village Manager Search Committee recruit a new Village manager. This committee consists of all our Trustees, two residents: Tom Cygan and Harry Peters, and will be chaired by yours truly. During the interim period, Art Osten, Jr. is our Acting Village Manager.

You have probably heard by now that ComEd increased their electric rates in June. Oak Brook has an electric aggregation program available to residents and some businesses. We have a contract with Verde Energy USA for 2014 with a rate of 5.18 cents per kilowatt hour compared to the new ComEd rate of 7.596 cents per kilowatt hour. Residents who are not already enrolled in the program should contact the Village of Oak Brook at 630/368-5164 to join the program and save substantial amount of money. If you have another supplier, check your contract for early termination requirements.

As always, the Trustees, the staff, and I are available to you at all times. Feel free to call, email or meet any of us if you have any thoughts and concerns. We are here to serve you.

Kind Regards,

Gopal G. Lalimalani, M.D., M.B.A.  
Village President  
(630) 368-5012  
[glalimalani@oak-brook.org](mailto:glalimalani@oak-brook.org)



# From the Manager's Desk

BY DAVID NIEMEYER

*It is with excitement and sadness that I recently announced my resignation to the Village Board after 7 years as Village Manager. I recently accepted the position of Village Manager of Tinley Park. I grew up in the south suburbs, still have family in the area, and have previously held other manager positions in communities in the area. I will miss Oak Brook and the great relationships I have developed with many of you. This is an outstanding community and managing Oak Brook has been one of the highlights of my career.*

*The Village Board is conducting a nationwide search for a new manager and hopes to have that person on board in the next couple of months. In the meantime, let me introduce Art Osten, Jr. who has been appointed Interim Village Manager.*

I am honored to have been selected as the Interim Village Manager and bring thirty years of experience in municipal government as well as Masters Degrees in Public Policy & Administration and Urban & Regional Planning. Local government is a noble profession and my passion is to help municipalities become better places to live, work, and play. My primary job for the time being is to provide oversight of Village operations for the Village Board and ensure that all existing programs continue to move forward. This includes regular meetings with staff, committees, and community groups such as the Chamber and Homeowners Association; familiarizing myself with the community and municipal operations; and working on projects and issues such as Polo 2014, pension funding, intergovernmental agreements, pedestrian walkways, and policy manual updates. Soon the budget process will start. It is all very enjoyable and I am quite busy.

Working with the Village Board and Staff I also hope to have the opportunity to build upon Oak Brook's many accomplishments under Dave's watch. By integrating the perspectives of those impacted with subject matter experts in a mutually agreed upon process we can generate the best possible solutions and follow-up measures to every challenge and opportunity we face. Oak Brook is blessed with an abundance of high caliber businesses, very well-informed and helpful residents and elected officials, and a strong municipal staff. That combination is what makes it possible to provide high quality, cost-effective services to the community and continue Oak Brook's tradition as one of the premier communities in the region.

I enjoy meeting community members and staff, so please feel free to call or visit whenever you have any questions or ideas about Oak Brook's municipal services or just to say hello.

-Art Osten, Jr



David Niemeyer  
Village Manager  
(630) 368-5026  
dniemeyer@oak-brook.org



 HOTELS OF OAK BROOK

## THIS WEEKEND DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

The Hotels of Oak Brook now offer you more great ways to fill a summer weekend than ever before with our great weekend packages, world class shopping and plenty of family-friendly dining options. Plus, the Hotels of Oak Brook put you in the middle of all the action with easy access to:

- Brookfield Zoo
- Morton Arboretum
- DuPage Children's Museum
- Chicago Botanic Garden
- Legoland Discovery Center

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR SPECTACULAR SUMMER WEEKEND RATES VISIT [OAKBROOKHOTELS.COM](http://OAKBROOKHOTELS.COM).



DOUBLETREE  
CHICAGO - OAKBROOK  
630.472.6000

HYATT LODGE  
630.568.1234

CHICAGO MARRIOTT  
OAKBROOK  
630.573.8555

RESIDENCE INN  
BY MARRIOTT  
630.571.1200

DUPAGE  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

 ILLINOIS  
MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE

BY JAMES KRUGER

## DISTRACTED DRIVING

**“Please be cautious when driving and using a cell phone.”**

This past January, the Illinois General Assembly enacted the new distracted driving law prohibiting the use of handheld phones while driving. As many of you have probably seen, voluntary compliance with this new law has not been forthcoming. The Police Department has been making the enforcement of this law a priority over the past few months. April was National Distracting Driving Awareness Month and our officers conducted several awareness campaigns, especially near Brook Forest Elementary School. Please be cautious when driving and using a cell phone and make sure to use a Bluetooth device unless you are stopped on the side of the road or are reporting a bonafide emergency to 9-1-1.



## PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAFFIC

Now that we have finally made it to the warmer Spring and Summer months, we are beginning to see an increase in pedestrian and bicycle traffic in our neighborhoods. As an annual plea, I would like to remind everyone to please be alert. Pedestrians should walk against traffic and bicyclists should ride with the flow of traffic. Because of the lack of sidewalks pedestrians should walk single file, as close to the roadway edge as possible and wear light colored clothing. Motorists must give pedestrians the right of way when cross the street, however pedestrians should remain vigilant and make eye contact with drivers prior to crossing.



James Kruger  
Police Chief  
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## POLICE AUXILIARY UNIT

One of the new initiatives the Police Department will be implementing this year is the creation of a Police Auxiliary Unit. At my request, the Village Board passed the ordinance creating the Police Auxiliary this past March. The Police Auxiliary Unit will be made up of trained, certified fully sworn police officers that are available for special events, emergencies, or disasters to supplement the regular police officers. By Illinois State Law, these officers must possess the same training and certification as our regular full time officers but they cannot take the place of full time police officers. They will be a great addition to the department, especially during some of our major summer events and during the busy holiday shopping season. The Police Department is in the process of reviewing applications and hopefully will have the unit ready to go by the Taste of Oak Brook.

## PERSONNEL UPDATES

Since the last newsletter we experienced a couple of personnel changes. Long time dedicated employee and former DARE Officer, Sergeant MaryJo Nugent announced her retirement in March. The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners filled the void by promoting Detective Ben Kadolph to the rank of Police Sergeant and hired new recruit Officer Mark Bellich. Officer Bellich is attending the Chicago Police Academy Metro Class and will graduate late Summer. Congratulations to Sergeant Nugent on a well deserved retirement and to Sergeant Kadolph and Officer Bellich on their new positions.



BY GARY CLARK

## OUTDOOR GRILLING

**“July is the peak month for grill fires.”**

### Before

Outdoor grilling in the summer months is one of the most popular ways to cook food. Did you know that more than half of home grill structure fires begin on either a courtyard terrace or patio or an exterior balcony or open porch? According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), July is the peak month for grill fires. Placing a grill too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. Take the necessary precautions this summer when cooking food outdoors on a grill

### During

- Use your grill outdoors (not in your garage.)
- Keep your grill at least fifteen feet away from your home, deck railings and flammable items, and make sure it's not under eaves or branches.
- Place your grill on a flat, non-flammable surface.
- Clean the grill grate with a sponge and dish washing soap, and remove rust with a wire brush. Remove grease from the grill.
- For propane grills, put a light soap and water solution on the gas tank hose and look for bubbles, which would indicate a leak. If there is a leak, have the grill serviced by a professional

### After

- Don't use gasoline, alcohol or kerosene to light your grill. Never add lighter fluid or other flammable liquids once the coals have been lit.
  - Never leave the grill unattended.
  - Always have a competent person attend to the grill.
  - Keep children and pets away from the general area when grilling. This way, there's no chance of a burn injury.
  - If you smell gas while grilling, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department.
- 
- Close the grill lid and vents tightly.
  - Don't move the grill or remove the coals for at least 48 hours.
  - Let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.



Barry Liss  
Fire Chief  
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## ISO 2 CLASSIFICATION

On May 5, 2014, the Oak Brook Fire Department received notification that the department will be reclassified by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO) as a Class 2 community. The Department is now ranked among the top 1.5 percent of all departments across the United States for its fire protection capabilities. Nationally, of 49,010 rated departments, there are only 750 departments comparable to the Oak Brook Fire Department's Public Protection Classification.

The ratings are based on a scale that evaluates multiple criteria of the department: personnel, equipment, the water system, training and communications, which is provided by DuComm. "The reclassification of Oak Brook as a Class 2 community is a strong indication of the great department we have and will help Oak Brook remain a premier community for residents and businesses," said Village President Gopal Lalimalani.

The ISO Public Protection Classifications are used by the insurance industry to estimate insurance costs for businesses and homeowners within the community. The new Class 2 rating will reflect insurance rate changes for businesses within the Oak Brook community, and may affect the rates of some homeowners as well. Businesses and residents should check with their individual insurance companies to determine if they will benefit from this reclassification.

The upgrade in the Village's classification reflects the ongoing cooperation within the Village's Fire and Public works Departments as well as with surrounding area fire departments in sharing services, equipment, training and personnel.

For further questions about the new ISO 2 classification, please contact Battalion Chief Jeff Marciniak at 630-368-5210

## HOW OLD DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO TAKE A CPR CLASS?

Here at the Oak Brook Fire Department, we offer basic life support programs to teach people how to respond to emergencies at a basic level. Through the American Heart Association we offer CPR, CPR with AED, Healthcare Provider, and First Aid courses. We even offer a SMILE (Saving More Illinois Lives through Education) program. Sometimes, children would like to attend these courses with a friend or family member. Parents often ask what a suitable age for training would be to learn CPR. Firstly, children can and should learn basic First Aid, CPR and how to use an AED. The age at which the information can be retained and understood, is going to vary with the child. However, this type of training can be good for kids as young as 8 or 9 years old. Simply being able to recognize an emergency and call 911 is often enough.

However, children also have the ability to recognize when someone has difficulty in breathing, seizures or chest pain. Be sure to encourage their learning efforts and praise their accomplishment, as their success can literally make the difference in someone else's life. To learn more about the classes we offer, please contact Bob Robertson, Pub Ed Director at (630) 368-5220 or (630) 368-5224.

BY MICHAEL HULLIHAN

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Public works and Engineering are already in full "summer mode." Scheduled 2014 Oak Brook improvements include repaving 35th Street (east of IL-83), Commerce Drive (including installation of sidewalks, and Golf Drive.

The Village will also be continuing pedestrian access projects around the Oakbrook Center, including enhanced crosswalk markings, improved pedestrian signals, and sidewalks. Water main improvements in York Woods will be completed this year with replacements taking place along Bradford Lane, Dover Drive, Windsor Drive. Water main replacement along a portion of Harger Road will also be accomplished.

Your patience and forbearance with construction activities is much appreciated. If there are any issues with construction, please let us know at the Engineering Department (630-368-5130). The Public Works crews have gotten well into the Summer tasks including: sign replacement, street painting, drainage structure maintenance, and repair of landscape damaged by Winter utility digs. Please let us know if there are any Public Works issues we should be addressing (630-368-5270). Some other useful information:

## SUMMER IRRIGATION SEWER RATE

The Flagg Creek Water Reclamation District recently established a policy for metered water used for irrigation by Oak Brook residents. The Seasonal Irrigation Cap Program restricts the sewer user charge during the seasonal period to a maximum limit of 1.5 x the average "winter" use.

To be eligible for the program, the residential user must complete a Seasonal Irrigation Cap Program Application and submit the application to the District. An application fee of \$20.00 is required for administrative set-up of the cap. Only one application for such cap and meter will be allowed per calendar year per residence. The program gives some flexibility to residents in choosing the time period eligible for the seasonal cap. For more information please visit the Village web site at [www.Oak-Brook.org](http://www.Oak-Brook.org). For businesses, a similar program is available. Contact Public Works Department (630-368-5270), for details.



**"Water conservation requirements can be found in the Village code."**

## SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS

As summer approaches you should keep in mind the water conservation requirements found in our Village code. Landscape watering is permitted as follows:

1. Odd-Numbered Street Addresses: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday \_ six o'clock (6:00) A.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. and six o'clock (6:00) P.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) P.M., provided that newly seeded areas as well as planted sod may be sprinkled at any time on any day for a maximum period of two (2) weeks from the date of installation.
2. Even-Numbered Street Addresses: Wednesday, Friday and Sunday \_ six o'clock (6:00) A.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) A.M. and six o'clock (6:00) P.M. until ten o'clock (10:00) P.M., provided that newly seeded areas as well as planted sod may be sprinkled at any time on any day for a maximum period of two (2) weeks from the date of installation.

Hand-Held Watering Devices: Hand-held watering devices (including watering cans) may be used at any time on any day.

Michael Hulihan  
Director of Public Works &  
Engineering  
(630) 368-5270  
[mhulihan@oak-brook.org](mailto:mhulihan@oak-brook.org)



BY ROBERT KALLIEN

## DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

### First Quarter Building Permits and Inspections

•Permits for three (3) new residential homes were issued. Approximately 40 single-family homes are now in various stages of construction.

•A permit for one (1) residential demolition was issued.

•Permits for 45 residential alterations were issued.

•A total of 129 building permits were issued. This represents an 18 percent increase from first quarter 2013 figures.

•573 building inspections were conducted by Community Development Building Inspectors. This represents a 19 percent increase from first quarter 2013 figures.

•The estimated value of all new construction was \$30,553,650. This represents a 6 percent increase from first quarter 2013 figures.

•Building permit fees collected totaled \$429,706. This represents a 28 percent increase from first quarter 2013 figures.

### Commercial/Office Projects (Current)

## “There are many ongoing improvements underway at Oakbrook Center”

Oakbrook Center – There are many ongoing improvements underway at Oakbrook Center. Work continues on the common areas including landscaping, signage, interior lighting and water features.

- Pirch opened its new 30,000 square foot store last month. This is the first store Pirch has opened outside of California.
- Permits were recently issued for the first two glass pavilions that were included in the approved Planned Development last year.
- Porsche has started a \$250,000 interior alteration project.
- The Coach store is working on approximately \$400,000 of interior renovations.



Robert Kallien  
Director of Community  
Development  
(630) 368-5101  
rkallien@oak-brook.org

- Athleta is nearing completion of its \$500,000+ construction and may be opening later this month.
- Neiman Marcus began its construction in January with \$3.7 million in renovations.
- Lord and Taylor completed its \$3.5 million in renovations this quarter.

Latisys Data Center located on Swift Drive has started its \$10 million renovation.

Le Meridian hotel. The \$21+ million revamp of the 172-room hotel is ongoing. The exterior skin of the building has dramatically changed. Ownership is anticipating being open to the public on July 24, 2014.

### Commercial/ Office Projects (In Planning)

The Oak Brook Court development located at 1500 16th Street will soon be home to two new retail tenants; Binny's and The Great Escape. Binny's will occupy the Container Store space and the Great Escape will occupy the Border's space. With these two new tenants, the center will be now be over 75 percent occupied.

•Staff is working with the John Buck Company to bring a new restaurant; the Urban Barbecue to the Clearwater development.

•The Village Board recently approved a development agreement with the Duchossois Group, to facilitate the redevelopment of the former Follett site located at 1818 Swift Road for a new 270,000 sq.ft. Headquarters for the Chamberlain Group who will relocate to Oak Brook from Elmhurst. This project will also involve the acquisition and demolition of the three small office buildings (Dameritech) that are located at 300-310 Windsor Drive. Upon completion of the new HQ building, Chamberlain anticipates moving at least 750 employees to Oak Brook.

•Jim Nagle, the new owner of the Drake Hotel continues his interior renovation of the facility.

•The Grotto Restaurant located in the Oak Brook Promenade has closed. NAI Hiffman, the owner of the project is working with potential tenants to reoccupy the space.

•Granite Partners property (northeast corner of York and I-88). Several months ago, Lincoln Properties met with Village Staff to discuss the proposed a development of this vacant site for 300-400 apartment units. After discussing this proposal, the Village indicated that due to density, access and other site development issues, it could not support such a development of this size/scale. The developer has now contacted DuPage County about building the project as an unincorporated development. To date, no formal plans have been submitted to the County for review.

# Sports Core Information

BY TREY VANDYKE



This Fourth of July, please leave fireworks to the professionals. Every year there are too many burn injuries involving sparklers and other gunpowder explosives. Sparklers burn at high temperatures (1800 degrees!) and the thin hot wires can cause serious harm—especially in the hands of children. Fireworks not only burn hands and fingers, but damage eyes, faces, ears and bodies. And fireworks lighting up the sky without a clear distance from your home may light the cedar shake roof of your home or neighbor's home on fire. Come to the Taste of Oak Brook instead, and let the professionals light up the sky. Having fun is staying safe!

## SPORTS CORE UPDATE

**"Memberships are still available for purchase."**

Spring came late to the Sports Core this year. However, all outdoor activities are now in full swing. Memberships are still available, so please feel free to call for more information.

Dean Hoskin has joined our staff to supervise recreation at the Oak Brook Bath & Tennis Club. Additionally, we are pleased to note that Greg Spencer has returned as our Head Tennis Professional and that Cindy Jones returns as our Head Swim Coach. Additionally, PGA golf professionals Gary Pinns, Dan Kochevar, Ian Grant, Claudine Boettger, Jeff Kawucha, and John Perna all return as well. All of these staff members are ready, willing, and able to take your sporting life to the next level. Please feel free to contact them to create a plan for your success.

As always we encourage you to use our beautiful clubhouse facilities for your next corporate event, or even a personal event such as a wedding, shower or birthday party. Contact Tammy Perri at (630) 368-6442 for availability and rates.

The Sports Core is the community's backyard. Please come and enjoy it.



Trey VanDyke  
Sports Core Director  
(630) 368-6420  
tvandyke@oak-brook.org

## TASTE OF OAK BROOK



Thursday, July 3, 2014

From 4-9 PM

Fireworks Display at Dusk

Oak Brook Polo Fields

*Join us for Food & Fireworks!*

### Restaurants

Devon Seafood + Steak \* Freshii \* Tuscany  
Labriola Bakery Cafe \* Paul's \* Kona Grill \*  
Shree Restaurant \* Pinstripes \* Gibson's Bar &  
Steakhouse \* Real Urban BBQ

### Entertainment

Sam Fazio  
Breakfast Club  
DJ X

### Kids Activities

Meet Ronald McDonald \* Face Painting  
Oak Brook Park District Activity  
Stilt Walkers \* Balloon Artists \* Petting Zoo

### Additional Information

Onsite parking will be available for \$10/vehicle with additional lots walkable from nearby areas.

Rain date for the fireworks display only is July 4th.

For the latest information  
please visit [www.oak-brook.org](http://www.oak-brook.org)  
or call (630) 368-5005.

Scan to  
learn more  
about the 2014  
Taste of  
Oak Brook.



BY SUE MADORIN

## SPRING CALENDAR

**Saturday, June 28 at 2:00 pm**

### **The History of Polo**

Kathy Maher will present the rules as well as the history of polo in Oak Brook.

**Saturday, July 5 at 2:00 pm**

### **Phil Passen: Old-Time American Music.**

American roots music shines in this program of songs and tunes running the gamut from fast and lively, to slow and lovely, to haunting and plaintive. There will be some familiar folk tunes and some not so familiar, but the beautiful sound and versatility of the dulcimer shine in this captivating performance. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Brook Library

**Thursday, July 10 at 6:30 pm**

### **Alzheimer's Education Program.**

The Alzheimer's Association is coming to the library to give an educational program on Alzheimer's disease. This program focuses on the 10 warning signs of serious memory loss. It includes a basic overview of Alzheimer's disease and covers risk factors, diagnosis, and the benefits of early detection. Don't miss this crucial program.

**Saturday, July 18 at 2:00pm**

### **Scales and Tales**

This education performance encourages participants to touch and ask questions about any of the tame animals brought to the library. This creates a fascinating show, tailored to the audience. Beth Wagner and Emilia Marchan are both professional trainers and animal handlers. They will discuss that gaining knowledge about these animals leads to the truth about them. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Brook Library

**Saturday, August 2 at 2:00 pm**

### **Robyn Viston**

Robyn is a known as an accomplished and popular Chicago area vocalist, pianist, accompanist, as well as a respected piano educator. She has put together a program of standards from Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin and some familiar Broadway tunes! Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Brook Library

**Monday, August 11 at 7:00 pm**

### **The Daydream.**

This music group's performance will consist of original songs from their CD. The songs are fun, engaging and very musical. Attendees can expect an interactive presentation using sing-alongs, props, humor and maybe even some gymnastics. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Brook Library

**Thursday, August 21 at 7:00 pm**

### **The Sandwich Generation: Balancing Aging Parents and Busy Families.**

What happens when your parents start to decline and you are faced with the realization that they need more care than you are capable of providing? Perhaps you are looking at retiring yourself, what should you be doing to prepare? Learn what options are available to address present and future needs. The Senior Resource Alliance of Chicago- land is a panel of experts in the areas of finance, estate planning, housing and health care options. Join us as we discuss the challenges facing the "Sandwich Generation."



## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Oak Brook Library launches its Paws to Read summer reading program for children and Dog Days of Summer for adults on June 2nd. During the next two months, the library will host a range of free activities for children, teens, and adults that encourage and support a love of reading. Participants also can win prizes for reaching their reading goals.

We've planned a wonderful program for kids to make the library a great place to "paws" and discover what's available for their enjoyment. We have recently added 45 video games to our collection. On June 7th, Ac•Rock, an a cappella rock 'n' rock group will entertain courtesy of the Ann Ingrisano Memorial Fund.

Themed events include a K-9 demonstration on Wednesday, June 11th, a Bricks 4 Kidz Leo Event on June 25th, and Scales and Tales animal encounters on July 18th. The Friends of the Oak Brook Public Library have graciously donated, once again, gift cards to Barnes and Nobles as prizes.

There's also a serious side to summer reading. Research has shown that reading over the summer prevents summer reading loss. Studies also indicate students who read recreationally outperformed those who don't. Students read more when they can choose materials based on their own interests.

Our library is committed to lifelong learning and educational enrichment for all families.

Registration starts June 2nd. To learn more about the summer adventure at the library, please call or check out the library's website at [www.oak-brook.org/library](http://www.oak-brook.org/library).



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BY SHARON DANGLES

## FINANCE REPORT

“Studies show a much higher contribution than expected for 2014.”

### Pensions

An actuarial study of the Police Pension Fund and Firefighters' Pension Fund is performed annually in order to monitor the funding progress of the two funds as well as determining the Village's contribution for the coming year. This year, the village hired new actuaries and the studies were performed by Foster & Foster for Police and Eisenberg Associates for Fire.

•In total the Village contributed \$2.3 million to the Police and Fire Pension Funds in 2013.

•The 2014 studies completed resulted in a much higher contribution than expected. Total contribution of \$3,388,085 to police and fire based on the village's actuary reports, which would result in being over budget by \$1,066,605.

•The average funded ratio in surrounding communities (Hinsdale, Elmhurst, Naperville, Wheaton, and Downers Grove) is 67% for Police and 65% for Fire pension plans.

•The funded status of the plans for Oak Brook as of December 31, 2013 is 70% for Police Pension and 56% for Fire Pension.

### What changed from this year to last year?

The village contracted with new actuaries and they came up with a reasonable set of assumptions that differed from the actuary that the village had been utilizing for decades.

The Foster & Foster actuarial report prepared on behalf of the village for the Police Pension Fund shows a total increase of approximately \$300,000 from last year. This is attributed to the following:

•Administrative and expenses of \$31,000 was added to the actuarial calculation, whereas in the prior year, none of these expenses were taken into account by the prior actuary.

•Change in the payroll growth assumption resulted in an increase of \$85,000. Foster & Foster used 2.75% and the prior actuary used 3.75%. According to Foster & Foster, there should be a spread of .50% - 1.00% between the salary increase assumption and the payroll growth assumption, which is why it was set at 2.75%.

•The payroll growth assumption determines how you're paying off your unfunded liability. The higher the rate, the more you are pushing the liability down the road. If the payroll growth assumption was set higher, the village would have an even higher negative amortization and the unfunded liability would continue to grow.

•There were changes made to the marital, retirement and disability assumptions.

The actuarial report for the Fire Pension Fund, provided by Eisenberg Associates, shows a total increase of approximately \$614,000 from last year. This is attributed to the following:

•The annual cost for active employees increased by \$105,000 due to the change in mortality assumptions not reflected on last year's report.

•The cost for retirees, disabled, and change in assumption regarding spousal ages resulted in an increase of \$421,000 not reflected on last year's report.

•Member contributions were \$10,000 less than expected in the prior year due to lower payroll.

•The balance of the increase is due to mid-year interest adjustments.

### How does this affect the Village?

•We can expect the village contributions to increase 2.75% annually going forward.

•For 2014 and 2015, the village can most likely utilize its cash reserves and still be within the six month cash reserve policy.

•In future years the village needs to consider ways to reduce expenditures and/or find new revenue sources.

### Can this pension problem be fixed?

•Pension reform is needed at the State level due to these benefits being mandated by State law (40 ILCS 5 – articles 3 & 4). The Village is a member of the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition.

•Require public safety employees to contribute more toward the cost of their pension.

•Adjust cost-of-living-increases from the current 3 percent so they are “right sized” and not compounded annually.

•Reset the retirement age for public safety employees from 50 to 55.

•Require 35 years of employment to take advantage of maximum pension benefit.

There has been much discussion in the media as it pertains to pensions and the need for pension reform in the State of Illinois. The Village Board will be discussing the pension's unfunded liability and other pertinent factors at a future meeting.



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