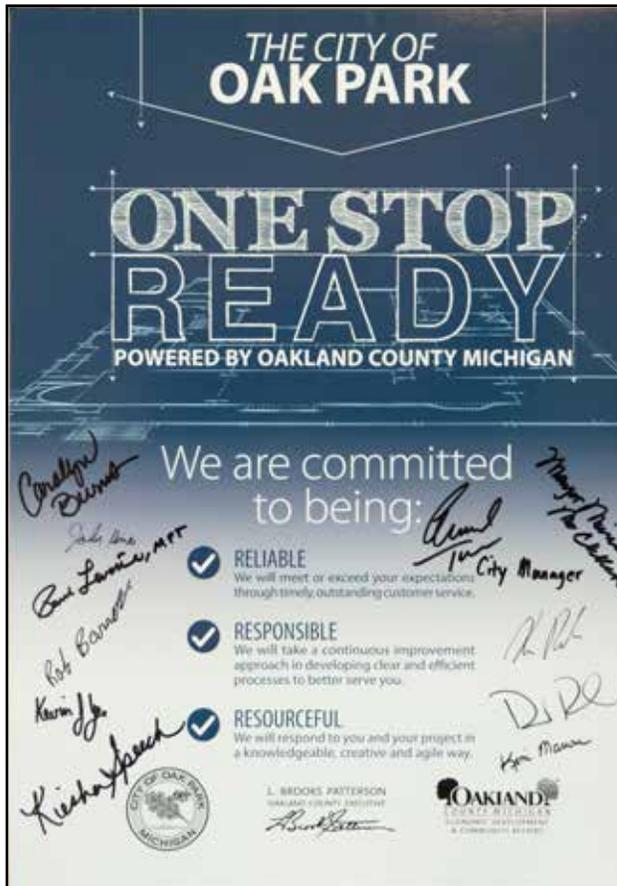




One Stop Ready

Oak Park joins thirteen other local communities with the launch of One-Stop Ready, an economic development program facilitated by Oakland County. The purpose of the program is to capitalize on the community's strengths, refine economic development processes in Oak Park and implement the community's vision. "We're excited to partner with the county and other municipalities that share our goal of maximizing economic growth opportunities," City Manager Erik Tungate commented. "The program focuses on three critical areas that are already priorities in Oak Park: continuous improvement, data-collection and outstanding customer service." The One-Stop Ready program includes academy courses for city leadership in management, investing, community visioning and best practices. To initiate the program, City Manager Tungate and all five members of City Council received a program briefing and signed a Community Support Resolution (shown) as required by the county.



Manager's Monthly Bulletin

Erik Tungate

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

2015 is destined to be an exciting and productive year for the City of Oak Park. Among other things, we have laid plans to fully implement the recommendations

See MANAGER on page 2



Winterfest 2015

Bundle up and come out to play! Oak Park Winterfest returns on Sunday, January 25th, 1-3 PM, at the Oak Park Community Center, located at 14300 Oak Park Blvd. Winterfest 2015 includes horse-drawn sleigh rides, ice skating at the arena, photo booth, an animal

See WINTERFEST on page 5

Winter Tax Payments

The City of Oak Park will accept winter tax payments through February 17, 2015, without penalty. The last day to pay 2014 taxes (summer and winter) to Oak Park will be March 2, 2015.



Manager from page 1

outlined in our strategic economic development strategy, which we completed last year.

We are formalizing plans to create a Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA), which will target Coolidge and include several major streets. Oak Park City Council will appoint board members of the new authority, which will have the ability to recruit new businesses, improve commercial facades, and market our city for new development projects. In addition, we are advancing plans to redevelop several major parcels throughout the city. There will undoubtedly be more concrete initiatives to discuss in the coming days.

This is an exciting time for our community. Over the last few years with your help, we have firmed up our finances,

reformed antiquated systems, and prepared a strategy for growth. The initiatives we take on in 2015 will undoubtedly build on our commitment to excellence.

It is time to turn on the thrusters and blaze a path toward a much more sustainable Oak Park.

Respectfully,

Erik Tungate
City Manager



City Welcomes new Youth Librarian

New Youth Services Librarian Charli Osborne becomes the latest addition to the Oak Park Library staff. "This year we plan to make significant enhancements to our programs for children and teens," commented Library Director Brandon Bowman. "Ms. Osborne brings a wealth of experience and creative energy to her new role." She previously served as Head of Teen Services in Oxford for 14 years. In addition to recent staffing changes, the Library has also installed a brand new self-checkout station for patrons who prefer to avoid counter lines.



Keeping it sharp

Assistant City Manager Yee recently received an email from a resident that opened with: "I would like to bring to your attention some of our OUTSTANDING City workers." The gracious note went on to describe her experience with Public Works employees ("Ed & Joe") who went above-and-beyond to assist her and her son rake leaves for their physically-impaired neighbor. In 2014, City leadership collectively received dozens of such complimentary comments. "I think the difference this past year was that our employees were forced to react to a number of emergencies," City Manager Tungate said. "Between the harsh winter months and the summer floods, our city employees have become quite efficient at making sure our residents remain safe and the city maintains order." In addition to Public Works, Public Safety and Communications, residents also had positive stories to share about Recreation, the Library, and Finance. "We always appreciate community feedback about what we do right or wrong. It keeps us sharp," Mayor Marian McClellan commented. "I'm not surprised at the comments, just very grateful. City Manager Tungate runs a tight ship; and we have some of the most compassionate and professional employees in the region."



Pictured: Councilmember Seligson, Councilmember Burns, City Manager Tungate, Kevin Jones, Mayor McClellan, Councilmember Speech, & Mayor Pro Tem Levine

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

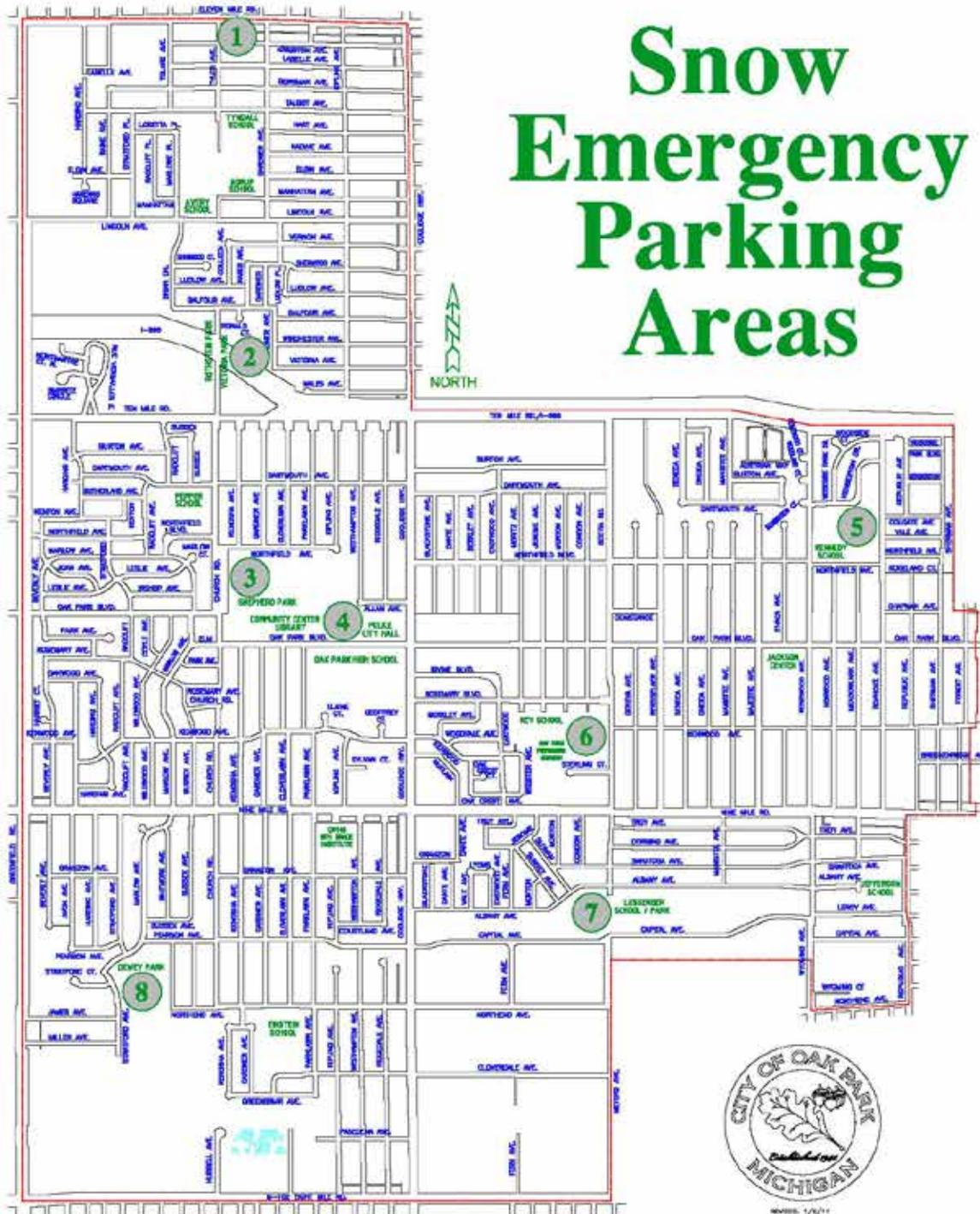
City Manager Erik Tungate and City Council paid tribute to Kevin Jones, Code Officer, and Linda Miller, Public Safety Executive Assistant, in the months of November and December, respectively, for exceptional professional performance.



Pictured: Councilmember Burns, Mayor McClellan, Linda Miller, City Manager Tungate and Councilmember Speech

City of Oak Park

Snow Emergency Parking Areas



- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| ① | Eleven Mile Off-Street Parking Lots | ⑤ | Best Park Parking Lot |
| ② | Victoria Park Parking Lots | ⑥ | Key Park Parking Lot |
| ③ | Shepherd Park Parking Lots | ⑦ | Lessenger Park Parking Lot |
| ④ | City Complex Parking Lots | ⑧ | Dewey Park Parking Lot |



The Green Initiative

The Oak Park Recycling Commission recently completed the launch of the Oak Park Green Business Initiative, a program designed to encourage local businesses to engage in environmentally-friendly practices, such as recycling, water conservation, use of Earth-friendly products, installation of energy-efficient equipment, local buying and providing opportunities for employees to bike to work. One hundred four local companies met the program's criteria as determined by completed surveys and, subsequently, received an Oak Park Green Business Certificate signed by Mayor McClellan to display on site. The City of Oak Park congratulates and celebrates our Green businesses. Thank you for being conscientious and professional! Awardees are listed on the City's web site at ci.oak-park.mi.us.

Volunteers Need for ES Board

The Oak Park Emergency Services Advisory Board is seeking volunteers to assist with basic tasks in the event an emergency is declared within the City of Oak Park. Tasks may consist of the following:

- Disseminating information, literature, supplies to Oak Park residents and business owners
- Identifying citizens in need of assistance and those with disabilities
- Engaging/coordinating volunteer organizations to help augment resources
- Educating fellow neighbors or community members on emergency preparedness

Surveys conducted nationally indicate that approximately 30% of Americans are not adequately prepared to deal with various emergencies. An overwhelming majority rely upon Emergency Responders to provide services and basic supplies. While the various branches of government have a responsibility to provide services during the event of an emergency, it is vitally important that we stress how important it is for everyone to have a role in preparedness and response.

Please refer to the City's website if you are interested in becoming a volunteer and assisting the Oak Park Emergency Services Advisory Board in the event of an emergency/disaster or contact Emergency Services Board Member, Officer Brenna Rouleau with any questions at (248) 691-7504 or by email at brouleau@ci.oak-park.mi.us.



Warming Center Information

Oak Park Community Center
14300 Oak Park Blvd.

As a matter of policy, the City of Oak Park provides residents with temporary shelter in order to prevent injury related to exposure to the elements.

The Warming Center will be operational when the weather forecast calls for low temperatures, or a combination of precipitation, wind chill, wind and temperatures that "feel like" temperatures of 10°F or below.

The Warming Center will operate on days that fit these conditions, Monday-Thursday between the hours of 8AM and 10PM. Hours on Saturday and Sunday will vary and be posted.

WARMING CENTER GUIDELINES

Individuals using the Warming Center must comply with all Community Center rules and policies and adhere to the following guidelines:

- Please bring your own reading material and any other personal items you require. Amplified sound devices are prohibited.
- Please supply your own water and snacks. Vending machines are available on site.
- Please note that there are no medical services provided at the Center.



Residential Snow Removal Policy

REMINDER: Residents must remove snow and ice from all sidewalks adjacent to their homes. When it stops snowing during daylight hours, snow and ice must be removed within 12 hours.

When it stops snowing during nighttime, snow and ice must be removed by 6PM the next day.

Failure to remove snow and/or ice from all sidewalks within the timeframes above may result in a citation or City removal at the homeowner's expense.



"A Royal Ball" for Dads & Daughters

Dance, spin, twirl and whirl! Enjoy an enchanted evening with the little princess in your life. Each couple receives a lovely carnation, sweet treats and the opportunity to participate in special dances guided by Living Arts Dance Co. Music provided by Liquid Entertainment. Special Guest Appearances by Princess Elsa and Princess Anna!

Who: Dads & Daughters
 When: Friday, February 6, 2015, 7-9 PM
 Where: Oak Park Community Center
 Fee: \$10 per person

Winterfest from page 1

petting farm, clown-time with Tootsee & Silly Me, and tasty refreshments (rich cocoa and hearty chili). As a bonus, young artists from the Oak Park School District will display several creative projects. *We'll see you there! For more info, call (248) 691-7555.*



Looking for Friends?

Do you have event-organizing skills, recognize the importance of reading and treasure your local library? If the answer is yes, you're a perfect fit for the Friends of the Oak Park Library. For more information, call (248) 691-7480 or visit www.ci.oak-park.mi.us/library and click on Friends of the Library.



Winter Safety

While we've had less snowfall than last year at this time, the frigid temperatures remind us that winter surely has arrived. Here are some winter tips from our Public Works and Technical & Planning departments:

- Keep track of weather conditions and plan ahead for responses to inclement weather.
- Whenever possible, park your cars in the garage or driveway, allowing snow plows to pass. If needed, see the City web site for the City's designated snow emergency parking locations.
- Don't let kids play in large snow piles which could collapse and cause injury.
- Stand away from snow plows, which generally travel fast (about 22 MPH) and throw heavy snow.
- Remove snow and ice from all sidewalks adjacent to your home.
- Shovel driveway snow right after street plows while it's soft enough to move.
- Always shovel snow to the sides, *not in the streets.*

Questions? Call DPW at (248) 691-7497. (Please do not interrupt plow drivers.)



2015 City Calendars are in!

This year's Oak Park Community Calendar contains some of the most vivid photos yet! Each month displays a collection of precious memories from the City's annual, special events. Community calendars were hand-delivered to every residential mailbox in the 48237 zip code area in early December. Those residents who may not have received one should stop by City Hall and request a free calendar at the City Clerk's office.

Mayor
 Marian McClellan
Mayor Pro Tem
 Paul Levine
Council Members
 Michael Seligson
 Carolyn Burns
 Kiesha Speech
City Manager
 Erik Tungate

ECRWSS

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OAK PARK BRANCH, January - February 2015 - 6

www.ci.oak-park.mi.us



- Thursday, January 1**
New Year's Day
 City Offices/Library Closed
- Thurs. - Sat. Jan. 1-3**
 Trash Pick-Up Delayed 1 Day
- Monday, January 5**
City Council Mtg.
 7PM @ City Hall
- Monday, January 5**
Non-Resident Shelter Rental Reservations begin
- Thursday, January 8**
Ethnic Advisory Commission Meeting 7PM
- Thursday, January 8**
Independence Day Commission Meeting 7PM
- Friday, January 9**
Brush Pick-Up (holiday trees) Ends
- Monday, January 12**
Winter Recreation Classes Begin
 Active class listings online:
<https://apm.activecommunities.com/oakparkrecreation>
- Monday, January 12**
Emergency Services Council Meeting 7PM
- Monday, January 12**
Planning Commission Meeting 7:30PM
- Weds., January 14**
Friends of the Library @ 7PM
- Sunday, January 18**
 Library Closed
- Thursday, January 18**
Martin Luther King Day
 City Offices/Library Closed

- Tuesday, January 20**
City Council Mtg.
 7PM @ City Hall
- Tuesday, January 20**
Library Board of Directors Meeting 7PM
- Weds., January 21**
OPAACC Meeting @ City Hall
- Weds., January 21**
Recreation Advisory Board Meeting 7PM
- Sunday, January 25**
Winterfest 1-3PM @ Comm. Ctr.

- Monday, February 2**
City Council Mtg.
 7PM @ City Hall
- Thursday, February 5**
Independence Day Commission Meeting 7PM
- Friday, February 6**
Daddy Daughter Dance 7PM
 Register: 691-7555
- Monday, February 9**
Emergency Services Council Meeting 7PM
- Monday, February 9**
Planning Commission Meeting 7:30PM
- Wednesday, February 11**
OPAACC Community Sing
 5:30-7PM Free @ Library

- Wednesday, February 11**
Friends of the Library @ 7PM
- Thursday, February 12**
Ethnic Advisory Commission Meeting 7PM
- Monday, February 16**
City Council Mtg.
 7PM @ City Hall
- Tuesday, February 17**
Winter Taxes Due
- Wednesday, February 18**
Beautification Advisory Commission Meeting 7PM

- Thursday, February 19**
Recycling Commission Meeting 7PM
- Tuesday, February 24**
Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting 7:30PM
- Monday, March 2**
Last day to pay 2014 taxes to City
- Thursday, March 5**
Summer Job Applications Due
- Sunday, March 8**
Begin Daylight Savings



Help Wanted: Summer Workers

Are you looking for a job that incorporates splashing, playing or hiking? The Oak Park Recreation Department currently seeks to hire summer employees for the following positions: Lifeguards, Day Camp Counselors, and Park Rangers. Applications may be obtained at the Oak Park Community Center and returned to Human Resources in City Hall, located at 14000 Oak Park Blvd. Camp Counselor applicants must be at least 18 years old. Pool worker applicants must be age 15 or older and have a lifeguard certification. Applications are now being accepted through Thursday, March 5, 2015.
Questions? Call 248-691-7555 or visit www.ci.oak-park.mi.us/Recreation.

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 Department of Communications & Public Information
 14000 Oak Park Blvd., Oak Park, MI 48237
 Joscelyn Davis, Director
 Jennifer Howard, Media & Communications Specialist
 Letters to the editor: jdavis@ci.oak-park.mi.us
 For past issues: www.ci.oak-park.mi.us/public_information