



Pictured: Kimberly Marrone



Pictured: Julie Hall

Oak Park Welcomes New Dept. Heads

In June, Kimberly Marrone and Julie Hall joined the executive management team as the City's new Community & Economic Development Manager and Director of Recreation, respectively. Manager Marrone most recently served as Executive Director of the Imlay City Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and before this as the Executive Director of the Imlay City Area Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of the Michigan Economic Developers Association, the International Council of Shopping Centers and Rotary International. In, both, 2012 and 2013, she was recognized by University of Michigan-Dearborn iLabs with the eCities Best Practice Award. "I look forward to improving the business climate in Oak Park and to building a strong sense of community for our businesses, residents and visitors," Manager Marrone commented. Director Hall brings a wealth of experience to Oak Park from her former position as the City of Ferndale's Director of Recreation. She earned a degree in Exercise Science and Physical Education from Michigan State University, where she also played on the softball team; and she currently holds memberships in, both, the National and Michigan Recreation and Park Associations. Director Hall added: "I believe the most important role I play is in creating community in Oak Park through people, parks and programs."



Chore OLHSA

The City of Oak Park is pleased to announce a new collaboration with Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency (OLHSA), which will now manage the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. "One of the benefits of the partnership is

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Manager's Monthly Bulletin

Erik Tungate

Stabilize. Grow. Strategize. Prosper. These are the four themes I have outlined in our new budget for fiscal year 2014-15 and our projected budget for fiscal year 2015-16.

Stabilize. Thanks to the continuing

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Summer Reading @ the Oak Park Library

Summer reading is in full swing at the Library, and there's still time for anyone who would like to partake in this year's programs.

We have programs adapted for children, teens and adults.

Please visit the Library for all the details!

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CityofOakPark

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generosity of our amazing residents, the millage vote in November of 2012 that created the Public Safety Retirement Fund has allowed us to hold off further reductions in staff and City resources. We will also see the monumental savings from the changes we made to our employee health care plans in this year's budget.

Grow. Our community & economic development function is attracting new businesses and retaining the ones we already have. Continued funding for this initiative will help us gain momentum and continue to rebuild our local economy.

Strategize. Every decision we make and every initiative we pursue has strategic thinking at its core. With the heart of our operation centered on exceptional customer service, we will use our limited resources to work smarter, not harder.

Prosper. It is not enough to balance our budget. We plan to move beyond the break-even point and begin to thrive.

The Great Recession of 2008, along with funding cuts from Lansing, continues to affect our general fund budget. That said, we have maintained a healthy general fund balance for the last two fiscal years. This year's general fund balance will give us the ability to adjust our operation should an unforeseen circumstance occur.

The following are the main highlights of our new budget:

- Stable, undesignated general fund balance against expenditures of 12.2% ("Rainy Day Fund")
- Hired four additional public safety officers
- Focused on community & economic development

initiatives

- Investment and maintenance of public infrastructure and equipment
- Significant healthcare savings
- Enhanced building and code enforcement efforts
- Expansion of recreation resources through an inter-local government agreement for shared services with the City of Ferndale
- Completed first Two-Year Budget (includes FY 2015-16 Projected)

The programs outlined in this year's budget document are attainable, reasonable and worthy of your serious consideration. Although this year marked another difficult budget process due to continuing decline in property taxable values, further loss of State revenue sharing, and increasing legacy costs, this budget will allow the City to continue to provide outstanding services for our citizens. I hope you share my confidence for what the future holds for the City of Oak Park.

If you would like to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (248) 691-7410.

As always, I welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Respectfully,



Erik Tungate
City Manager



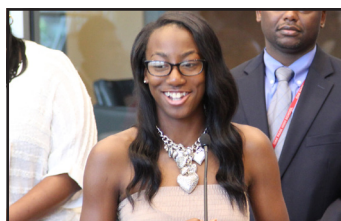
Oak Park Celebrates OPHS

City Council recognized the outstanding Oak Park High School Girls and Boys Track & Field Teams, which took first and second place, respectively, in the Division One State Championship. In honor of the teams' achievements, the City of Oak Park will display congratulatory signs in two, highly-visible locations in the city, as well as on the high school campus.

City Council honored dynamic Oak Park High School senior Cynthia Lockwood for earning the 2014 Gates Millennium Scholarship Award.



Pictured: OPHS Track Teams & Council

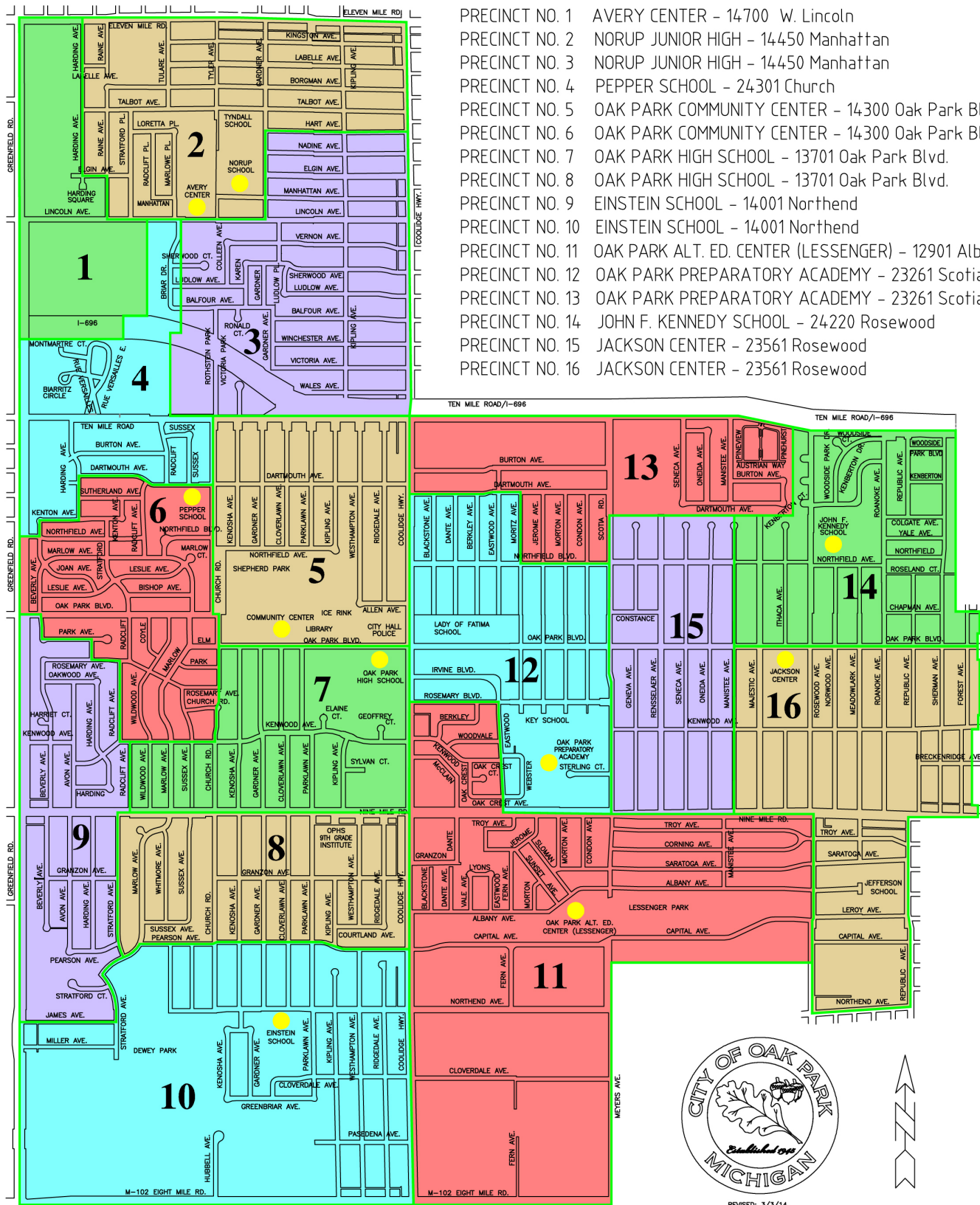


Pictured: Cynthia Lockwood

Election News

2014 Oak Park Elections: Tuesday, August 5th and Tuesday, November 4th. ▪ New (red, white & blue) Voter ID cards were mailed to all registered voters in Oak Park. Please note updated voting precincts. ▪ Last day to register for the August Primary is July 7, 2014. ▪ Registration deadline for the General Election is November 6, 2014. ▪ Absentee ballot applications for August and November elections are available in the City Clerk's office. Registered voters on the permanent absentee ballot list will automatically receive applications for both elections. Completed applications required for any resident requesting an absentee ballot. ▪ Sample ballots for the Primary Election in November available on the City's web site. Questions? Contact the City Clerk at (248) 691-7544 or at ssummer@ci.oak-park.mi.us.

CITY OF OAK PARK VOTING PRECINCTS



REVISED: 3/3/14



Chore

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that all Oak Park seniors are now eligible for increased, free home care services through the Chore program, such as snow removal and lawn care,” commented Robert Barrett, Director of Oak Park’s Technical and Planning Department. OLHSA will also screen seniors to determine other needed programs, such as OLHSA’s Home Injury Control Program that installs bathroom safety devices; the refrigerator replacement program funded by DTE; or the Great Rake yard clean-up project, offered through Faith in Action. To learn more about the program, call (248) 691-7450.



Finance Counter Temporarily Closes

The customer service counters in the Treasury and Water & Sewer departments will be closed during regular business hours on September 4 – 8, 2014. “Oak Park’s Finance Department will undergo a computer system upgrade that will result in significantly more efficient operations,” Finance Director Gail Credit commented. Although the departments will not be equipped to accept cash payments or phone calls on those days, residents can still pay their bills by using one of three methods: mail, the drop box in front of City Hall or through the City’s web site at www.ci.oak-park.mi.us/finance_department/index.html to make online payments 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

“Residents should also rest assured that we won’t be enforcing any water shut-offs during those five days,” added Director Credit. “We look forward to offering continued, excellent customer service to our community from our new and improved system and appreciate everyone’s patience while departments are closed.” City Hall will remain open with resident access to the City Clerk’s office; however, the Clerk’s office will not be accepting payments for Treasury or Water & Sewer. The departments and all counters will reopen at 8AM on Tuesday, September 9th.

Employee Monthly Recognition



Pictured: Finance Department, City Manager Tungate, and Council

The Oak Park City Manager and City Council recently recognized the entire Finance Department for excellent coordination and presentation of the City’s FY 2014-2015 budget. The City’s leadership also paid tribute to Nathan Izydorek, for exceptional execution in his role as a Technical & Planning Rental Inspector.



Pictured: Nathan Izydorek



Community Farm Stand Returns

The Oak Park Community Farm Stand reopens for its second summer beginning July 10th through September 25th. Shoppers will be able to purchase garden-fresh produce from local farmers every Thursday from 3:30PM – 6PM in front of Oak Park's Community Center. The following payments will be accepted: Cash, Mobile EBT/SNAP services, Project FRESH/Senior Market FRESH, and Double Up Food Bucks incentive program (for every \$20 spent on EBT card, an additional \$20 is given in free tokens for fresh fruit and vegetable purchase). If you have questions or would like to participate as a vendor of fresh or prepared foods, flowers, baked goods, or arts and crafts, contact Kimberly Marrone at (248) 691-7404 or by email at kmarrone@ci.oak-park.mi.us.



SummerFest 2014

Building upon the success of last year's one-day art fair and summer splash event, the City of Oak Park and its partners - the Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commission and the Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce - will host the first, annual SummerFest on August 2nd and 3rd at the Oak Park Community Center from 11AM – 5PM. The free, weekend event will include an indoor Art & Craft Fair, an outdoor Taste of Oak Park, ethnically-diverse performers and inflatables for the kids. The community pool and putt-putt golf course will also be open to the public on Saturday only. For questions about the event or to inquire about vendor participation, contact Kimberly Marrone at (248) 691-7404 or kmarrone@ci.oak-park.mi.us or visit www.oakparksummerfest.com.



Pictured: Build On students who helped with Arbor Day 2014

Build On Program

The City of Oak Park will once again partner with Oak Park High School's Build On program, which is designed to provide students with an opportunity to give back to the community while earning school credit. The partnership began in 2008 when Build On students started a garden project in the high school courtyard. The City supplied tools, rakes, compost and wheelbarrows, while the students provided manpower and a vision. "It's important that we engage students in activities that require them to think and solve complex problems," commented Leah Ouellet, OPHS Build On Program Coordinator. Over the years, students have taken on several important projects, such as park clean-up and community gardens. "It's a pleasure to work with the students because they really seem to care," said Department of Public Works' Gary Shermetaro. "This year, they took on trash and litter projects, as well as neighborhood blight. Our next project will involve students in restoring some of our park equipment." Build On is a privately-funded, international program that is only present in eight metropolitan areas in the U.S. and eight countries. Oak Park is the first and only suburban city to participate.

Trash carts going fast

The City of Oak Park has a few 95-gallon trash carts remaining for purchase for \$60 each (including delivery). Interested residents should visit the Water Department in City Hall, located at 14000 Oak Park Blvd., or call (248) 691-7470.



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, July-August 2014 -6

www.ci.oak-park.mi.us

Tuesday, July 1

Summer 2014 Taxes Issued

July 3 - 4

*City Offices Closed
(Independence Day)*

Friday, July 4

*Independence Day Parade
& Fun Day @ Shepherd Park
Mayor's 5K Run - 7AM
Parade - 11AM
Fun Day - 10AM-3PM*

July 4 - 5

*Trash Collection Delayed by
One Day*

July 4 - 6

*Library Closed
(Independence Day)*

Monday, July 7

*Last Day to Register to Vote for
Primary Election*

Monday, July 7

*City Council Mtg.
7PM @ City Hall*

Wednesday, July 9

*Friends of the Library
7PM @ Library*

July 10 - Sept. 25

*Thursday Farm Stand begins
3:30-6PM @ Comm. Ctr.*

Thursday, July 17

*OPAACC 3rd Thursday
Artist Talk - Eileen Toro
6:30PM @ Library • Free*

July 17 - 20

City-Wide Garage Sale

community happenings

Monday, July 21

*City Council Mtg.
7PM @ City Hall*

Wednesday July 23

*OPAACC Meeting
7PM @ City Hall*

Thursday, July 24

*Oak Park Youth Soccer League
Registration Deadline
Contact Rec. (248) 691-7555*

Thursday, July 31

*DIA Inside|Out Kickoff
@ Shepherd Park 6PM*

Thursday, July 31

*Movie Night on Hamilton
Hill in Shepherd Park 6PM*

Saturday, August 2

*City Clerk Office Open for
Absentee Voting 10AM-2PM*

Sat. Aug. 2 - Sun Aug. 3

*Oak Park Summer Fest
11AM - 5PM*

Monday, August 4

*City Council Mtg.
7PM @ City Hall*

Tuesday, August 5

*Primary Election
8AM-8PM*

Tuesday, August 5

*National Night Out
6-8PM @ Shepherd Park*

Wednesday, August 13

*Friends of the Library
7PM @ Library*

August 14 - September 18

*DIA Inside|Out Bike Tours
6:30PM Meet @ JCC*

Monday, August 18

*City Council Mtg.
7PM @ City Hall*

Thursday, August 21

*DIA Inside|Out Walking Tour
6PM Meet in front of Library*

Wednesday August 27

*OPAACC Meeting
7PM @ City Hall*

Sunday, August 31

Library Closed (Labor Day)

Monday, September 1

*Labor Day
City Offices Closed*

Tuesday, September 2

*City Council Mtg.
7PM @ City Hall*

September 4 - 8

*Treasury, Water & Sewer
Closed to Public for computer
system upgrades*



DIA in Oak Park

As a part of the Detroit Institute of Arts' Inside|Out program, the City of Oak Park will display 10 masterpiece reproductions throughout the city from the end of July until October. A kick-off event for the program will take place in Shepherd Park on July 31st during Movie Night in the Park. On Thursday, August 21st, the Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commission will host a DIA-led "walk & talk" art tour, starting from the Oak Park Library at 7PM. There will be additional events to showcase the artwork project throughout the summer.

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