



## Here Comes the Parade

Dust off your lawn chairs and wave your flags high! It's time for the City of Oak Park's annual Independence Day Parade and Fun Day on July 4th. The day begins with a "shotgun start" at 8AM for the Mayor's 5K Run, followed by the annual Youth Assistance Pancake Breakfast (in Shelter One). The Parade launches at 11AM northbound from Coolidge and 9 Mile Rd., then winds past the new City Hall and ends at Shephard Park, where a series of special activities will be held for the remainder of the afternoon. The municipal pool will also be available for open swim from 1-8PM. For more information about the Mayor's Run or other events, please call (248) 691-7555.

The Oak Park Recreation Department is looking for the following Oak Park residents to take part in this year's Independence Day Parade on July 4th:

- Super seniors, 100 years old or more, with a talent for waving from cars!
- Kids with a passion for bike-decorating and leading parades!
- Block clubs with bold signs, comfortable sneakers and lots of enthusiasm!

*If you or someone you know fits one of these descriptions, please contact the Recreation Department at (248) 691-7555.*

***"I would just like to thank the city for adding on to the code enforcement staff. They are really making a huge difference in the appearance of the city. I drive down 9 Mile every day to work and can see the results of their efforts."***

– Quote from a resident on Facebook

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## Oak Park Open for Business

"We want everyone to know that Oak Park is open for business," Mayor Marian McClellan announced at a recent City Council meeting following a presentation from Hamilton Anderson, the firm hired by the City to produce Oak Park's first, comprehensive economic

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## Manager's Monthly Bulletin

**Erik Tungate**

Spring has finally sprung, which means the City's budget season is in full swing. For the last several years, we struggled to maintain our core services while market conditions deteriorated. Notwithstanding another market crash

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## Manager from page 1

or further legislative revenue reductions from the State of Michigan, next year's budget is projected to represent the City's final revenue losses. That means that we can expect to see a bottoming-out affect in subsequent years to include inflationary growth patterns.

While all of this may seem like financial "mumbo jumbo," it is important to remember that the budget is critical to our ability to provide essential core services. Among many priorities, your safety is paramount. We have a statutory responsibility to provide public safety and emergency medical services. We take very seriously our responsibility to serve as your first responders.

Given the economic challenges, many of you have asked why we instituted an economic development function. The answer is simple: we recognized the importance of being proactive in our approach to addressing diminishing revenues. We knew that we had to begin formulating a plan to attract new businesses that would grow our tax base.

Our strategy is to put Oak Park on solid footing. These measures will pay off in the long run; and, truthfully, we still cannot achieve success without our residents' help.

For this reason, I put out a request for action. Whether it is voting against the personal property tax exemption for

businesses on the August ballot or getting involved in recruiting new businesses to Oak Park, we need your help to move this great community forward. The fact is that no one is coming to our aid from Lansing and City administration can only do so much. After all, it is you, our residents, who set the agenda and establish our priorities through your elected representation on city council.

When we speak with one voice and commit ourselves to action, we see the ground move beneath our feet. Our budgetary challenges then become a speck of the past, a fading memory that made us stronger and gave us the unprecedented opportunity to overcome our trials.

This is a serious call to action. Let the coming of spring serve as a reminder that those tough years are behind us and a new season has arrived.

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



## City Manager Awarded for Excellence

Oak Park City Manager Erik Tungate recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the International City/County Management Association. Mr. Tungate is one of over 1,300 local government management professionals in the nation currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program. "Dan Fitzpatrick, who served as city manager in Oak Park from 1993-2003, also received the ICMA certification," commented City Council Member Mike Seligson. "It's a distinguished accomplishment. Oak Park is very fortunate to have had past and present administrative leadership with such a prestigious designation." ICMA's mission is to create excellence in local governance by promoting professional management worldwide and increasing the proficiency of appointed chief administrative officers, assistant administrators, and other employees who serve local governments and regional entities around the world.

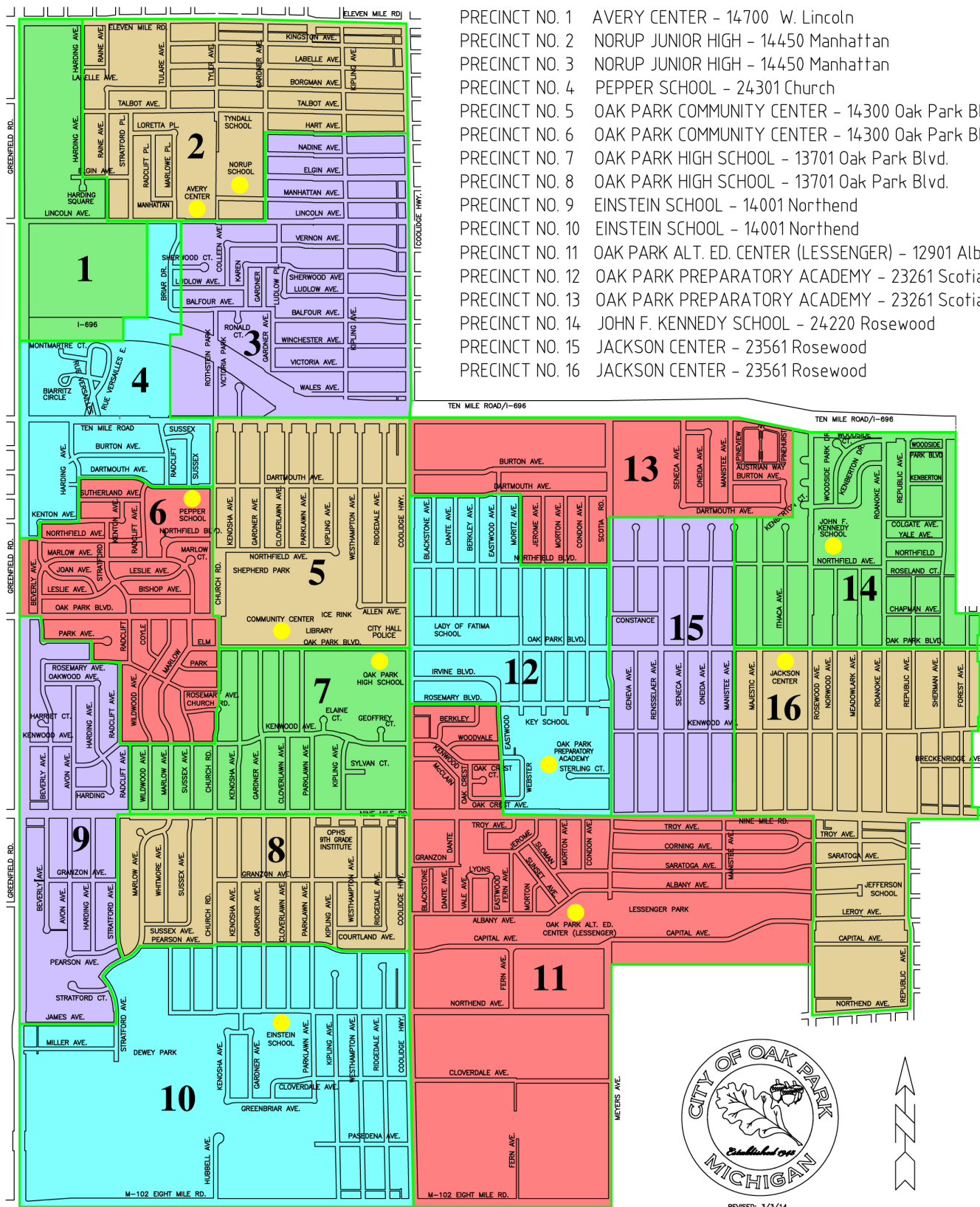


## Wanted: Election Workers

The Oak Park City Clerk's Office currently seeks citizens interested in working the election polls in Oak Park on August 5, 2014, and November 4, 2014. Election Inspectors work from 6AM until, approximately, 8:30PM on Election Day. Election Inspectors earn \$150 for the day and must attend the required training prior to working an election. Each worker must be a Michigan resident, at least 16 years of age on the day of the election, and a US citizen. Anyone 18 years of age or older must be a registered voter in Michigan. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-691-7542. Applications are available on the Oak Park webpage at [www.ci.oak-park.mi.us](http://www.ci.oak-park.mi.us) or by visiting the City Clerk's Office.



# CITY OF OAK PARK VOTING PRECINCTS



REVISED: 3/3/14



## Business from page 1

development plan. The firm held a series of community conversation workshops over the last several months in which residents and other critical stakeholders were invited to share their visions of a prosperous, business-thriving Oak Park.

“We’ve made several changes to the way we operate in order to demonstrate that we are, indeed, business-friendly,” City Manager Erik Tungate said. “Our Technical and Planning offices now have expanded hours, and we hired three, additional full-time employees to increase our capacity to perform inspections and enforce code.” The Technical and Planning Department, which serves as a first point of contact for business owners seeking to operate in Oak Park, is now open Monday through Thursday, 8AM– 5PM. “It’s our objective to make it as easy as possible for business owners and contractors to transact here in Oak Park, as well as for residents who choose to invest in their properties,” added City Manager Tungate. At press time, the City planned to unveil the economic development strategy during a regular meeting of the City Council on May 19, 2014, at 7PM.



## Shades of Pink Zoo Walk Recap

On a sunny, Saturday morning in April, the City of Oak Park stepped up and out to support the Shades of Pink Foundation’s Walk at the Zoo, an event held at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak designed to raise funds to assist women from the region, who struggle financially with expenses related to breast cancer.

“This is an extremely important cause, which I am proud to support on behalf of Oak Park,” commented Mayor Marian McClellan, who, along with City Manager Erik Tungate, led a team of walkers. Oak Park served as a silver sponsor of the event. “Our hope is that this event will be successful this year and that the City of Oak Park can make an even greater showing next year.”



## Election Inspectors Needed

The Clerk’s Office is looking for Election Inspectors to work upcoming elections. Election Inspectors will receive \$150.00 for the day, for additional information and how to obtain an application contact the Clerk’s Office at 248-691-7544 or you can download the application from the city’s website:

[www.ci.oak-park.mi.us](http://www.ci.oak-park.mi.us)

**The deadline for applications is May 30, 2014.**

## Employee Monthly Recognition



*Pictured L-R: City Manager Tungate, Mayor McClellan, George Simmons, George Burns, & Timothy Vancil*

The City Manager, City Council and the Public Safety Department recently honored Timothy Vancil, George Burns and George Simmons for outstanding service in their roles as Parking Enforcement Volunteers. City leaders also recognized Josiaf Nissan for exceptional performance in the Department of Public Works. “We have an amazing community,” City Manager Erik Tungate said. “From our loyal employees to our dedicated residents - we are very grateful for the pride we all bring to Oak Park.”



*Pictured L-R: City Manager Erik Tungate, Josiaf Nissan and Mayor Marian McClellan*





*Pictured: Prentice Gardner(L) & MRPA President, Derek Smith(R)*



*Pictured: Anthony Simmons(L) & MRPA President, Derek Smith(R)*

## Great Coaches Appreciated

Two, Oak Park sports enthusiasts earned Coach-of-the-Year recognition in March from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) in Lansing. Anthony Simmons received the 2014 Soccer Coach of the Year award; and Prentice Gardner was honored as the 2014 Basketball Coach of the Year. Congratulations to our own, local superheroes!



## April Showers Bring May Flowers

Nothing says spring like a beautiful bouquet of flowers! The Oak Park Beautification Advisory Commission hosts its annual flower sale on Sunday, May 25, 2014, at the Community Center. Shoppers will find annuals for \$10/flat, along with a variety of hanging baskets, porch pots, and other flowers. For those who like to cook (or just eat!), there will even be some fresh vegetables for sale.



## Swim Time

True fact: 75% of planet Earth is made up of water. So, can you swim? If not, the Oak Park Recreation Department offers swimming lessons this summer for all levels beginning in late June. The municipal pool opens to all swimmers on June 14th – August 16th (including July 4th). Hours of operation are: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1 – 8PM; Tuesday and Thursday 1 – 6PM; and Saturday 1 – 6PM, including a free mini-golf pass with admission. Sundays are reserved for private rentals only. Daily and season passes are open to residents and non-residents. For more info, please visit the Oak Park Family Fun Guide at [www.oakpark-mi.com/recreation](http://www.oakpark-mi.com/recreation) (pages 10-11).



## Drop-in Everyday with the 50-Up Club

Have you noticed there's something happening every day at the Oak Park Community Center? If you haven't, it's time to take notice! (50-Up membership required)

- Monday: Quilting Club - 10:30AM
- Tuesday: Water Color Class - 1PM  
Scrapbooking - 1-4PM
- Wednesday: Weekly Blood Pressure - 10-11AM  
Bingo - Noon  
Scrabble Club - 1PM
- Thursday: Pickleball - 11:30AM  
Mahjong - 12:30PM  
Bid Whist - 1PM
- Saturday: Tennis - 10AM

Contact Oak Park Seniors for more info: (248) 691-7577

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

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OAK PARK BRANCH, May-June 2014 -6

[www.ci.oak-park.mi.us](http://www.ci.oak-park.mi.us)

#### Thursday, May 15

*OPAACC Family "Make & Take" Cultural Craft Night*  
6:30PM @ Library • Free

#### Monday, May 19

*City Council Mtg.*  
7PM @ City Hall

#### Tuesday, May 20

*Beautification Comm. Mtg*  
7PM @ Community Ctr.

#### Thursday, May 22

*Ethnic Advisory Committee Meeting @ Comm. Ctr.*

#### Sunday, May 25

*Annual Flower Sale*  
10AM-5PM @ Comm. Ctr.

#### Monday, May 26

*City Offices Closed*  
(Memorial Day)

#### Wednesday, March 26

*Oak Park Arts & Cultural Commission Meeting*  
@ City Hall

#### May 29 - 31

*Trash Collection delayed one day due to holiday*

#### Sunday, June 1

*Community Clean Up Day*  
8AM-noon, RSVP to DPW for locations (248) 691-7497

#### Monday, June 2

*City Council Mtg.*  
7PM @ City Hall

#### June 6 - 15

*Haul Your Own Junk Away Days* @ Ice Arena Parking Lot

## community happenings

#### Wednesday, June 11

*Friends of the Library*  
7PM @ Library

#### Saturday, June 14

*Flag Day*

#### Saturday, June 14

*Municipal Pool OPENS!*  
1-6PM

#### Sunday, June 15

*Father's Day*

#### Monday, June 16

*First Day of Summer Camp!*

#### Monday, June 16

*City Council Mtg.*  
7PM @ City Hall

#### Thursday, June 19

*OPAACC Mosaic Youth Theatre Singers*  
6:30PM @ Library • Free

#### June 19 - 22

*City-Wide Garage Sale*

#### Friday, June 20

*Art Fair Artist & Craft Vendor Deadline for Oak Park Summer Fest 8/1-8/2*  
**OPAACC**

[http://www.oakpark-mi.com/2014art\\_craft\\_fair\\_application.pdf](http://www.oakpark-mi.com/2014art_craft_fair_application.pdf)

#### Wednesday, June 25

*Oak Park Arts & Cultural Commission Meeting*  
@ City Hall

#### Thursday, June 26

*Ethnic Advisory Committee Meeting @ Comm. Ctr.*

#### Friday, July 4

*Independence Day Parade & Fun Day*

#### Monday, July 7

*Last day to register to vote in the August 2014 Primary Election*



## Community Clean Up Day Returns

Grab your gloves and pitch in to help keep Oak Park beautiful! On June 1, 2014, 8AM - noon, City employees and community volunteers will join together for Community Clean Up Day. "Our main focus will be picking up litter in common areas," Assistant City Manager Kevin Yee shared. "This is an annual event initiated by our employees who really wanted to make a tangible contribution to the community. We welcome any and all residents who would like to join us." To volunteer, contact Rocco Fortura for details via email [rfortura@ci.oak-park.mi.us](mailto:rfortura@ci.oak-park.mi.us) or phone (248) 691-7497.

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