



Manager's Monthly Bulletin

Erik Tungate

I hope you had a wonderful summer. As the temperature begins to cool off in most of Michigan, it is still heating up in Oak Park!

As you may have noticed, we just moved into our new city hall/public
See MANAGER on page 2



Pet Vaccine Clinic to Return

All About Animals Rescue is making a house call! On Saturday, October 5th, 10 AM – 2 PM, the City of Oak Park will host a pet health clinic in the Community Center, located at 14300 Oak Park Boulevard. The animal care will be provided by All
See ANIMALS on page 2



New City Hall: Open for Business

On August 19th, the Gerald E. Naftaly Municipal Complex officially opened its doors to the public. The 43,000-sq-ft, city hall facility now serves as the new home of the offices of the Mayor and Council, City Manager, City Clerk, Finance (Assessing, Treasury and Water), Communications & Public Information, Information Technology and Human Resources. For the time being, Public Safety will remain in the former building (next door) until later in the fall, which will allow the department to facilitate a smooth transition.

“Several City staff employees took the lead on this successful construction project,” commented City Manager Erik Tungate. “While there are many impressive visible elements, such as a 46-foot oculus at the entrance, a modern building design and spacious and modern Council chambers, many infrastructure efficiencies may not be seen, but will be felt in cost-reductions for the City.”

“Residents will be able to recognize some of the technology upgrades right away, such as electronic information centers in the lobby that provide up-to-date information,” City Engineer Kevin Yee commented. Director Yee oversaw design and construction of the new building, which includes several cost-saving and environmentally-friendly elements, such as LED street lights, energy efficient interior lighting with motion sensors, and a geothermal HVAC system for heating and cooling.

The reconfigured City of Oak Park campus also includes the Community
See CITY HALL on page 3

Like us on Facebook



CityofOakPark

Follow us on Twitter



CityofOakPark

The inaugural City Council meeting in the *New City Hall* is **Tuesday, September 3, 2013**, at 7 PM. (Council meetings are regularly scheduled on the first and third Monday of each month. Due to the Labor Day holiday, the first September meeting will be held on Tuesday.)

Coming soon: City Hall Open House
Event details will follow in the October edition of the Branch

Manager from page 1

safety building located at 14000 Oak Park Blvd. The new facility has several features that will result in more efficient services for our residents, while also saving the City money in the long run.

The new city hall/public safety complex was an extremely challenging project, which required many months of planning and development. Thanks to you – our residents, who invested in this venture – we were able to secure financing to construct the new building and complete the rehabilitation of, both, the library and community center. As such, you will be pleased to learn that the full project has been completed on time and within budget.

While there are many amazing aspects to the new building, some of the most impressive features literally lie just below the surface. The state-of-the-art city hall building is heated and cooled by a geothermal system, and the parking lot is lit with LED lighting. These operational enhancements allow us to save money, while demonstrating a commitment to the environment.

For several years the City and the 45th District Court shared space in the former city hall building. The City operated in approximately 23,000 square feet; and the court functioned in about 13,000 square feet. While city hall has moved next door, the City is still obligated to maintain the building for the court, which will continue to be housed

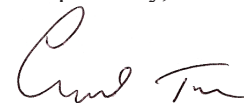
there. We are currently in the planning stages of building upgrades to the old city hall property so that the court can operate as efficiently and cost effectively as possible.

The new city hall is more than just a building. It represents another opportunity for us to move our city in a new direction. In previous publications I have outlined the ways in which our economic development efforts and our renewed operating plan have given the City new life.

A public open house is being planned for October. Please look for more information about the date and time in the next newsletter, on our cable stations (Comcast OPTV 15 and 16), Community e-Blasts (emails)*, Facebook and Twitter. I look forward to having you join me in the fall to check out your new city hall complex in person.

Your support is greatly appreciated. As always, I welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Respectfully,



Erik Tungate
City Manager



**Follow us on Facebook and Twitter and sign up for electronic newsletters by sending your email request to oak-park@ci.oak-park.mi.us.*

Tax Relief Program

If you or other Oakland County residents you know are struggling to make property tax payments, a recently-launched state program may be able to provide some relief. The Step Forward Michigan Loan Recovery Program for Property Tax Assistance, which is organized by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), offers individual, eligible homeowners up to \$30,000 in federal funds to pay delinquent property taxes to avoid foreclosure.

“It’s no secret that the entire state of Michigan has been significantly affected by the economy’s downward spiral in recent years,” Oak Park Mayor Marian McClellan commented. “This program provides a level of hope. Oak Park residents who need help should definitely take advantage of it.”

The Step Forward Michigan program was developed when the state received \$498.6 million in federal funding to help in the fight against home foreclosures. For more information about the program, go to www.step-forwardmichigan.org or call (866) 946-7432.



Animals from page 1

About Animals Rescue Michigan, a nonprofit organization, which offers owners free health screenings, low cost vaccines and preventative care for their pets.

Pet owners are invited to bring their dogs and cats to the center for affordable services, such as vaccines (\$10), microchip implants (\$20) and heartworm tests (\$20). Other available services include flea prevention, heartworm prevention and deworming.

This “rain or shine” event is open to the general public. For pet safety, please bring dogs on a short leash and cats in a carrier. For more information on the October clinic in Oak Park, go to www.allaboutanimals.org or call 586-879-1745.



City Hall

from page 1

Center complex, which houses the Recreation Department; the Library; and Municipal Services, which includes

Technical and Planning (Buildings, Engineering, Code Enforcement and Animal Control) and Community and Economic Development. The ice arena, community pool, miniature golf course and playgrounds are also adjacent to the Community Center parking lots, which backs up to Shepherd Park.

“Oak Park is a beautiful community with so much to offer our residents,” added City Manager Tungate. “I look forward to the continuation of progress by our City Council and staff that makes our City great.” The City of Oak Park is planning an Open House event in October, during which residents will be invited to tour the new complex.



Summer Reading Fun

The Oak Park Library’s Summer Reading program encourages children and adults to appreciate literature during the summer months when reading sometimes takes a backseat to other fun-in-the-sun activities. This year, it included 11 successful programs, which served a total of 279 kids and 192 adults. For our youngest “readers,” the Library offered five Morning Story Time events for ages 2-6, which were attended by a total 91 little ones and 63 adults.

Summer Reading Clubs began June 17th with the “Dig Reading Together” theme for pre-readers, “Dig into Reading” focus for grades 1-6, and the more advanced theme, “Beneath the Surface,” for ages 12-18. Readers received weekly incentives for completing assignments, which included prizes, activity sheets and stickers.

The Friends of the Oak Park Library provided fun

See LIBRARY on page 4



Stay Connected!

The City of Oak Park offers residents and neighboring communities the latest in City news in several, different formats. Stay connected by signing up, tuning in and finding us!

The Oak Park Branch: A printed and electronic newsletter, which is delivered by mail to Oak Park homes and businesses and also found on the web site at www.ci.oak-park.mi.us/public_info; you can also pick up a copy at several local businesses in a City of Oak Park news stand

Community E-Blasts: A regular email newsletter covering City news and special events; sign up for delivery at OakPark@ci.oak-park.mi.us

Comcast OPTV 15 & 16: Cable stations run by the City of Oak Park, which show live City Council meetings, City programming and scrolling announcements

Electronic Message Board: Marquees located at 9 Mile Road/Coolidge and Oak Park Blvd./Coolidge, which host City announcements and special events

Facebook: Like us at [Facebook.com/CityOfOakPark](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfOakPark)

Twitter: Follow us at [Twitter.com/CityOfOakPark](https://twitter.com/CityOfOakPark)

UStream: An internet site that provides direct links to live and taped broadcasts of City Council meetings, the Meeting with the Manager Show, addresses by city officials and special events; go to www.ustream.tv/channel/optv15

Questions? Contact Communications & Public Information at oakpark@ci.oak-park.mi.us or call (248) 691-7400.

The Oak Park City Clerk’s office is looking for Election Day workers to assist at the polls on Tuesday, November 5th. Training will be provided for the short-term, paid positions. Interested? Visit the City Clerk’s office at 14000 Oak Park Blvd. or call (248) 691-7544.

Mayor
Marian McClellan
Mayor Pro Tem
Angela Diggs Jackson
Council Members
Michael M. Seligson
Paul Levine
Emile J. Duplessis
City Manager
Erik Tungate

ECRWSS

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS POSTAL CUSTOMER OAK PARK, MICHIGAN 48237

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Detroit, MI
Permit No. 1376



CITY HALL • 14000 Oak Park Blvd., Oak Park, MI 48237 • Ph: (248) 691-7400 • www.ci.oak-park.mi.us

OAK PARK BRANCH, September 2013 – 4

www.ci.oak-park.mi.us

Monday, September 2

Labor Day
City offices closed

Tuesday, September 3

City Council Mtg.
7PM @ NEW City Hall

Tuesday, September 3

Summer Taxes Due

Farm Stand

Every Tues. through Oct. 1
3-6PM
In front of Community Ctr.

Tuesday, September 3

Seniors: Movie Day
12:15PM @ Community Ctr.

September 6-7

Trash Collection Delayed
One Day (Labor Day)

September 6-15

Haul-Your-Own-Junk-
Away-Days
Dumpsters @ Ice Arena

Tuesday, September 10

Guitarist Rich Satterfield
6:30-7:30PM
Free @ Library

Monday, September 16

Last day to file
senior deferments

Monday, September 16

City Council Mtg.
7PM @ NEW City Hall

community happenings

Tuesday, September 17

Business Roundtable
9AM @ Jamaican Paradise
13500 W. Nine Mile Road.

Tuesday, September 17

Seniors: Detroit Roaring 20s
10AM @ Community Ctr. \$7

Wednesday, September 18

Seniors: Health Fair/Flu Shots
10-11AM @ Community Ctr.

Wednesday, September 18

Seniors: \$8 Sale
9AM-4PM @ Community Ctr.

Wednesday, September 18

Seniors: Protection from
Medicare Fraud
11:30AM-12:30PM
@ Community Ctr.

Wednesday, September 25

Seniors: Miss Saigon/
Fischer Theater
7-10:45PM Cost \$69
Reserve at (248) 691-7577

Monday, September 30

Tax Strategies Info Session
7PM Free @ Library

Monday, October 7

Last day to register to vote in
the General Election

Employee Recognition: Mark Hotz



Pictured (L-R) Councilman Duplessis, Manager Tungate, Mayor McClellan, Mark Hotz, Councilman Levine, Councilman Seligson, Mayor Pro Tem Jackson

In August, City Council recognized Mark Hotz for providing consistently exceptional service in his role as Administrative Clerk. "His performance sets the standard in customer service," commented Ed Norris, Oak Park City Clerk.

Library

from page 3

and interesting Summer Reading event programs, which were also well-attended, such as a martial arts series, a treasure hunt & puppet show, a comedy & magic show, and The Anne Frank Project, a historical discussion about the young writer's life led by the Holocaust Memorial Center. More than 300 children and adults attended these special programs.

Beginning October 1st, the Library will offer Sunday hours from 1-5 PM. For more information on Library programs this fall, please visit the Library at 14200 Oak Park Blvd., go to www.ci.oak-park.mi.us/library or call (248) 691-7480.

Published by:
City of Oak Park
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