



# Terrace Leaves

January • February 2021

## *A Message From the Acting Mayor*



Thank you to everyone who attended the Veterans Day Ceremony this year. It's important that we commemorate the sacrifices made by the members of our armed services.

Thank you, too, to all those who came out for the "Santa Comes to Town Parade." We had a great turnout and our hard working city staff and volunteers should also be

commended for helping to put on this great event.

The winter season is here, so please remember that the Police Department and Council Chambers are available to all residents as warming centers.

You may have seen in the news that there is a new identity theft scam going on. Increasingly, thieves and hackers are committing unemployment identity theft to steal from the State's public assistance program. Please be on the alert if you are employed and receive any notification from the Illinois Department of Employment Security concerning benefits.

As we are all aware, 2020 was an unfortunate year. Through it all, my priority as your Mayor, was to ensure that the residents, City staff and businesses that make our City great were taken care of in this time of need. My hope is that 2021 welcomes a new era that will bring a sense of peace and a release from the past misfortunes. I am proud of all the accomplishments that the City was able to achieve during this continued crisis.

### **2020 Accomplishments**

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, the City was able to offer the following:

- Mask Drive to give residents free masks and hand sanitizers through a no-contact drive thru.
- Waiving of the bi-monthly March and April water bills for all single-family utility customers.
- Oakbrook Terrace Eats Program to provide residents with \$100 vouchers to spend at our local restaurants.
- Business Stimulus Program, which rebated a portion of sales tax to 34 of our eligible businesses.
- Hotel Stimulus Program, which rebated a portion of hotel tax to our five hotels.
- Social media presence on Facebook and Nextdoor platforms, enabling the City to quickly communicate with residents and businesses.

- A new City website, which will be live soon, enabling residents to register to receive City information through a text or e-mail, complete necessary forms and submit online, along with an overall more user-friendly site.
- Providing holiday celebrations, such as Pumpkins In The Park, a Veterans Day Ceremony, and Santa is Coming To Town, despite the challenges of COVID-19. Additionally, the City was able to decorate the whole community for the Fourth of July and still maintain the spirit of the holiday.
- Partnering with residents by bringing back the longstanding tradition of luminaries.
- Supporting our Lions Club by purchasing trees and placing the decorated trees throughout the community.
- Assisting Drury Lane with a cloth drive to help make COVID-19 masks.

### **2020 Financial Highlights**

- Overall operating revenues through the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2021 are expected to decrease by 35% or \$1.35 million because of COVID-19.
- A deficit of \$417,229 is estimated coming out of the second quarter, however, the City has applied for CARES Act funding of \$150,958.08, offsetting this deficit to \$266,271.00.
- Budget cuts in the amount of approximately \$410,000 were adopted on December 8, 2020, to further help offset any deficits going forward. By doing this, the City did not have to dip into the operating fund reserves of approximately \$8 million.
- Of the approximate \$8 million, \$7.8 million of the operating fund balance is considered "unassigned." This means that \$7.8 million is not restricted or committed to a specific purpose.
- The City paid off the 2010 Business District bonds, saving over \$1 million in interest costs.
- The City was able to eliminate three administrative positions, saving the City approximately \$195,000 annually in the operating fund.

I'm proud of Oakbrook Terrace and proud to be your Mayor. I wish you and yours all the best in the coming year.

*Sincerely,  
Acting Mayor Paul Esposito*

## Congratulations to our Home Decorating Contest Winners!

Thank you to our residents who helped to make the holidays brighter by decorating your home.



First Place



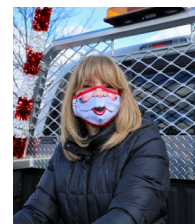
Second Place



Third Place

## Santa Comes to Town

We had a great turnout for the Santa Comes to Town Parade. Thank you to everyone who helped to put on this fabulous event.



## Veterans Day 2020

On November 11, veterans and community members came together to honor the sacrifices of our veterans.



Acting Mayor Paul Esposito



## Consolidated General Election, April 6

A consolidated general election will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, for the election of Municipal, Park District, Library District, School District and Fire District officials. In Oakbrook Terrace, this election will include candidates for Mayor, City Clerk and Wards I, II and III.

You must have registered at least 28 days prior to any election to vote in that election. For more information, please visit [www.dupageco.org/election](http://www.dupageco.org/election).

## Changes to City Hall Hours

Please be advised that City Hall hours have changed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Until further notice, City Hall is only open to the public Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thank you for your patience.



Monday, February 15 ..... City Hall Closed for President's Day





## A Little Bit of History

By the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society

### SPOILER ALERT!

#### Oakbrook Terrace Trivia

Spoiler alert! Here are the answers to the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society's quiz, which was posted in the November/December issue of the *Terrace Leaves*. We are still taking entries if you decide not to read these answers and want to try your hand at our quiz. The Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society is currently closed for COVID-19 restrictions. It will reopen after the restrictions are lifted.

**What was Stella May Swartz School called when it was first built in 1959?**

d. Butterfield School

**What year was our first city municipal building constructed?**

a. 1970

**On which corner was Phil's Shell Service located?**

a. Southwest corner of Roosevelt & Summit

**Many years ago, what was 16th Street Called?**

a. Cow Plop Lane

**What name was chosen for our city when it was first incorporated in 1958?**

c. City of Utopia

**Who was the first Mayor of Utopia?**

b. Theodore Truske

**Where were the initial City Council meetings of Utopia held?**

d. 17W221 Leahy Rd.

**What was Summit Ave legally called in the early years?**

c. Canfield Rd.

**What is our City's Historical Society Slogan?**

a. The Spirit of our Past...A Vision for the Future.

**What was our Oakbrook Terrace Fire Protection District named in the early years?**

b. Butterfield Fire Department

**Where were Sizzler Family Steak House, JoAnn's Bakery and Famous Liquors located?**

a. Oakbrook Square Center

**What was the best part of the Oakbrook Terrace Halloween Parties in the late 1970s and early 1980s?**

d. Throwing a witch into a HUGE bonfire.

**Who played Santa Claus at many Christmas parties in the 1970s and 1980s?**

a. Richard Sarallo

**Where was Bennigan's Tavern located?**

b. JRC Plaza

**What have been the name(s) of our City's Newsletter?**

a. The Butterfield Siren

b. The Utopian

c. Terrace Topics

d. Terrace Leaves

**e. All of the above**

# Thank you!

### Historical Society Supporters

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you! We appreciate everyone who has supported the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society. Maybe you purchased a t-shirt or a brick for the new walkway, made a donation, became a member, or donated your time to help. We are grateful for all, and through these donations, we were able to replace the roof on the historic Sears Homart home this year.

We are still raising funds with the long-term goal of replacing the siding on our Sears home in 2021 to bring it back to its original look. We hope to reopen soon when the pandemic restrictions are lifted. See our website at [www.obthistory.com](http://www.obthistory.com) for more information.

### Oakbrook Terrace Lions Club Supporters

The Oakbrook Terrace Lions Club is the only service club in Oakbrook Terrace and we know 2020 has been difficult, so we are especially grateful for the overwhelming support of our Christmas Tree sales this year! We had a record number of sales and we thank each and every one of you.

We typically have four fundraisers during the year, Pasta Dinner in the Spring, 4th of July glow stick sales, Candy Day in October and Christmas Tree sales in the winter. Due to the pandemic, we were unable to hold our Pasta Dinner, sell glow sticks on 4th of July, or participate in the statewide Candy Day. Fortunately, our Christmas Tree sales were the best we have ever had, so thank you and Happy Holidays to you and yours! Donations can be mailed to Oakbrook Terrace Lions Club, P.O. Box 7018, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181.

### Police Station is Official Community Warming Center

With the potential for cold weather this winter, residents are reminded that in the event of weather emergencies, the Oakbrook Terrace Police Station is an official community warming center. For more information, please call the Police Department non-emergency number at 630-941-8320.

# City Departments CORNER

## Building & Zoning

### NEW BUSINESSES

#### HassleLess Mattress, 17W428 22nd Street

HassleLess Mattress takes buying a mattress to a new level. Shopping in-store is hassle-free with no salespeople. Walk in and take all the time you need to find the mattress of your dreams. Once you have found that perfect fit, purchase it on one of the in-store kiosks or online and schedule free delivery and removal of the old mattress.

#### Chetoni Jewels Designs, 17W408 22nd Street

A boutique store offering one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted jewelry, ceramics, and paintings.

#### Art of Esthetiques, 1S132 Summit Avenue

Art of Esthetiques is therapy for the skin. Services include a variety of facial treatments, including laser hair and tattoo removal and skin care services to exfoliate, brighten, and soften your face with glowing results.

#### LTMK Nail Studio, 1S132 Summit Avenue

An independently owned professional nail care salon offering a full range of nail services.

### NOW OPEN

#### Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, 18W080 22nd Street

It's Pizza Time! Lou Malnati's Pizza is now open for carryout and delivery orders only. Place an order by phone at 630-912-8300, online at [www.loumalnatis.com](http://www.loumalnatis.com) or through their app. The dine in restaurant is expected to open soon.

#### CONSUME, 1S130 Summit Avenue

CONSUME Cannabis Company Dispensary, a recreational use dispensary, opened their fourth Illinois location in Oakbrook Terrace.

#### Positano Ristorante, 17W460 22nd Street

Positano Ristorante recently opened for carry-out and pick-up.



## Police

### Scams, Scams & More Scams

There are so many scams out there there are too many to address all at once. Here are three "trending" scams:

#### Unemployment Scam

Scammers have been able to unlawfully obtain social security numbers and use them to unlock unemployment benefits — even though the person is still employed and actively working. Scammers apply for unemployment benefits, which then come to the "victim's" residence in the form of a debit card. The scammer may try to access the victim's account information in order to divert payments to another card or account. If you think you have been victimized, the Illinois Department of Employment Security asks that you visit the agency's website or contact the agency at (800) 814-0513 to file a report.

#### Contractor Scam (aka Gypsy Scam)

There are "con artists" out there going door-to-door (or by phone) looking for work, such as roofing, siding or driveways, just to name a few. They often offer to do the work at a lower price, and more often than not, they will require you to pay in advance (either in full or partial). Once they receive the up-front monies, they never return to do the work. One of the main difficulties in a gypsy scam is that the group is hard to find or track down once they disappear. They move to an entirely different state after a while. Also, the people involved may be using fictitious names and contact information. Therefore, before

having any home improvement work done, you should always confirm the workers' names,

business information, contact information, and credentials. You should call numbers to make sure that those numbers are working.

Additionally, avoid making full payments on work before it's completed.

There are other types of gypsy scams in which the suspect(s) literally walk right into someone's home for the purposes of stealing jewelry or money. Very often, the homeowner is either in or near the home. The best way to keep these individuals from victimizing you is to simply keep your home locked, even when you are working in the yard.

#### Porch Pirates!

Online purchasing with doorstep delivery has increased, and there are "Porch Pirates" who are taking advantage of the situation. Someone sees a package sitting on your doorstep, runs up to

your door, and snatches it. The best ways to avoid being victimized are:

- Keep an eye on suspicious cars and neighborhood activity.
- Have your packages sent to your office or a neighbor's house
- Ask for your packages to require a signature before drop-off.
- Have a trusted neighbor keep an eye out for your packages.
- Go to the post office and collect your packages in-person.
- Keep a light on on your porch; it's less likely to be stolen if there's more visibility.



**Due to Covid 19 and numerous scams, the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department is recommending that you do not answer your door to ANYONE soliciting unless you know their identity.**

# City Departments CORNER

## Public Services

### 2020-21 Driveway Snow Removal Program

The City provides a Private Driveway Snowplowing Program. On behalf of the Mayor and City Council, we welcome your participation in the program for this year if you meet the following requirements. Packets for the Private Driveway Snow Removal Program are available at City Hall for residents to pick up effective October 1, 2020.

- Only residents who cannot shovel snow due to a temporary or permanent disability, regardless of age, are eligible. You must provide a statement from a medical doctor verifying that your disability prevents you from shoveling snow. A copy of an example statement is included in the packet.
- If a resident has a permanent disability that will prevent them from shoveling snow for the foreseeable future, a yearly verification of disability is not required, but an application form does need to be completed on a yearly basis.

- If a residence also houses an able-bodied person, besides the disabled resident, the disabled resident will not be eligible.
- If more than one person resides in the house, a doctor's note will be required for each individual stating that they are disabled.
- A seasonal charge of \$50.00 is required prior to the start of the program. This charge covers all winter plowing, no matter how many snowstorms occur. There will be no refunds of this fee if there is little or no snow this year and plowing is not required.
- This program is for removal of snow on driveways only, not sidewalks.
- You must sign the waiver of liability that is provided in the packet and return it to the City.

Participants should be aware that driveway clearing will only take place after a snowfall of two inches or more and driveways will be cleared after all streets and public facilities have been done.

### City Salting & Snow Removal Policy

Residents are asked to follow the city's salting and snow removal policies to support efficient removal of snow and ice from local roads while assuring traffic safety.

- The City only plows and salts City streets, dead ends and cul-de-sacs; the only exception is if the City agrees to provide service by contract and is compensated accordingly, or if a handicapped resident resides there who has been approved to participate in the City's private driveway snow removal program (see above).
- The City does not provide snow removal from sidewalks or driveway entrances. The only exception is the driveway snow removal program.
- Snow removal operations follow established snowplow routes, chosen to allow for optimum use of City equipment, manpower and supplies. Snow removal is conducted on City streets and City property only, with the only exception as identified in the private driveway snow removal program.
- The City prohibits parking on all City streets, dead ends and cul-de-sacs after a 1" snowfall. This allows snow crews to clear the streets without the potential for a collision between a parked car and a snowplow or salt truck.

• City snowplows discharge snow from the streets toward the adjacent parkway and driveway, sometimes creating windrows of snow at driveway entrances. It is impossible to prevent this; it is a by-product of our effort to clear streets of snow accumulation in the safest and most efficient manner.



- Residents are prohibited from shoveling snow from their driveways into the street where it can become compact and harden into ice mounds, creating a dangerous safety hazard for motorists and emergency vehicles.
- Residents are asked to keep mailbox doors closed to prevent damage.
- City snow crews try to minimize the mounding of snow around fire hydrants, but plows are designed to discharge snow into the unpaved parkway, making it difficult. Any assistance that homeowners can provide to keep fire hydrants in front of their home visible is greatly appreciated by the City and the Fire Protection Districts serving City residents.

### 2021 Brush Pick-Up Dates

April 5 & 26

August 2 & 23

May 17

September 13

June 7 & 28

October 4 & 25

July 12



# CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE

17W275 Butterfield Road  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
www.oakbrookterrace.net

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Oak Brook, IL  
Permit No. 330

ECRWSS  
Resident  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

## Oakbrook Terrace Private Security Camera Rebate Program

The City of Oakbrook Terrace offers a Private Security Camera Rebate Program for residents of owner-occupied, detached, single-family homes and detached townhomes located within the City where the property is used as the owner's primary residence.

The program provides a rebate of up to \$150 per camera system per residential address. The rebate is exclusively for the cost of the security camera(s) and installation, including any applicable taxes. Rebates will only be given for cameras that are installed on the exterior of the property and for the amount that was paid at the time of application. For more information, please visit [www.oakbrookterrace.net](http://www.oakbrookterrace.net).

## Villa Park Library Card

*Attention Residents*

As of May 1, 2020, the annual fee for a Villa Park library card is \$43 per multi-family household (living in apartments such as Versailles and Regency Place) and \$52 per single-family household (including Spring Club, Berkshire and Arbor 40, as well as all other single-family households) through April 30, 2021. The library card provides access to all of the library's resources. For more information, please visit [www.villapark.lib.il.us/](http://www.villapark.lib.il.us/).

## Water Bill Payments

The City accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover for payment of water bills. In addition, there are other ways to pay your Oakbrook Terrace water bill: have it debited automatically from your checking account, mail it in, or drop your payment into the convenient drop-box located at the Butterfield Road entrance to City Hall. You can also now pay your water bill over the phone with a credit card by calling 630-941-8300, ext. 242, or pay online by visiting [www.oakbrookterrace.net](http://www.oakbrookterrace.net). If paying by mail, please send it no less than five mailing days before the due date to avoid a penalty for late payment. Please note that water bills are now mailed to residents on a bi-monthly basis. IF YOU ARE MOVING, please call City Hall at 630-941-8300, ext. 242, to schedule a final reading.

## Phone Numbers

### For City Services:

<b>POLICE</b>	Emergency.....	911
	Information.....	630-941-8320
<b>FIRE EMERGENCY</b> .....		911
<b>MAYOR</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 208
<b>CITY CLERK</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 206
<b>CITY ADMINISTRATOR</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 207
<b>ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR &amp; ADMINISTRATOR</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 213
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 201
<b>BUILDING &amp; ZONING</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 209
<b>CODE ENFORCEMENT</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 265
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES</b> .....		630-941-1651
<b>WATER BILLING</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 242
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b> .....		630-941-8300, EXT. 201
<b>OBT PARK DISTRICT</b> .....		630-627-6100
<b>YORK CENTER PARK DISTRICT</b> .....		630-629-0886

January/February 2021

## City of Oakbrook Terrace

Acting Mayor Paul Esposito

City Clerk Michael Shadley

City Administrator Amy Marrero

Ward III: Ald. Robert Przychodni

Ald. Robert Rada

Ward II: Ald. Frank Vlach

Ald. Dennis Greco

Ward I: Ald. Charlie Barbari

Ald. Joseph Beckwith

### Monthly Meetings:

City Council — 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission — 1st & 3rd Tues., 6 p.m.

Police Commission — 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Police Pension Board — 2nd Monday of the quarter

**CITY HALL HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 9 am - 2 pm**