



# Terrace Leaves

September • October 2017

## *A Message From the Mayor*

I want to thank the residents and their families who attended the City Fourth of July picnic and raffle event. We had a great turnout and it truly shows the pride we have for our City.



I'd like to remind you that Halloween is Tuesday October 31st. Please use caution while driving and be aware of the children on the streets while they are trick-or-treating in our City between 2 and 6 p.m.

Unfortunately, our City experienced some vehicle burglaries a few days in July. All of the burglarized vehicles were left unlocked and some had valuables in plain sight. Please lock all vehicles on your property and also keep your doors and windows on your homes locked whenever possible.

This crime spree is happening everywhere and will most likely continue until these offenders can't gain entry into the vehicles that are left unlocked and will then find other locations to burglarize. Our Police are on this situation and will continue to patrol our City with high intensity to make our residents feel secure and safe. Just to confirm with our residents, we do have a safe and basically crime-free City. This is not meant to scare you, but rather to inform you of the measures we all need to perform to prevent these criminals from being drawn to our City!

Included in the last *Terrace Leaves* was a survey asking for feedback about the Subdivision Surveillance Cameras. I would like to thank everyone for their responses. The results from the survey will be discussed during the September City Council Meetings.

Lastly, the City Automated Traffic Law Enforcement System (Red Light Cameras) are activated at 22nd Street and Route 83 on the northwest and southwest corners of the intersection. A trifold information flyer was distributed to every residence in our City about this. Please do not feel intimidated by them and just obey the traffic signals; you have nothing to worry about and the City will be very lenient on the right turns. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or stop by City Hall.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Tony Ragucci

## Children's Fall Festival Saturday, October 14

12 noon, Swartz School

Join your neighbors and friends for the City of Oakbrook Terrace Fall Festival on Saturday, October 14.

- Activities for kids age 0-12
- Pick a pumpkin from the patch
- Decorate your pumpkin – craft supplies provided
- Temporary Tattoos
- Goody Bags



Light refreshments will be served. Please use the registration form on page 2 to register your children for this event which is free for OBT residents. For more information, please call Cheryl Downer at 630-941-8300, ext. 201.



- Monday, September 11 ..... Brush Pickup
- Monday, October 2 ..... Brush Pickup
- Saturday, October 14 ..... Children's Fall Festival
- Monday, October 23 ..... Final 2017 Brush Pickup

# Mayor, City Officials and Staff Help Celebrate Wayback Burgers Grand Opening

Oakbrook Terrace Mayor Tony Ragucci and other Oakbrook Terrace officials and staff participated in a ribbon cutting on August 11 for a new member of the business community, Wayback Burgers.

Located at 17W 420 22nd Street, Wayback Burgers is designed to harken back to a simpler time with made-to-order burgers and milkshakes. More information can be found at waybackburgers.com.



City officials Oakbrook Terrace Mayor Tony Ragucci (with scissors) and Alderman Frank Vlach, center, celebrate the opening of OBT's newest restaurant with the owners and staff of Wayback Burgers.

## Registration Form

### Children's Fall Festival Saturday, October 14



(Please return form by 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 11)  
There is a \$5.00 charge for non-resident children

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Childrens' Names \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Return to Oakbrook Terrace City Hall, attn: Cheryl Downer,  
17W 275 Butterfield Rd., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181



## October 8 to October 14 is Fire Prevention Week

In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.

That's why this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Here's this year's key campaign messages:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

## A Little Bit of History

*By the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society*

**P**ictured here is the Creamery, the first commercial enterprise that attracted residents and other businesses to Utopia, now known as Oakbrook Terrace.

The Creamery was located at The Corners, the intersection that is Butterfield Road and Summit Avenue today. Albert Knapp built the Creamery which was also a cheese factory and served as the post office.

The Utopia post office was established January 10, 1881, and the first postmaster was Frederick Meyer. On November 18, 1903, the Utopia post office was discontinued and mail was directed back through Elmhurst, but the name Utopia stuck.

Please visit [www.obthistory.com](http://www.obthistory.com) for more information. To arrange for a tour of the Oakbrook Terrace History Center, please call Bob at (630) 834-8661.



*The Creamery was located at The Corners, the intersection that is Butterfield Road and Summit Avenue today.*



*A group of residents proudly pounding in the sign for the newly incorporated City of Utopia in 1958*

**P**ictured here are a group of residents proudly pounding in the sign for the newly incorporated City of Utopia in 1958. So, how did Utopia get its name? The story goes, according to an article written in 1936 by Les Hemmingway, "Postmasters of the western suburbs, having little mail to worry about, had time to develop a sense of humor in those days". In 1881 two residents went to the Elmhurst Postmaster, Dr. Frederick Bates, complaining of lost Christmas presents, special deliveries that never arrived, and the difficulty of getting stamps. They asked Dr. Bates how they could get a post office of their own. Dr. Bates told them they

would have to write to Washington to ask, but before they did that, they would have to have a name for their town. Dr. Bates jokingly suggested Utopia. Webster Dictionary defines Utopia as an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect. So began our history of Utopia.

Watch for more history in the next Terrace Leaves on how Utopia evolved into the City of Oakbrook Terrace. Please visit [www.obthistory.com](http://www.obthistory.com) for more information or call Bob at (630) 834-8661.

## Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Watch for information in the next *Terrace Leaves* about this year's Holiday Home Decorating Contest

# City Departments CORNER

## Police

### Alert

Once again the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department has learned that car burglaries in surrounding communities have increased.

Our community was recently targeted on 08-11-17 when five incidents were reported. ALL VEHICLES WERE UNLOCKED and a small amount of change and miscellaneous items were taken.

Although our officers were in pursuit of the suspects, the suspects were able to evade apprehension.

The Oakbrook Terrace Police Department cannot emphasize enough the importance of locking your vehicle(s) and removing valuables when left unattended. With this simple practice, the chances of being victimized will decrease by 100 percent.

## Public Services

- Completed right-of-way restoration program.
- Performed extensive tree trimming of right-of-way trees.
- Performed extensive work at Kreml Park to spruce up aesthetics.
- Cut all creek banks.
- Enhanced Buck Trail with the addition of new stone, as well as mulching of trees that line the trail.
- Staff member Ben Priest was certified as an ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) mechanic through examination.
- Public Services Director Ward trained the Oakbrook Terrace Fire Department about the operation of the water system to give them a better background/knowledge on what is available to them in the time of an emergency.
- The Water Division successfully performed Lead and Copper Sampling per IEPA compliance. In addition, the Water

Division successfully performed coliform and bacteria sampling for IEPA compliance monitoring.

- Two dead ash trees were removed from Kreml Park.
- Extensive bed maintenance was performed at the Municipal Complex including spreading 75 yards of mulch.
- Public Services helped carry out the necessary duties for a very successful 4th of July celebration.
- Totals:
  - JULIE Locate totals for June: 125 and July: 128
  - Sign Repair Totals for June: 1 and July: 2
  - Mailbox Repair Totals for June: 1 and July: 4
  - Fleet Maintenance:
    - Oil Changes June: 5 and July: 9
    - Tire Repairs: June: 4 and July: 4
    - Police Department vehicle maintenance: June: 3 and July: 2

## Oakbrook Terrace Park District Gears Up for September Preschool Age Programs

The Oakbrook Terrace Park District is ready to welcome curious minds and eager learners, as it gears up for its two main preschool age programs in September: *Little Sprouts Early Learning* and *2's and 3's Just for Me*. All learning experiences are recreation-based and provide a safe and fun environment for children.

*Little Sprouts* preschool is offered to children ages three and four, while *2's and 3's* is tailored toward two- and three-year-old children. All activities foster self-confidence and individual

growth, and expose children to early literacy, science, colors, shapes, crafts, story time and more.

Classes begin Monday, September 11. To learn more about our preschool program, and to enroll, please visit [obtpd.org](http://obtpd.org) or call: 630-627-6100.



Oakbrook Terrace Park District

Please visit [www.obtpd.org](http://www.obtpd.org) for information about all of the great programs and events going on at the Oakbrook Terrace Park District.

## Building & Zoning

### Property Management / Code Enforcement

The City of Oakbrook Terrace Code Enforcement Team and building inspectors enforce building code regulations, as well as inspect work, when a permit has been issued.

To report a possible code violation, please contact the Building and Zoning Department at 630-941-8300 ext. 209 during normal business hours.

### Frequently Asked Residential Code Questions

#### ***When can garbage containers be placed at the curb and when do containers need to be removed from the curb?***

Garbage containers, landscape waste, recyclable materials and white goods may not be placed at the shoulder of the roadway before 6:00 p.m. on the day before scheduled pick-up, and the containers must be removed from the shoulder before 10 p.m. on the day of collection.

Bulk items are collected for free. Contact Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400 to schedule a bulk item pick-up. A special pick-up can be set up for drywall, plywood, paneling, carpeting, disassembled kitchen and bathroom fixtures, sod, clay, sand, stone, concrete, rocks, or any other loose small items or construction materials that are not suitable for placement in containers and that exceed 50 pounds in weight, or that are in bundles exceeding four feet in length and two feet in diameter. Contact Flood Brothers to schedule the collection; it will take place within 48 hours and will cost an amount specified by the contract. Contact Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400 for pricing and scheduling information.

If you are performing work that requires a dumpster, you are only permitted to use roll-offs provided by Flood Brothers. Contact Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400 for pricing and scheduling information.

#### ***What is the height restriction for grass and weeds?***

Grass and weeds may not exceed six inches in height. All premises and exterior property, including driveways, sidewalks and landscaping, shall be maintained free from weeds.

#### ***Do I need a permit to remove trees from my property?***

A homeowner may remove any trees or landscaping from their property without a permit.

#### ***What can I do about my neighbor's tree that overhangs my property?***

We recommend that you first communicate with your neighbor. However, you do have the right to remove any trees or landscaping overhanging onto your property.

#### ***What is the City requirement for proper display of address numbers?***

All residential properties are required to have their address numbers displayed. The numbers should be placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street fronting the property. The numbers should contrast with their background and must be a minimum of four inches high, with a minimum stroke width of a half inch. No freestanding address sign can exceed eighteen inches in height.

#### ***Do I need a permit for the work I am doing at my house?***

Decks, driveways, paver patios and fences are just a few of the permits required for exterior home improvement. Various interior remodeling projects (e.g. basements or kitchen upgrades) will also require a permit, particularly if you are removing or adding walls, modifying electric or plumbing, or enlarging windows or doors.

#### ***What is the City's requirement for maintenance of exterior surfaces?***

All exterior surfaces, including but not limited to siding, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, decks and fences, should be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces should be protected from the elements by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipping paint on any exterior surface must be removed and the surface repainted. All metal surfaces subject must be maintained and kept free of rust and corrosion.

#### ***Where can I direct my gutters and sump-pump discharge?***

All new single- and two-family homes, including additions and detached garages, are required to have gutters and downspouts and to connect the discharge to the public storm sewer when one is available. Downspouts and house tile drainage must discharge on the ground and be directed away from the home.

#### ***Can I store a boat, RV or recreational vehicle on my property?***

A maximum of one boat on a trailer, a trailer, a camping trailer, or a recreational vehicle may be stored or parked on a driveway or off-street parking area on a zoning lot that is paved with asphalt, concrete or paving brick. The vehicle must be owned by the owner or resident of the property.

#### ***What are the allowable construction work hours?***

Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Construction is prohibited on the following Holidays:

New Year's Day	Memorial Day
4th of July	Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day	Christmas Day

With the summer coming to a close, the Building and Zoning Department would like to thank the many residents who applied for permits to perform various property improvements, including new home construction and additions, decks, patios, driveways, roofs and more. The City appreciates your taking pride in your community.



# 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

## 2017 Brush Pick-Up Dates

October 2      October 23 (final 2017 pick-up)

## Call JULIE Before Digging

If you are planning a home improvement project, installing a fence or deck, or just planting a tree, don't forget to call 811 or 800-892-0123 before you begin any project that involves digging. JULIE will notify its member utility companies who will send a locator to mark their underground facilities. Digging without making that call may result in service disruption to an entire neighborhood, injuries to yourself or others, and/or potential fines and repair costs.

## Villa Park Library Card

Effective May 1, 2017, the cost for a Villa Park Library Card is now \$42 per multi-family household (living in apartments such as Versailles and Regency Place) and \$51 per single-family household (including Spring Club, Berkshire and Arbor 40, as well as all other single-family households) through April 30, 2018. The library card provides access to all of the library's resources. Applications for Villa Park library cards are available at Oakbrook Terrace City Hall or the Police Department after hours. 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. 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

September/October 2017

## City of Oakbrook Terrace

Mayor Tony Ragucci  
City Clerk Michael Shadley  
City Administrator Amy Marrero

- Ward III: Ald. Robert Przychodni  
Ald. David Swartz
- Ward II: Ald. Frank Vlach  
Ald. Dennis Greco
- Ward I: Ald. Tom Thomas  
Ald. Paul Esposito

### 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