

Police training focuses on how fairness affects perception

As national news reports continue to focus on how individual officers have dealt with emotion-charged incidents, the Oak Park Police Department is working to equip its men and women with the tools to ensure fairness is a fundamental part of how they respond in all situations.

Work begins in a classroom at Village Hall, where officers are being trained in the principles of procedural justice, a concept that says how individuals view the justice system is tied more to the perceived fairness of the process and how they were treated, rather than the outcome.

“Fairness is a cornerstone of the Oak Park Police Department and officers are expected to show respect and understanding in all encounters,” said Police Chief Rick C. Tanksley. “But as policing methods continue to evolve, it is important to never stop exploring approaches that may help us make sure our actions are not only what we believe to be in the best interests of the citizens we are sworn to serve and protect, but also perceived that way by those we police.”

The Oak Park Police Department partnered with the University of Illinois Chicago’s Center for Public Safety and Justice to present the training, which was developed by the King County Sheriff’s Office in Seattle,



Officer Pat Foley on patrol along Lake Street.

Washington and is becoming a national model. The course is designed to help individual officers understand how their interactions and decision-making processes can increase cooperation and compliance by promoting trust — or lead to lack of public support and even confrontation.

“Police officers often are in situations where emotions can cause disputes to quickly spiral out of control,” Tanksley said. “Exercising authority in a manner that is fair and just is essential to ensuring a positive outcome. This training is designed to give our officers additional tools to help them respond

appropriately and fairly regardless of the circumstances.”

The underlying concept of procedural justice is a familiar one in the Oak Park Police Department, which has participated in surveys conducted by the UIC that measured how satisfied individuals who had an encounter with an Oak Park police officer were with the way they were treated. The surveys, one in 2010 and a second in 2014, found that individuals were very satisfied with how they were treated, even when they received a citation. The Oak Park results far exceeded the findings in similar-sized jurisdictions across the country.

“We know from research that our officers treat everyone with respect, regardless of whether police initiated an encounter or they were responding to a call for service,” Tanksley said. “But that doesn’t mean we should be satisfied and stop learning. Training is essential to making sure we never forget who we serve and why.”

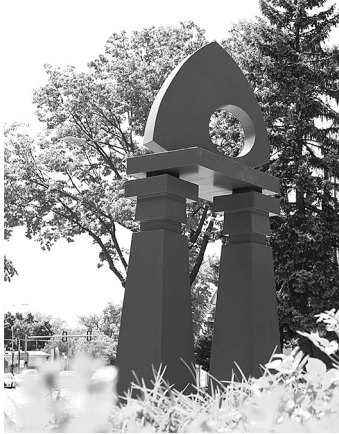
More information on the Oak Park Police Department and its philosophy of community policing is posted at www.oak-park.us/police.

911 registry for special needs

Oak Parkers with special needs that should be considered in an emergency situation can register with the Village to ensure first responders are aware when dispatched via a 911 call. Knowing that they are being dispatched to a home where someone may have a hearing or visual impairment, mobility limitation, cognitive impairment or uses an electrically powered medical device could prove vital to emergency medical personnel. Residents or their caregivers can register online at www.oak-park.us/911registry. A form also is available via email to prepare@oak-park.us or by calling 708.358.5488. All information will be kept confidential and should be updated annually.

Outdoor sculpture walk brings tour to east Chicago Avenue

This year's fourth annual Sculpture Walk is along a five-block stretch of Chicago Avenue between Austin Boulevard and Ridgeland Avenue. The 12 pieces were selected through a juried competition and are by established sculptors and emerging newcomers. A brochure for a self-guided walking tour is available at www.oak-park.us/sculpture as well as at local libraries, area businesses along the route and the Oak Park Visitors' Center, 1010 Lake St. The Sculpture Walk will run through Sept. 7. For more information, email sculpturewalk@oak-park.us.



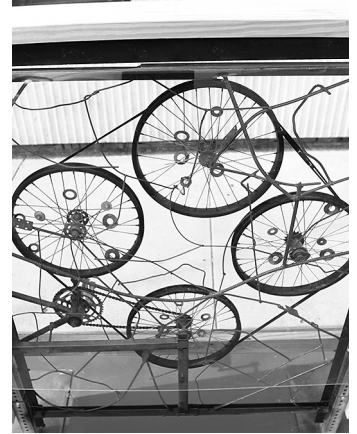
Cuyler & Chicago
Eye of Uxmal – James K. Johnson



254 Chicago Ave.
Aviary – Margot McMahon



Harvey & Chicago
Untitled – Brett Evangelista



210 Chicago
Spinning Wheels with No Place to Go – Jennifer Meyer & PJ Krupa



Lombard & Chicago
Boundless – Boyan Marinov



120 Chicago
Musician – Maureen Gray



Humphrey & Chicago
Public Prayer Booth – Dylan Mortimer



Austin & Chicago
Nudge – Dusty Folwarczny



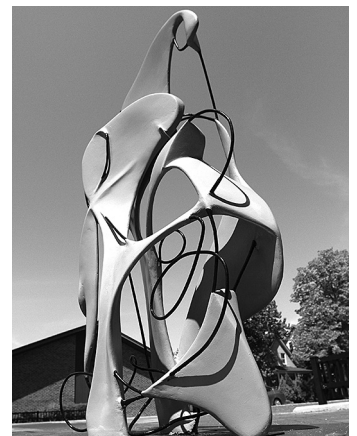
Taylor & Chicago
Hesitant – Ben Pierce



Taylor & Chicago
Empty Revisited #2 – Shawn Morin



Lombard & Chicago
Black and Bloom – Karen Gubitza



Harvey & Chicago
Quarks VI – Guy Bellaver

Avoid risks around downed power lines

When severe weather brings down power lines, public safety personnel urge residents to be aware of the danger. Their advice — always assume power lines are live, since even momentary contact with a live power line can injure or kill. If a power line comes down, ideally, a firefighter or police officer will stand by the site until utility workers arrive. But when emergency conditions are widespread, personnel may not be available for this level of service. In those instances, affected streets or alleys are blocked and the area around the downed wire isolated by yellow warning tape. Residents who see a downed power line should call 9-1-1 right away and report the location. For more information, call 708.358.5600 or email fire@oak-park.us.

Think safety at your next BBQ

Summer means getting together with good friends and good food outside. Making sure your grill is operated safely and food is handled correctly is important, so follow these guidelines:

Grilling

- Make sure smoke is not a nuisance to a neighbor.
- Use an approved container designed for barbecuing.
- Keep grills at least 10 feet from any combustible material or structure, such as a house, garage or deck.
- Only use the fuel for which your grill is designed.
- Have a fire extinguisher, garden hose or bucket of water nearby just in case, and close the lid when done cooking.



Food handling

- Wash hands thoroughly with warm, soapy water before, between and after handling each different food item.
- Clean utensils, cutting boards and countertops with hot, soapy water before and after preparing each food item.
- Place cooked meat on a clean plate.
- Store all meat products in separate containers or bags that seal.
- Use a metal stemmed food thermometer to check the final cooking temperature of meat and poultry. Roasts and steaks should be cooked to an internal temperature of at least 150°F, ground beef and pork to 160°F, fish to 145°F and whole poultry to 180°F.
- Refrigerate cooked foods promptly to prevent the growth of harmful bacteria.

Email fire@oak-park.us for information on equipment safety and health@oak-park.us for food handling guidance.

Coalition works to help homeless

An alliance of local businesses, service agencies and governments has launched a campaign to educate residents, visitors and businesses about the local issue of homelessness and make them aware of the resources available for people in need. The *Oak Park Homeless Coalition* developed the education campaign after an assessment discovered more than 170 students in the local high school and elementary school districts were reported as homeless last year and nearly 400 residents had received assistance through Prevail, a local faith-based organization that helps individuals and families facing emergency financial crises and struggles. In addition to an active role in the new coalition, the Village of Oak Park also administers the federally funded Emergency Solutions Grant program, which helps support community organizations that provide services for the homeless. To learn more about the coalition and what individuals can do to help someone who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, visit ophc.squarespace.com.

Police lobby available for in-person transactions

The lobby of the Oak Park Police Department in the lower level of Village Hall, 123 Madison Street, is available to the public for in-person meetings and face-to-face transactions. Police officials are encouraging residents to make use of the lobby, which is open, well-lit and staffed 24 hours a day. The announcement comes after a series of high-profile crimes committed nationwide by criminals who arranged meetings with their victims through online forums. The police station has been used for parental custody exchanges for many years. Email police@oak-park.us for more information.

West Nile Virus threat grows

As temperatures rise, so does the threat of the mosquito-borne West Nile Virus. The best defense is to reduce the chances of mosquito bites. Recommended steps include limiting time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn, wearing long sleeves and pants, and applying insect repellent containing DEET, Picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Residents also are urged to eliminate potential mosquito breeding sites by cleaning roof gutters, emptying birdbaths and storing containers upside down when not in use. For more information, call the West Nile Virus Hotline 708.358.5694, visit www.oak-park.us/fightthebite or email health@oak-park.us.

Disconnect gutters to reduce chances of basement flooding

With the goal of reducing the chances of backups during heavy rain, property owners are encouraged to disconnect their gutter downspouts from the municipal sewer system. While storm water from roof gutters is not a problem under normal conditions, the main system can become overwhelmed during heavy rain



events, sometimes causing sewage and storm water to back up into basements. A one-inch rainfall on a 1,000-square-foot roof can produce 600 gallons of water. Disconnecting gutter downspouts from the municipal sewer system also can offer a way to capture free water for plants, lawns and gardens. Capturing storm runoff in rain barrels or rain gardens and using native plants in landscaping to help absorb runoff are effective methods. For more information on flooding prevention email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Gutter Disconnection Tips

- **Extend downspouts** at least three to six feet away from the building foundation wall and direct flow away from the building.
- **Pick a suitable area for water to flow** to such as a grassy area or rain garden. Route downspout extensions under decks or patios to reach these permeable areas.
- **Avoid placing an extension across a sidewalk** so as not to create a tripping hazard.
- **Use a splash block at the end of the extension** to avoid soil erosion.
- **Avoid flowing water onto sidewalks or driveways** since these may freeze during cold months.
- **Remember to cap the sewer** where the downspout once connected to prevent debris and animals from entering and odors from escaping.

Child safety seat inspections offered by appointment

The Fire Department has set up a special telephone line to accept requests for child safety seat inspections. Parents of young children can email carseat@oak-park.us to request an appointment. Parents will need to bring their vehicle owner's manual and car seat manufacturer's manual along with the seat they wish to have inspected. Residents are asked not to come to the Fire Department for an inspection without an appointment. As on-call firefighter/paramedics, the technicians may not be available if duty calls.

Free youth skills workshops planned

Residents ages 14 to 17 are invited to learn skills and techniques that can help them find and keep a job at annual workshops presented by the Community Relations Department. This year's workshops are scheduled for 2 to 6 p.m., Aug. 3 – 7 at the Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake St., and Village Hall, 123 Madison St. Participants learn skills such as resume writing, interviewing, career path development and interpersonal relations. Guest speakers and representatives from local businesses help participants learn to take charge of their lives by developing critical job seeking and retention skills that can be carried throughout adulthood. These local employers also offer opportunities for individuals who complete the workshop to interview for available positions. The number of participants is limited. Register by Aug. 1 online at www.oak-park.us/community or call 708.358.5407.

Clip and Save

Who to Call

Dial Direct (area code 708)

Village Hall	oak-park.us
TTY	711
Adjudication	358.5479
Development Customer Services	358.5420
Business Services	358.5425
Neighborhood Services	358.5410
Housing	option 1
CDBG	option 2
Property complaints	option 3
Permits & Inspections	358.5430
Planning	358.5440
General questions	option 1
Historic Preservation	option 2
Zoning	option 3
Finance	358.5460
Utility Billing Inquiries	358.5478
Fire (nonemergency)	358.5600
Human Resources	358.5650
Job Hotline	358.5650
Police (nonemergency)	386.3800
Crime Tip Hotline	434.1636
Public Health	358.5480
Animal Control	358.5680
Public Works	358.5700
Parking	358.7275
Village President & Board	358.5784
Village Clerk	358.5670
Village Manager's Office	358.5770

EMERGENCIES 911

Park District	www.pdop.org
Administration	725.2017
Customer Service	725.2000
Building & Grounds	725.2050
Business Operations	725.2015

Public Library	www.oppl.org
Main Library	383.8200
Maze Branch	386.4751
Dole Branch	386.9032

School District 97	www.op97.org
Administration	524.3000

School District 200	www.oprfhs.org
Administration	434.3107

Township	www.oakparktownship.org
Senior Services	383.8060
Youth Services	445.2727
General Assistance	383.8005
Assessor Services	383.8005
Mental Health Board	358.8855

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Farmers' Market in full swing



Photo: Travis Isaacs

The Oak Park Farmers' Market is open for business from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through October. Now in its 40th season, the venerable market is held in the Pilgrim Church parking lot just west of the intersection of Lake Street and Ridgeland Avenue. In addition to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, dried and cut flowers, bedding plants, honey and cheeses from Illinois and neighboring states, the market also offers warm donuts made on-site, juice and coffee, and live bluegrass music. Regional vendors featuring sustainable, organic and locally sourced goods are participating again this season as well, including

several offering heirloom products. Non-profit bake sales are there, too, along with children's activities and occasional cooking demonstrations. To help support market administration, a variety of items is sold at the information tent, including reusable shopping bags. A majority of the vendors now accept credit/debit cards as well as Link cards. For more information visit www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket, email farmersmarket@oak-park.us or call 708.358.5780.

Free entertainment in the park

Concerts...The Park District of Oak Park's free summer concerts features a variety of local and well-known bands beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sunday evenings in Scoville Park, Lake Street at Oak Park Avenue. Free family fitness classes are held from 4:30 to 5 p.m. before each concert. Weather-related cancelations will be posted at www.facebook.com/parkdistrictofoakpark.

- **July 5** – Dave Rudolf (beach music)
- **July 12** – Saturday June Band (rock)
- **July 19** – J & T Band (country)
- **July 26** – Replays (rock)
- **Aug. 2** – Deep Fried Pickles (kids jug band)
- **Aug. 9** – Lowdown Brass Band (funk)

Movies...Bring your picnic blanket and

snacks and enjoy free movies in the parks all summer. Visit www.pdop.org for more details.

- **July 7** – Earth to Echo, 8:30 p.m., Andersen Park, 824 N. Hayes Ave.
- **Aug. 8** – Batteries Not Included, 8 p.m., Lindberg Park, 1151 N. Marion St.
- **Sept. 9** – Close Encounters of the Third Kind, 8 p.m., Carroll Park, 1125 S. Kenilworth Ave.

Live play...The Park district will offer free admission to the Festival Theatre's performance of William Shakespeare's *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, at 8 p.m., Fri., July 24. The play will be under the stars in Austin Gardens, 167 Forest Avenue, just north of Lake Street. Visit oakparkfestival.com for more information.

Property mapping feature added to online tools

The Village of Oak Park is developing a detailed online search feature that will allow users to access a wide range of information about their properties and the community. The application is still under development, but currently offers publicly available information about individual properties by address, as well as refuse and recycling pickup dates, zoning information and historic district boundaries. In addition, the application has aerial and terrain views and allows users to measure distance and area as well as draw, create and print maps. To begin a search on a specific property, go to www.oak-park.us/maps and enter an address in the window on the page. The results will open in a new browser tab or window, displaying the information in MapOffice, a proprietary application developed for the GIS Consortium, a collective of local governments working together to develop and implement new technologies they can share. The Village's long-term goal is to add map layers that will display a wide range of Oak Park-specific information that can be tied to a geographic location, such as Village infrastructure, parking resources and construction projects. The new feature also will have benefits to public service delivery. Analyses of data in a geographic information system can help departments function more efficiently by improving area-based services such as snow plowing to reduce time spent and save money.

Tree inventory online...Among the first Oak Park-specific layers to be added to the Village's new online property search feature is information on each of the nearly 19,000 trees on parkways and other landscaped public properties. Property owners can visit www.oak-park.us/maps, enter an address and view a map that allows them to read about every parkway tree on any block in the community. The information, which includes species, trunk diameter and height, is under the layers tab of the map. You will have to zoom in to see individual trees. Trees planted since the original inventory last year may not yet be in the system, but will be added.

Vehicle Sticker deadline nears

Every Oak Park resident who owns or leases a vehicle is required to purchase and display a vehicle sticker annually by July 15. Anyone who misses the deadline must purchase a sticker and pay a \$20 late fee. Failure to display a valid Village sticker by the deadline also may result in a \$50 ticket. Residents whose vehicles already are registered with the Village can save 10 percent by renewing online at www.oak-park.us/onlineservices, rather than via mail or in person at Village Hall. Vehicle sticker rates vary by type of vehicle. For more information, including rates for various types of vehicles, call 708.358.7275 or email parking@oak-park.us.



Village of Oak Park
Village Hall
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302-4272



OP/FM

Village President Anan Abu-Taleb

Trustees

Peter Barber
Glenn Brewer
Adam Salzman
Colette Lueck
Bob Tucker

Village Clerk Teresa Powell
Village Manager Cara Pavlicek

Residential Customer Local
Oak Park, Illinois

Postal Carrier
Pre-Sort

Presort
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 26
Oak Park, IL

Green News

Electronics recycling...Oak Park residents are invited to recycle old electronic equipment on the last Saturday of each month through October. Items can be recycled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Public Works Center, 201 South Blvd. Acceptable items include computers, peripherals, laptops, monitors, TVs, cell phones, rechargeable batteries, printers, fax machines, MP3 players, portable digital assistants, video game consoles, video cassette recorders, digital video disk players, zip drives, scanners and microwaves. These items are banned by state law from Illinois landfills. Unlike in past years, the Village now incurs costs to sponsor these events, as state collection goals have been met and funding has declined for electronic processors. This means staff will check for identification to ensure residents are served first. For more information call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Green awards...Nominations are being sought for Green Awards, a program created by the Environment & Energy Commission to recognize specific deeds or actions that embody and advance work toward a sustainable future. A nomination form is posted at www.oak-park.us. The deadline to submit a nomination is Aug. 28. For more information call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us.

Composting program...Food scrap composting is available throughout the community for \$14 per month, which is about the same as recycling one bag of yard waste per week under the current Village program that does not accept food scraps. Participants receive a special 96-gallon mobile cart for organics, an under-sink collection bucket and a box of compostable bags for food scraps. Subscribers who use the organics cart for their yard waste and food scraps will not be required to purchase yard waste stickers for grass clippings placed into the organics cart. Residents who maintain backyard compost piles or who mulch grass clippings are urged to investigate sharing organics carts and costs with neighbors. About 700 households currently participate in the pilot program. Call 708.358.5700 or email compostable@oak-park.us for more information or to sign up.

Watering restrictions in effect

As part of the interstate compact for preserving the Great Lakes, summer watering restrictions are in effect May 15 through Sept. 15. Outdoor water use is limited Mondays through Fridays to even-numbered street addresses on even-numbered days, and to odd-numbered addresses on odd-numbered days. Newly planted grass seed, sod, trees and shrubs are exempt from the restrictions for their first 30 days of growth. Call 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us for more information.

Make multi-family housing smoke free

Property managers, owners and condo boards interested in creating smoke-free buildings can get help through the Health Department's *Breathe Easy Oak Park* program. The program offers a range of materials on how to transition to a smoke-free property, including sample letters for tenants and lease addendums. For more information call 708.358.5486 or email health@oak-park.us.

Report smoking violations

State and local laws prohibit smoking in most public places in the Village, including within 15 feet of the entrance to any business. To file a complaint about a violation, call 708.358.5480 or email health@oak-park.us.

Village Hall going tobacco free

All municipal government properties, including Village Hall, soon will be tobacco-free work sites. The new rule also will apply to public parking garages. The tobacco-free designation is intended to protect the health of employees and visitors. Look for new signs to go up soon. For more information call 708.358.5486 or email health@oak-park.us.