

The Oak Leaf

Quarterly Newsletter for the Oakwood Homeowners Association

Oakwood News: President's Message



Aaaaaand, that's about it for 2021!

Better than 2020? Depends on who you ask. I don't think it was the ray of sunshine we all hoped for coming out of the 2020 dumpster fire, but with the end of a mediocre year comes the promise that the next

year absolutely has to be better... right?

We had some wins and some losses here in Oakwood in 2021.

In the win category, though it took forever, we have a number of homes with new / repaired / updated street lights in place! The lack of street lighting in Oakwood is always a concern, and we were hopeful that we could engage with a vendor who could do volume work for numerous homes, making work easier for them and cheaper for our residents. Communication and planning from the vendor was abysmal, but thanks to the efforts of Dave Szymendera, this project was kept alive and Oakwood's that much more well-lit at night for it.

A similar attempt to bring volume work to a supplier and discounts to Oakwood residents was attempted with paving (driveways, concrete, asphault, etc), but this initiative suffered several setbacks and never really got off the ground, despite interest from a large number of homeowners.

Efforts like these take time and energy, and it's difficult to corral input from people when the product has a high degree of scope and variability.

One area where I'm very surprised we haven't been able to find anything is with regard to snow removal. At this moment we haven't had any notable snow for the season, but when we do I always have people reaching out asking whether we know of anyone who can assist, and right now the answer sadly is no. If you do snow removal or know of someone who does, reach out to me at info@oakwoodha.org and I'd love to have your name handy when the requests start coming in!

Another win for the year was the successful compilation of the 2022 budget, which is posted on page 7 of this issue. This

(Continued on next page)

HEY! Oakwood Specific News in this Issue!

- Committee Updates!
- Village Happenings!
- New OAKWOOD MAKERS GROUP!



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Oakwood Homeowners Association 4 East Ogden Avenue # 313 Westmont, IL 60559

www.Oakwoodha.org

Oakwood: President's Message

is a real group effort on the part of the OHA Board, and our Treasurer, Lynette, does a masterful job of making it clean and painless, which is really a remarkable undertaking! Unfortunately there's no getting around the impact that inflation is having on us, and there will be a dues increase this year (our first one in a LONG time), but more about that in the next issue.

There are some exciting contributions in this issue... please do take just a few minutes to page through and check them out. I'm especially (and personally) excited about our attempt to form an Oakwood Makers Group (see back cover). The hope is to give a bit of structure to a somewhat informal means for makers and creators to connect and share ideas, skills, and tools with others in the community. This is open to residents of all ages, so reach out to us if you're interested or just curious at info@oakwoodha.org!

Now that it's come up twice, I'll go ahead and plug our e-mail distribution list... the best way to make sure you're aware of things in the community is to be on our list. We use it sparingly (no spam!), and we never share e-mail addresses with anyone, so your address won't be shared with others. Make sure you're on it by reaching out to info@oakwoodha.org.

That's about all I have for now. All my best to all of you for a wonderful 2022!

Mad Johnson

- Matt "Happy New Year!!" Johnson President, Oakwood Homeowners Association











The OHA is on Facebook. Follow us at

http://www.facebook.com/OakwoodHomeownersAssociation

to stay up to date with notices on events and relevant news for our neighborhood.

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Oakwood Community Contribution: Westmont Citizens' Police Academy

As a member of the Oakwood Neighborhood Watch (ONW), I decided to apply to participate in the Citizens' Police Academy offered by the Westmont Police Department. I had learned more about this program during the June 15th ONW Zoom presentation: "Conversation with Sgt Weibler". After applying online, I received email notification about dates, times, and topics. This year the sevenweek course was held on Wednesday evenings, Sept 29 to graduation on Nov 17.

As is currently stated on the Westmont Police Department webpage, "The goal of the program is to provide participants with a better understanding of the daily operations of the police department and to increase police community rapport. The CPA offers an interactive, behind-the-scenes look into the different aspects of law enforcement. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about many aspects of police work including SWAT, crime scene processing, investigations, patrol operations, mock traffic stops, firearms instruction and much more." https://www.westmont.illinois.gov/508/Citizens-Police-Academy>"

After taking this course, I certainly have a better understanding and tremendous respect and appreciation for our police, in particular our Westmont Police Department. From Introduction and Tour of the Westmont facilities to attempting to make observations etc. at a "crime scene" to learning about guns and using the firing range to participating in (mock) traffic stops to learning about **SWAT** and homicide investigations, I found the course to be very well worth the time. As a result I would encourage any interested resident of Westmont to apply for the course.

We are fortunate to live in Westmont / DuPage County. Before taking this course, I was not aware of the cooperation and efforts that are happening on our behalf. And, of course, I had no sense of what it is like to be a police officer. I could never do the job. It was also a pleasure to meet several members of our police department.

The class size is limited; applications are now being accepted for the 2022 class. Go to the link at the webpage listed above. If anyone has any questions about my experience with the course, feel free to email me at the Oakwood Neighborhood Watch email address:

oakwoodneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com

-Carol Johnson

Oakwood Resident, ONW member, and Westmont Citizens' Police Academy graduate



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Oakwood Community Contribution: Neighborhood Watch

We encourage you to be informed, to be diligent, and to take precautions.

On Oct 26th, the Police Department posted "Carjacking Safety Tips"

https://westmont.illinois.gov/civicalerts.aspx?AID=1493

If you are going to be traveling or away from home for a while, make use of the "Vacation Watch Service"

https://westmont.illinois.gov/499/Vacation-Watch-Service



With the holidays approaching, consider a gift for your home — Home Security Camera. See the Oakwood Neighborhood Watch article in the February 2021 issue of The Oak Leaf

https://www.oakwoodha.org/uploads/4/1/6/2/41624741/2021-03 oakleaf.pdf

And remember to "LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS AND TAKE YOUR KEYS"

Join Us!

Residents of Oakwood are invited to participate in the Oakwood Neighborhood Watch (ONW). Contact us by either:

- signing on to "Oakwood Neighborhood Watch" on Next Door, or
- sending an email to OakwoodNeighborWatch@gmail.com with ideas, suggestions, or questions.

Volunteer to work with the ONW planning group (monthly meetings) by emailing and letting us know your interest.



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Oakwood News: Social Committee

Halloween was a Scary Good Time

Thanks to the efforts of Leslie Ott and Andrea Leinweber, Oakwood was able to do another bag drop in lieu of a Halloween Party again this year. An astounding 120 kids signed up this year and a gift bag was delivered to each and every one on Halloween night! Thank you to Leslie and Andrea for their efforts!!

2022 Plans

Right now the Oakwood Social Committee has the following events being queued up:

- Egg Hunt (or bag drop)
- Fishing Derby/Beach Party
- OAK-toberfest
- Halloween event (or bag drop)

All events are planned and run by volunteers. To get involved, reach out to us by e-mail at:

info@oakwoodha.org.





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ADVERTISE HERE

For information on how to advertise in the Oak Leaf please email info@oakwoodha.org.

Annual cost to advertise (4 issues) is as follows:

Business card (2" h X 3.5" w): \$70 Double size (4" h X 3.5" w): \$140 Half Page (4" h X 7.5" w): \$210

The newsletter is distributed quarterly to over 450 homes and is posted electronically on the OHA Website, giving great local advertising exposure at a low cost!

PHONE (630) 325-6258 mrodek@yahoo.com



Michelle's Cleaning Service

RESIDENTIAL CLEANING EXPERT

MICHALINA RODEK

737 OAKWOOD CT. WESTMONT, IL 60559



Oakwood News: Lake Management Committee

Residents Encouraged to "Salt Smart"

DuPage County residents are encouraged to reduce the use of deicing salt this winter to decrease chloride concentrations in the County's waterways. Road salts, which are harmful to aquatic life, are carried into storm drains and streams via stormwater runoff. Residents can reduce the use of road salt by following a few simple steps when removing snow and ice.

- DuPage County

For more information go to:

DuPage County Stormwater Management News & Updates (govdelivery.com):

https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ ILDUPAGE/bulletins/2a7cfb4



Dock and Lock Program

Oakwood off-lake residents need not lug their boat down to Lake Charles for a day of boating / fishing fun. The Dock and Lock Program was established so off-lake residents could have similar boat accessibility and convenience the same as on-lake residents. The Dock and Lock area is located on the southern end of the Eastern Shoreline Path.

To take part the Dock and Lock Program:

A one hundred dollar refundable registration deposit is required to be submitted to the OHA with the Lake Charles Lock and Dock Space Request Form. The Deposit will be returned at the end of the season or when the boat is removed from the OHA Dock and Lock area provided that the owner has followed the OHA Common Area rules that apply to the Dock and Lock program.

For further information and the request form see the Common Area Rules section 7 found in the 2020 Oakwood Directory or at the OHA web site oakwoodha.org.

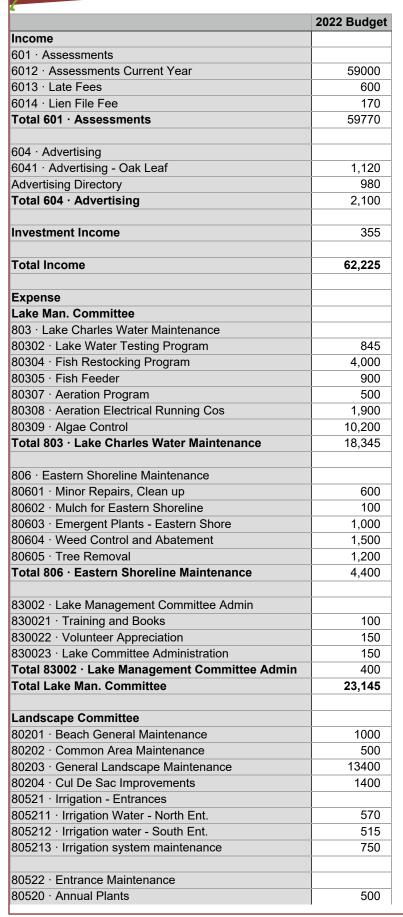
- Ken Brennan

Oakwood LMC Chairperson





Oakwood News: 2022 Budget





805221 · North Entrance Maintenance 805223 · Christmas Lights 80523 · Landscape Administration Total Landscape Committee OHA Board 811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	500 2400 50 21585 255
805223 · Christmas Lights 80523 · Landscape Administration Total Landscape Committee OHA Board 811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	2400 50 21585
80523 · Landscape Administration Total Landscape Committee OHA Board 811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	50 21585
Total Landscape Committee OHA Board 811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	21585
OHA Board 811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	
811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	255
811 · Mail Box Cost 813 · Meetings & Events	255
813 · Meetings & Events	255
81301 · Association Annual Meeting	
813011 · A.M Notification and Com.	360
813012 · A. M Refreshments	25
813013 · A. M Raffle	150
81302 · Meeting & Events Other	75
Total 813 · Meetings & Events	610
823 · Legal Services	
82311 · Corporate Registered Agent	200
82399 · Other Legal Services	300
Total 823 · Legal Services	500
83302 · General Liability Insurance	3,800
Total OHA Board	5,165
	,
Social Committee	
81341 · Children's Halloween Party	1,400
81343 · Children's Easter Party	1,225
81350 · Oaktoberfest	1,100
81370 · Oakwood Fishing Derby	1,700
Total Social Committee	5,425
	•
814 · Communications	
8141 · Newsletters	
81420 · Newsletter Printing	1,500
81430 · Newletter Delivery	650
Total 8141 · Newsletters	2,150
8161 Member Resident Directory	
18620 Printing	1,550
81630 Distribution/Delivery	160
Total 8161 Directory	1,710
8171 · Welcome New Residents	75
81802 · Web Hosting	160
Total 814 · Communications	4,095
820 · Financial	
82101 · Audit Fees	3500
840 · Financial Admin	
8401 · Postage	390
8402 · Supplies	430
8403 · Bank Charges/Lien Fees	205
8404 · Printing/Folding	70
Total 840 · Financial Admin	1,095
Total 820 · Financial	4,595
Total Expense	64,010
D () () () ()	4 705
Deficit (Use of Fund Balance)	-1,785



Oakwood News: Quarterly Market Outlook



Happy Holidays Oakwood,

It seems crazy but 2021 is drawing to a close. I remember a year ago when all the talk was about how THIS year was going to be SO much better than 2020, and I truly hope this has been the case for you all. 2021 was a whirlwind of a ride in the real estate market and I have to say that I'm glad it's almost over, although I don't see much changing as we head into 2022. Inventory is still at an all time low, inflation is up to 6.8% and interest rates are expected to climb throughout the year. One thing is for certain. Life

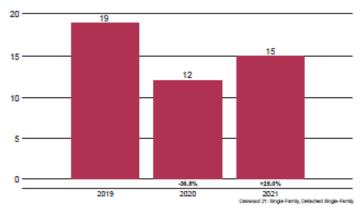
happens, and that means people will always face changes in which the right time comes along to buy or sell a home.

Below is a look at every property in Oakwood that changed ownership in 2021. A total of 15 homes have new families in them as of the end of November. A relatively small number, being that there about 425 homes in Oakwood and approximately 1 in 10 households move each year on average. This says alot about our community as once families move here they tend to stay for all the great things Oakwood has to offer. It also helps that we have one of the best high schools around, right in our own backyard.

Please know that I am always available to answer any questions you may have regarding your real estate plans. I wish each and every one of you a safe and prosperous New Year and look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood!!

Oakwood Closings 2021									
	Address	Closed	Beds	Baths	List Price	Sold Price	%Orig		
1.	823 Franklin St	02/09/2021	3	2	\$329,000	\$330,400	100		
2.	621 Newport Ave	02/26/2021	4	2	\$340,000	\$320,000	94.1		
3.	414 Arlington Ave	03/15/2021	4	2.1	\$364,900	\$370,000	101		
4.	514 Revere Ave	04/23/2021	3	2	\$329,000	\$323,000	98.2		
5.	1100 Oakwood Dr	05/28/2021	4	2.1	\$479,000	\$475,000	99.2		
6.	748 Franklin St	06/30/2021	4	2.1	\$494,900	\$480,000	97		
7.	732 Oakwood Dr	08/16/2021	4	3	\$359,900	\$364,000	101		
8.	745 Oakwood Dr	08/17/2021	3	3	\$659,900	\$659,900	100		
9.	457 Philadelphia Ave	09/17/2021	3	2.1	\$374,900	\$374,900	100		
10.	940 Williamsburg St	10/08/2021	4	2.2	\$495,000	\$475,000	96		
11.	1012 Williamsburg St	10/15/2021	4	3.1	\$795,000	\$735,000	92.5		
12.	571 Hamilton Ave	10/29/2021	3	2.1	\$389,900	\$390,000	100		
13.	425 Philadelphia Ave	11/01/2021	4	2.1	\$399,900	\$399,900	100		
14.	611 Champlaine Ave	11/05/2021	3	2.1	\$359,900	\$332,500	92.4		
15.	635 Champlaine Ct	11/10/2021	3	2	\$339,900	\$335,000	98.6		

Oakwood Closed Sales



*User-defined area. All data from MRSD. Data deemed reliable but not guaranteed



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Westmont News: From the Village Board



Hello neighbors! I wanted to share the following recap of 2021 Village projects and of course Happy Holidays!

NORTH WASHINGTON WATER MAIN PROJECT

6-inch cast iron main was replaced with a new 8-inch PVC pipe along with new hydrants and valves.

OAKMONT WATER MAIN PROJECT

Installation of a 12-inch water main and hydrant for the future North Westmont Water Tower at Westmont High School has been completed.

63rd & RICHMOND WATER MAIN PROJECT

Installation of a 8-inch water main for the future development on 63rd Street and Richmond has been completed.

LINCOLN AVENUE PARKING LOT

Parking lot project on North Lincoln just south of Irving Street is 50% done and expected to be completed in the Spring of 2022.

ADDINGTON PLAZA

Addington Plaza project on West Quincy Street is 50% done and expected to be completed in the Spring of 2022.

MOTOR FUEL TAX PAVING PROJECT

Grinding and repaying of 6 streets and the intersection at Cass and Burlington has been completed.

63rd & RICHMOND STORMWATER STABILIZATION PROJECT

Storage and capacity of the pond has been increased along with stabilization of the streambank from previous erosion. Also, a new Village Gateway Sign has been installed.

VILLAGE FUELING CENTER

Fueling center project near Johnaik Fire Station

Headquarters at 6015 S. Cass is 90% done and is expected to be completed in December.

ALLEY C PROJECT

Reconstruction of the alley between Norfolk Street and Naperville Road just west of Cass Avenue has been completed.

ALLEY D PROJECT

Reconstruction of the alley between Burlington Avenue and Irving Street just east of Cass Avenue has been completed.

LIBERTY PARK WATER MAIN PROJECT

The Liberty Park area is currently being surveyed for the purpose of designing a new water system.

SOIL REMEDIATION & DEMOLITION OF OLD PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

Former Public Works Department building at 328 S. Wilmette Avenue has been demolished and soil has been remediated.

OGDEN AVENUE MEDIAN PROJECT

Installation of a new fully landscaped

median on Ogden Avenue between Pasquinelli Drive and Oakwood Drive has been completed.

Ways to Connect with the Village

- Sign up for Notify Me community alerts http://www.westmont.illinois.gov/list.aspx
- Join the Village of Westmont Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/westmontilgov
- The Westmont Village Board meets every other Thursday at 6:00pm in the Village Hall. If you cannot make the meeting, they are televised and available on our YouTube channel.

Steve T. Nero

Westmont Village Trustee & Oakwood Resident (630) 776-8302

E: snero@westmont.il.gov

Westmont News: From CUSD 201

Westmont High School is the most improved and one of the top performing high schools in Illinois and the nation. This would not be possible without the support of all of our taxpayers including the Oakwood Homeowners Association.

Westmont earned the National Blue Ribbon Award in 2021 as one of the top schools in the United States, and we are one of only 20 regular high schools in Illinois to win the honor in the last 20 years. Only 18 regular high schools (out

of over 25,000) in the United States earned the National Blue Ribbon Award this year.

The Illinois State Board of Education has deemed Westmont an Exemplary School, their highest designation, every year since they initiated this recognition. Less than 5% of regular Illinois high schools have this distinction.

The national rating system,
GreatSchools.org, issues a rating from 1 to 10
for every public high school in the country.
Westmont currently holds a 10 out of 10 rating,
and Westmont is the only high school in the
competitive and prestigious DuPage County to
have a 10 rating

In 2020, Westmont High School won the DuFour Award, which brings the largest cash prize in American education, as the best Professional Leaning Community in the United States. 15 of the top researchers and educational authors in the United States served on the selection committee. Please go to YouTube and watch Westmont High School DuFour Award 2019 and Westmont High School DuFour Award 2020 for more details.

In the University of Chicago's 5 Essentials Sur-

vey, taken anonymously by students, parents and teachers, Westmont earns some of the top scores in the state for establishing a highly productive, respectful and positive culture and climate. In the U.S. News and World Report Best High Schools rankings, Westmont is the most improved high school in the country and also ranks in the top 2.5% of schools nationwide.

Westmont High School's test scores are also among the best in the state and in our economic sector have been the highest in Illinois for the

last 4 years. When the pandemic hit almost every high school saw a decrease in the state exam scores, but not Westmont. Please see Westmont High School Illinois School Report Card for more details.

Westmont High School also has a 99% overall graduation rate for the past 8 years, including 100% of African-American and Latino students graduating with not one dropping out.

Westmont High School was also selected as the only school in DuPage County to serve as the Junior Board of Directors for the wonderful Peoples Resource Center that supports neighbors in need. Our students also contribute many service hours to many other non-profit organizations.

Once again, thank you to our taxpayers and the Oakwood Homeowners Association for all you do for our students and school.

- Jack Baldermann

Principal – Westmont High School



Westmont News: From the Village Communications Dept.

Communication is important to the Village of Westmont. We encourage citizens to visit our Village of Westmont website at westmont.illinois.gov for the most accurate and up-to-date information. Following are some of the current headlines and links to the full story.

NOTE: The PDF version of this article has active links to the respective website sources and is available online at www.oakwoodha.org/oakwood-news.html

Sign up for the New Westmont E-Newsletter

https://westmont.illinois.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1323

Westmont's 100th Anniversary Celebration a Big Success

https://westmont.illinois.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1502

2021 Holly Days Schedule

https://westmont.illinois.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1508

Holiday Tree Pickup Schedule

https://westmont.illinois.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1507

To make sure you are staying current with Village information, sign up for **NOTIFY ME** and receive updates regarding news releases, agenda postings, and calendar entries. To sign up, go to the Village website at westmont.illinois.gov and click on the **NOTIFY ME** link.



Jenny Babyar Communications Specialist Village of Westmont 31 W. Quincy St. Westmont, IL. 60559 630-981-6246

www.westmont.illinois.gov



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Oakwood News: Oakwood Makers Group

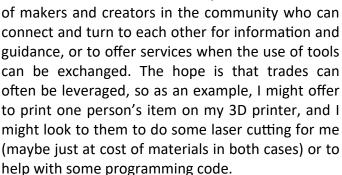
Makers and Crafters Wanted!

The people of Oakwood are among the most outgoing and engaging people in Westmont, but they're also among the most creative. I know that many of you have embraced the "maker" life and have gotten into various ways or letting that creativity materialize into some very cool things. It's a LOT of fun and can be an extremely enjoyable way to create in ways we couldn't in the past. Some of the way people are engaging with it includes but is not limited to:

- 3D printing (filament and/or resin)
- Laser cutting
- Programming (Raspberry Pi, Arduino, etc)
- Woodworking
- CAD
- Etc.

It can be an expensive hobby though. Some tools, materials, and equipment are coming down in price, but others are going up, and aside from cost, there's also the aspect of space to set things up and work on them that can be a limiting factor.

That's where the Oakwood Makers Group looks to come in. The intent is to form a fellowship



We'll make a push to get peoples' attention on this, with the intent to kick things off with a Zoom call in late February to introduce people and talk about how we can structure this. More information will be made available on-line at www.oakwoodha.org/makers, and an e-mail blast will be sent out once the site is up (make sure you're on our distribution!). To get on the distribution list or to express interest in the Oakwood Makers Group, e-mail us at info@oakwoodha.org.

