



Acorn

A Newsletter for the Citizens of Oak Creek, Wisconsin



www.oakcreekwi.org

The City of Oak Creek has a web site. It was created in December of 2000 as a means of providing easy access to commonly requested information.

Use it to check out the agendas for the upcoming Plan

Commission and City Council meetings. Or find out how to contact City officials and staff via email. Visit us at www.oakcreekwi.org

See page 12 for more information.

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Dale Richards

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Moving Forward

The state population estimates just came in. As of January 1st 2001, our population is estimated at 29,232, an increase of 776 since the 2000 census.

By the same token, we've only had two new single family residential permits in the month of July. That's the lowest monthly total in probably the last 10 years.

We are sad to say that on August 16th, 6th District Alderman Kathy Schmadl submitted her resignation after serving the City for five years. Kathy has had a change in employment that necessitates her to move to another aldermanic district. She has done a fine job and we wish her well in the future. Council will decide how to fill her vacancy. Thank you, Kathy, for your contributions!

The Community Development Authority has proposed a redevelopment plan for the Carrollville area along Lake Michigan. After considerable debate and a reduction in the size of the area, Council approved the plan and the creation of a redevelopment district. One of the main concerns expressed was a preliminary estimate of \$31 million in improvements that could be needed to implement the plan. Secondly, that the use of a tax increment finance district to finance it should not be borne by the taxpayers. While Council and I share both of those concerns, let me clear the smoke on these issues.

The \$31 million is a combined total dollar estimate to be borne by the developers of the area and the City. Let me repeat, there is no secret plan or expectation by Council or myself that this cost be borne solely by the taxpayer. There are certainly

costs associated with infrastructure that are borne by the taxpayer, just like any other part of this community.

This is not a change in policy. Furthermore, the use of a tax increment district is not new. Since 1980, the City has utilized TIF districts no less than 6 times. This is the only leveraged financial tool that a municipality has to make infrastructure improvements under State law. The intent is that a geographic area is defined and a base value is established. This base value will generate taxes that the City shares with other government entities such as the County, the school district, Milwaukee Area Technical College and MMSD. Under the City's direction, money is borrowed to make improvements to this district such as sewer, water or street improvements.

As a direct result of these improvements, new development takes place and the incremental new taxes from the new development are collected and paid exclusively to the City until that debt is paid off. I can only hope that this clears the air on one of your concerns. Certainly if the County ever decides to put in any type of golf course at Bender Park, we would need to run water and sewer lines down to service it.

As always, if you have any concerns you want to share, please call me or try my new e-mail address at City Hall drichards@oakcreekwi.org

Your servant,

Dale

Home Improvement Loans are Still Available

Low or no interest loans are available to income eligible households for various improvements to their homes. Based on the numbers in the table on the right, a household would be eligible if its total annual income is less than the maximum amount shown per family size.

If you feel your household is eligible, please contact Paul Milewski with the Department of Community Development at 768-6527, or stop in at the City Hall for an application.

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Total Annual Family Income</u>
1	\$35,550
2	\$40,650
3	\$45,700
4	\$50,800
5	\$54,850
6	\$58,950
7	\$63,000
8+	\$67,050

Community Development



LAKEVIEW VILLAGE REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE



On August 6, 2001, the Oak Creek Common Council approved the creation of a redevelopment district in the Carrollville area that would serve to implement the Lakeview Village concept plan as recommended in the proposed Comprehensive Plan Update.

This district, which was based on a blight determination study, will provide the basis for further actions taken by either the City or the private sector to clean up and redevelop this prime piece of real estate next to Bender Park and along Lake Michigan.

The City is currently considering financing options, including the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District, to provide the funds necessary to pay for the selected public expenditures to assist in achieving this redevelopment goal. Watch the papers for articles on the progress of any plan proposals.

ATTENTION!

The City has three City Hall display cases available to Oak Creek businesses free of charge.

These cases are available on a quarterly basis for advertising products and services. Reservations are taken in the order in which they are received.

If you are interested in using one of these spaces, send a letter to Paul Milewski, Department of Community Development at 8640 S. Howell Avenue, Oak Creek, WI 53154 or Fax to 768-9587.



Display Case Dimensions

Width: 29.5" Height-front: 42.25"
Depth: 21.75" Height-back: 41.0"

Cases are locked, illuminated with track lighting and some walls are surfaced with cork.

CENSUS UPDATE

In April of 2000, Oak Creek participated in the decennial census to find out how many people live in this country, along with information about them, their family and the housing units in which they live.

Here is some of that information, which is finally beginning to be distributed. The table on the right represents a comparison to comparable statistics, on Oak Creek, from the 1990 census.

We will pass along more information as it becomes available in future issues of the ACORN.

Category	1990 Census	2000 Census
Total Population	19,513	28,456
Male	9,676	14,180
Female	9,837	14,276
Median Age	32.4	34.5
Under 18	3,778 (19.4%)	7,107 (25%)
18 & over	15,735 (80.6%)	21,349 (75%)
Race		
White	19,034 (97.5%)	26,169 (92%)
Black	117 (0.6%)	519 (1.8%)
American Indian	127 (0.7%)	169 (0.6%)
Asian	87 (0.4%)	680 (2.4%)
Other	148 (0.8%)	484 (1.7%)
Two or More	NA	434 (1.5%)
Total (Housing) Units	7,263	11,897
Occupied	7,081 (97.5%)	11,239 (94.5%)
Vacant	182 (2.5%)	658 (5.5%)
Owner Occupied	4,654 (64.1%)	6,847 (60.9%)
Renter Occupied	2,427 (35.9%)	4,392 (39.1%)

Streets Department



REMOVAL OF GRASS, LEAVES AND YARD WASTE



The City of Oak Creek municipal code prohibits property owners from placing leaves, grass, yard waste or rubbish in the street, alley or sidewalk areas.

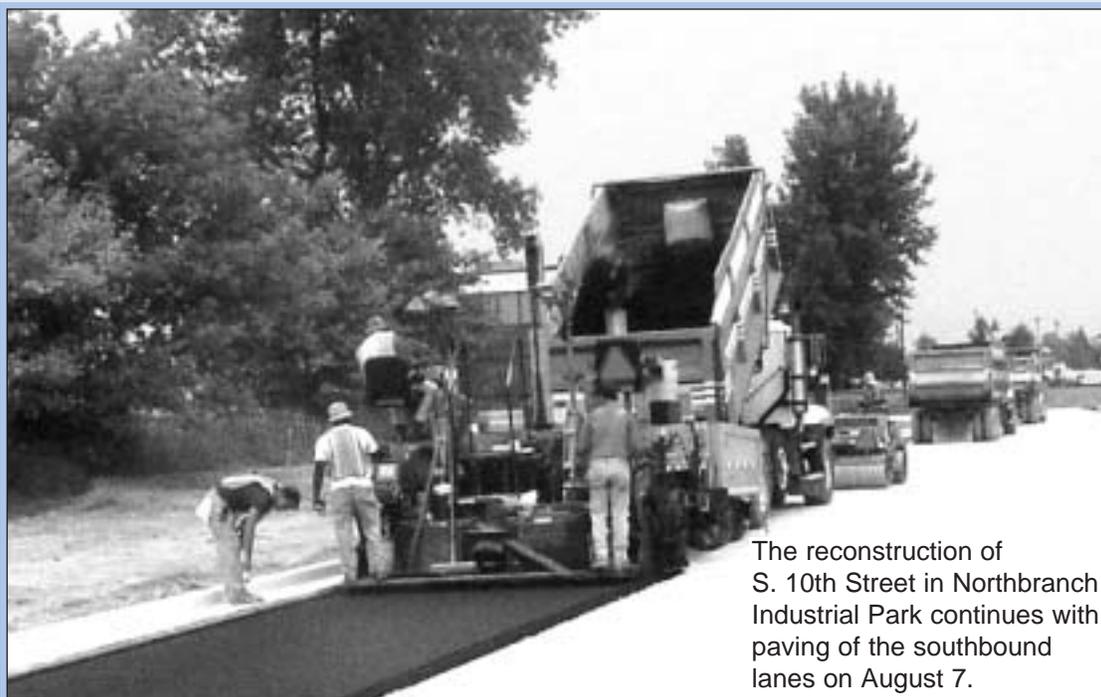
Residents may bring their leaves and yard waste, with the exception of grass clippings, to the recycling yard. The recycling yard is open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.

SNOW REMOVAL

Per Section 6.24 of the City of Oak Creek Municipal Code, residents are not allowed to place snow in any street, alley, sidewalk, parkway or public land in the City of Oak Creek.

The deposit of any snow or ice upon any street, alley, sidewalk, parkway or public lands of the City shall be declared to be a nuisance.

In addition, every property owner or occupant shall keep all fire hydrants and mailboxes abutting his property free and clear of all snow and ice.



The reconstruction of S. 10th Street in Northbranch Industrial Park continues with paving of the southbound lanes on August 7.



Daylight-savings time starts midnight October 28th. Remember to [set your clock back one hour.](#)





IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY

City of Oak Creek residents are asked to cooperate with the City and not place items such as trees, shrubs, basketball standards, rocks or any other other items in the City right-of-way and/or terrace areas per the City of Oak Creek Municipal Code, Sections 6.23 and Sections 6.25 as stated below:

Section 6.23 OBSTRUCTIONS AND ENCROACHMENTS.

Obstructions and encroachments in publicly owned or controlled lands or waterways are prohibited.

No person shall encroach upon or in any way obstruct or encumber any street, alley, sidewalk, easement, public right-of-way, drainage right-of-way, waterway, or public lands or part thereof.

No person may permit such encroachment or encumbrance to be placed on or remain on any public lands adjoining the land of which he is the owner or occupant except as provided in Sections 6.23(b).

Section 6.25 TERRACE AREAS.



(a) Definition.

For purposes of this Section, the “Terrace Area” shall be defined as that area between the curb and the sidewalk, and where no sidewalk exists, that area between the street pavement and the right-of-way/property line.

(b) Allowable Paving.

Sidewalks and driveway approaches as installed by the City, or under permit by the property owner, shall be the only paving allowed in the terrace area.

(c) Lawn and Weeds.

All parts of the terrace area not covered by allowable paving shall be maintained as lawn. The terrace area shall be kept free of all noxious weeds.

(d) Structures and Mailboxes.

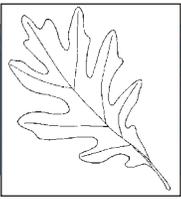
No structures or fixtures shall be placed in the terrace area. Examples of prohibited items would be basketball backstops, statuary, flagpoles and other objects.

The exception to this subsection is the installation of a mailbox as specified by the United States Postal Service.



(e) Responsibility to Maintain.

Every owner of land in the City whose land abuts a terrace area is required to maintain or have maintained by his tenant or contractor, the terrace directly abutting such land as provided in this Section or in other ordinances and regulations.



City Forestry

Avoiding Tree-Utility Conflicts

“Planting the Right Tree in the Right Place”

Oak Creek partners with Wisconsin Electric-Wisconsin Gas to do it right!

The City of Oak Creek has begun to work with Wisconsin Electric-Wisconsin Gas (WE-WG), formerly Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCo), to reduce the number and severity of conflicts between trees and utility lines. City Forestry considers tree-utility conflicts both when planting and removing trees. It is a proactive way of managing trees for less future maintenance and more safety now and in the future. In this way, we are doing our part to recognize the serious and necessary responsibility of WE-WG: keeping energy safely and continuously flowing through a vast network of utility lines to your doorstep.

This year the City moved young, potentially large street trees planted near electric lines, and WE-WG helped the City by providing some replacement trees to help plant *“the right tree in the right place!”* Low-growing species can still provide beauty and screening while adding diversity to the urban forest. The species we utilized under utility lines this year include: ‘Canada Red’ chokecherry, tree-form serviceberry and Japanese tree lilac. These trees were selected for both urban tolerance and height at maturity. We will also help reduce tree-utility conflicts by training young trees to grow away from utility lines before they even get close to the wires.

Tree removals and pruning have been scheduled to maintain roadway safety. The need for this project was made apparent by last year’s storm. The kinds of trees and limbs that came down last July were not surprising: nearly all brittle species with decayed portions, weak branch attachments and stressed situations. Since the storm, Oak Creek was surveyed for declining and weak-wooded species in sites that endanger community safety—a basic component of urban

forestry management.

It is very costly to remove large, hazardous trees, in general, but especially trees threatening utility lines. By safety standards, only skilled arborists trained in tree pruning and removal near utility lines are allowed to perform this work. This year the City received a cost-share urban forestry grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for contract removal and pruning of large, unsafe roadway trees. Residents of removal sites have been alerted to removal and pruning intentions beforehand. To keep our community reasonably safe, we will continue to monitor all roadways for safety and visibility clearance.

Arborists have written and talked about *“the right tree in the right place”* for years. Often a property owner had the objective of screening their view from the roadway or the power lines themselves. Sometimes a fast-growing, potentially large tree was selected to achieve this goal as quickly as possible. But it was not a long-term solution. A most unfortunate situation occurs when we combine the planting of tall-growing, weak-wooded trees along roadways and near power lines.

You might ask, “Why not just have the tree pruned away from the electric lines?” Many large trees have been pruned frequently in the past to keep them clear of utility lines. Pruning was necessary to maintain clearance and reliable electric service in the area. But sometimes removing trees and replacing them with lower-growing trees is a better alternative and more aesthetically pleasing than repeated pruning. It’s better to plant the “right tree in the right place” to begin with.

What if your utility lines are underground? It is particularly important not to plant trees in the utility or City right-of-way because they will be subject to removal if underground utilities require servicing, community safety is threatened or vehicular visibility is impaired; this is also true of City-planted street trees. Any plantings near WE-WG pad-mounted equipment (electrical boxes) should allow for a minimum of 10 feet of utility access clearance from the equipment. This clearance standard refers to trees 10 feet from equipment at maturity. Please remember to call Digger's Hotline before starting any digging or excavation (259-1181).

There are innovative answers to tree-utility conflicts. There are numerous shrubs, low-growing and dwarf trees to consider. Combinations of trees and shrubs, and their arrangements in the landscape, are numerous. When planting a tree on private property, the mature size of the tree should be considered to avoid conflict with utility clearance

and roadway safety. Pines and spruces should never be planted near power lines. Since they can be easily climbed, they can pose a danger to children climbing trees near power lines. WE-WG recommends planting only low-growing trees and shrubs near utility lines.

By planting "*the right tree in the right place*" we can all enjoy a healthier, safer, and more aesthetic urban forest. Oak Creek is a Tree City USA and WE-WG is a Tree Line USA Utility. Both have been recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation for their efforts and accomplishments.

We appreciate your calls to alert us to problems in the urban forest.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Rebecca Lane, City Forester at 768-5861 or email at rlane@oakcreekwi.org You are also invited to visit the WE-WG web site at www.we-wg.com

Fire Prevention Week 2001

Fire Prevention Week (FPW) this year will be October 7th-13th. The National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) has chosen a baseball theme entitled; "*Cover the Bases & Strike Out Fire*" for this year's campaign.

Fire Prevention Week 2001 combines America's favorite pastime with important fire safety tips to teach children and their families how they can "cover the bases" to "strike out" preventable home fires.

Sparky the Fire Dog, celebrating his 50th birthday this year as NFPA's mascot, will play a visible role in coaching families and communities on the simple steps they can take to avoid fires.

Each year the fire service makes a special effort to include children in Fire Prevention Week with help from fire fighters and teachers. Kids are very effective at driving fire safety messages home, which is where the risk of fire is greatest. This year, we'll use a baseball diamond as a visual clue; each base on the FPW diamond represents important safety tips.

"*Cover the Bases & Strike Out Fire*"

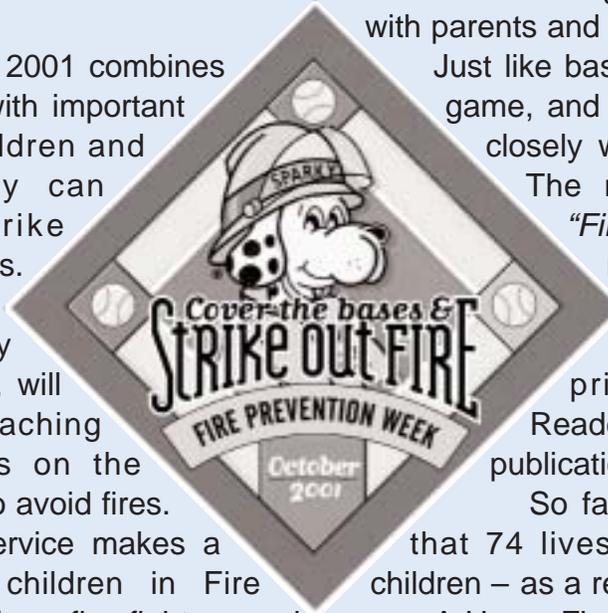
positions kitchen safety at first base, heating safety at second base and electrical safety at third. Home plate serves as a reminder to kids to conduct smoke alarm testing and home fire escape planning with parents and caregivers.

Just like baseball, fire prevention is a team game, and we encourage parents to work closely with their children to stay safe.

The most recent FPW campaign, "*Fire Drills: The Great Escape*" reached 7 million children through collaborative work of the fire service, public and private schools, and Weekly Reader, a widely-read grade school publication.

So far, documented reports confirm that 74 lives have been saved – mostly children – as a result of that campaign.

A Home Fire Safety Checklist based on this year's theme will be available at all three Oak Creek Fire Stations and will be used in the safety programs in the schools during Fire Prevention Week. Please visit your neighborhood fire station and pick up a copy of the checklist and "*Cover the Bases & Strike Out Fire*" in your home.

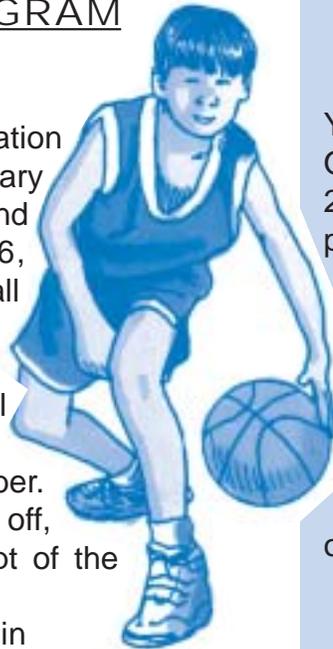




Parks and Recreation

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL PROGRAM

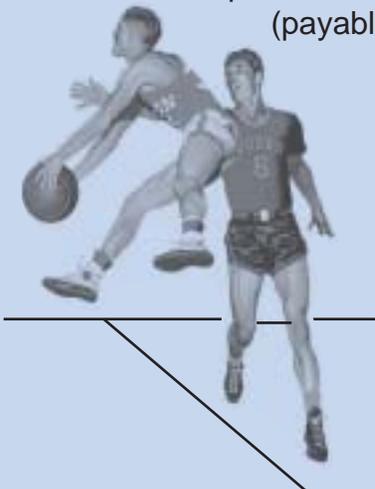
The Parks and Recreation Department is offering Elementary Basketball this fall for boys and girls in Grades 3 through 6, and a Middle School Basketball Program for boys and girls in Grades 7 and 8. Registration flyers are available in the school offices and Recreation office during the last week of September. Registrations may be dropped off, faxed or mailed in upon receipt of the flyer.



Processing will begin October 12th at 10:00 am for registrations received by that time.

OPEN BASKETBALL

Adults may attend the Open Basketball Program offered on Sundays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (Ages 35+) and 7:30 to 9:00 pm (Ages 18+) starting October 7th in the West Middle School Gym. Fee is \$2 per session for residents and \$3 per session for non-residents (payable at the door).



FOREVER YOUNG CLUB

The Oak Creek Parks & Recreation Forever Young Club meets each week on Mondays at the Oak Creek Community Center from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. The club participates in a hot meal program, conducts special events, goes on trips, plays cards and bingo, etc.

Those interested in becoming members are invited to stop in at the Community Center on Mondays and talk with our Coordinator, Georgene Gabelbauer, . Membership is open to those 55 years of age and over. Adults who are not yet 55 are still eligible to join if their spouse is over 55.

OPEN SWIM HOURS

7:00 to 8:30 pm.....*Ages 2 & Up*
Wed./Fri.

8:30 to 9:00 pm.....*Adults Only*
Wed./Fri.



Open Swim is held in the Oak Creek Senior High School Pool, at the times listed above, during the fall months till December 14th. Swimming is free to Oak Creek residents. The pool will be closed on Sundays and Holidays.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

Classes begin October 17 for anyone ages 15 and up interested in becoming a lifeguard. Students who complete the course will be certified in CPR for the Professional Rescuer, First Aid and Lifeguarding.



Those 16 and up who are interested in working for the Department should call us at 768-6515 for application/registration procedure.

MILLER PARK POND

The Miller Park Pond ice rink will open beginning in late December as soon as weather and ice conditions permit. Please call the Activity Line at 299-9721, Press 1, for dates and times. The Miller Park Shelter will be open only when the rink is supervised.



Please call the Recreation Office at 768-6515 for more information.

UNSUPERVISED ICE RINKS



Unsupervised ice-skating will be available at Chapel Hills, Haas, and Miller Park during daylight hours when the weather and ice conditions permit. Skate at your own risk.



SLEDDING LOCATIONS

Tobogganing/sledding is offered at Chapel Hills, Manor Marquette, Riverton Meadows and Willow Heights Parks during daylight hours when weather conditions permit. There is no supervision at any of these areas.



Daylight-savings time starts midnight October 28th.

Remember to [set your clock back one hour.](#)



OPEN WEIGHTLIFTING

Adults may attend the Open Weightlifting Program on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm starting October 22nd in the Oak Creek Senior High Weight Room.

Fee is \$2 per session for residents and \$3 per session for non-residents (payable at the door).

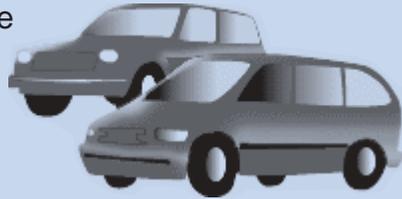


Police Department



REMINDER: WINTER PARKING

Winter parking restrictions begin on December 1st and run until April 1st. There will be no parking on the City streets during the following hours:



Monday thru Friday from 2:00am to 6:00am
Saturday & Sunday from 2:30am to 6:00am

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2001

Crime Prevention Officer Ron Piojda of the Oak Creek Police Department would like to thank everyone who attended the 6th Annual Oak Creek National Night Out on August 7th at the Oak Creek Community Center.

This year's event was a huge success. Between 4,000 and 5,000 people enjoyed rides, games, door prizes and low-cost food items in addition to a fabulous fireworks display at the end of the evening.



An extra special "Thank You" needs to be extended to all the area business sponsors, the numerous donors, as well as the National Night Out Planning Committee and their volunteers who made this community event possible.

FLASHING LIGHTS



STOP FOR SCHOOL BUS LIGHTS

With school in session, motorists are reminded to use caution when approaching school buses. Motorists should stop their vehicle not less than 20 feet from the bus when it is displaying flashing red warning lights, and remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or extinguishes the flashing lights. School bus operators may submit a written report to the Police Department of those vehicles illegally passing a school bus with its red warning lights flashing.

Upon receipt of this information, the Police Department will prepare a traffic citation and serve it upon the owner of the vehicle in violation. The fine for such violation is \$222.50.

Help keep our children safe this school year-stop when you approach a bus flashing its red warning lights!

MOTOR VEHICLE LOCKOUTS

The Police Department regrets to inform the citizens of Oak Creek that we will no longer unlock car doors.

We were always happy to provide this service to the taxpayers. However, officer safety and vehicle damage are at risk with the potential for exploding side airbags.

Therefore, citizens calling about vehicle lockouts will be referred to a locksmith.



The Oak Creek Police Department is always looking for your help solving crimes. You can remain 100% anonymous and receive a reward for your tip. Call the CrimeStoppers hotline at 570-2499 and help keep our community a safer place to live.

NEW EMPLOYEES

The Oak Creek Police Department would like to welcome the newest members of it's staff:



Dispatcher Brenda Gross began employment with the Police Department on July 5, 2001 to fill an existing opening. We wish her good luck and a long career with us.

Robert Israel was hired on July 30, 2001 to fill a part-time Police Aide position. Robert graduated from the Oak Creek High School in June of this year and is currently attending UW-Milwaukee, majoring in Criminal Justice.



HAVE A SAFE HALLOWEEN!

The Oak Creek Crime Prevention Bureau will give away 500 reflective trick-or-treat bags to Oak Creek residents on a first come, first serve basis. These reflect light and may prevent a trick-or-treater from being struck by an oncoming vehicle with its headlights on.



These specialty bags can be obtained by stopping at the Oak Creek Police Department and requesting one after October 12, 2001. Any questions? Contact Officer Piojda at 768-7435.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY



Halloween is a fun holiday for children, but concerns for their safety exist whether they are out in the neighborhood trick-or-treating or back at home with bags of goodies. Children, here are some guidelines to abide by to ensure a safe Halloween.

- * Wear a costume that makes it easier for you to walk, see and be seen.
- * Wear a light color costume at night.
- * Carry a flashlight so you can see and be seen.
- * Use reflective tape on your costume.
- * Use makeup instead of a mask.
- * If someone older cannot go with you, Trick-or-Treat in a group.
- * Cross only at corners. Never cross between parked cars or mid-block.
- * Tell your family which streets you will be on.
- * If there are no sidewalks, always walk facing traffic.

SERVICE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Beginning this fall, the Oak Creek Public Library, with the cooperation of the Friends of the Oak Creek Public Library, will be offering service to the homebound. Oak Creek residents who are not able to leave their homes will be able to have books and other library items brought to them.

The Friends of the Oak Creek Public Library is an independent organization of persons interested in assisting the library in developing programs, encouraging gifts, promoting knowledge and providing a channel for individuals and organizations to express ideas and make suggestions for library use and services.

Oak Creek librarians will be working with "Friends" members to provide this service to city residents. [For more information and details phone the library at 764-4400.](#)



Need Local Information? Try our Web Site.

Who won the first election in the Town of Oak Creek back in 1842? It was Luther Rawson.

By six votes he was elected "Dog Whipper." His pay was set at \$1.00 per day.



The creation of the City web site began in December of 2000, by staff, as a means of providing easy access for residents and others to commonly requested information. It also provides another way to contact City officials and staff via email.

Do you know that the Parks and Recreation department has four sledding hills in the City for residents to utilize this winter?



Do you need to know what day your garbage is picked up? Do you need the Mayor's phone number? Do you need immunization information? Do you need to know the City requirements on building decks?

All of these items and many more can be found on the City of Oak Creek's web site.

This site at www.oakcreekwi.org contains information about our City government.



It is easy to navigate and contains information on: City history, elected officials and how to contact them, a City directory with telephone numbers and email addresses, You will also find City department information, a calendar for City meetings and events, minutes and agendas for City meetings, current members of Boards and Commissions with an explanation of what each board is responsible for.

Current events, maps, resident information, Municipal Code, City job postings and a section on Economic Development are also included.

The Acorn and the Parks and Recreation program brochure along with other department reports are also on the site. The site is updated several times a week, keeping meeting agendas and minutes as current as possible.



City of Oak Creek
Web Site

Development of the site is an on going process and many additional items are planned and will be added in the future.

Items to be added include: additional City department information; brochures and City documents; residential and property tax information; utility, zoning and floodplain maps. We are also looking for input from residents on items that they would like to see on the web site.

Send comments by E-mail to Caesar Geiger at cgeiger@oakcreekwi.org

*Have a Happy
Thanksgiving*



Holiday Information

Official 2001 Trick-or-Treat Hours

As approved by the Common Council, Trick-or-Treat will be held:

**Sunday, October 28th
from 4:00 to 7:00 pm**



Because the time scheduled for Trick-or-Treat includes both daylight and evening hours, applications for night-time Trick-or-Treat will not be available.

Halloween Safe Site

Time: **Sunday October 28th
from 4:00 to 7:00pm**

Place: The Oak Creek Historical Society Museum, 15th. Ave. & E. Forest Hill Ave.

For children of all ages (infants thru 12yrs) All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more information call *Gene Stark at 762-1077*

Annual Christmas Decorating Contest

Think you've got an exceptional holiday display? Enter yours or your neighbor's decorations by calling Jeff at 768-5856 or E-mail at jgrehn@oakcreekwi.org The contest begins December 12th and ends December 19th.

Official judging will take place on Thursday December 20th. Only displays entered during the above dates will be eligible. Winners will be posted on the Oak Creek Web Site www.oakcreekwi.org on December 21st.

Winners will be judged on originality, organization and theme. Any citizen wishing to participate as a judge should contact Jeff Grehn at 768-5856 by Wednesday December 19th.



HOLIDAY RUBBISH/RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Date of Holiday</u>	<u>Date of Pick Up</u>
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 22, 2001	Wednesday, November 21, 2001
Day After Thanksgiving	Friday, November 23, 2001	Monday, November 26, 2001
Christmas Eve Day	Monday, December 24, 2001	Friday, December 21, 2001
Christmas Day	Tuesday, December 25, 2001	Wednesday, December 26, 2001
New Year's Eve Day	Monday, December 31, 2001	Friday, December 28, 2001
New Year's Day	Tuesday, January 1, 2001	Wednesday, January 2, 2002

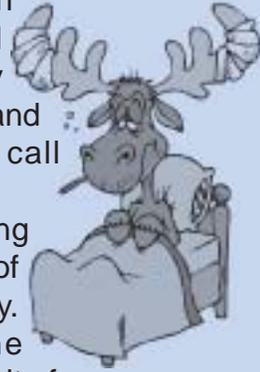


Health Department

“Flu” and Pneumonia – Are You Protected?

The Health Department is anticipating having its “Flu Clinic Day” on Tuesday, October 30th. It will be held at the Oak Creek City Hall from 9:00 am to Noon and 2:00 to 5:30 pm. Please call 768-6525 to pre-register.

Anyone pre-registering will be guaranteed a dose of “flu” vaccine for this clinic day. However, if the vaccine shipment is delayed, the priority for distributing the vaccine to **Oak Creek Residents** will be:



- Those 75 years and older and those with health conditions of highest risk
- Those residing in residential facilities
- Those 65 years and older and those with health conditions of moderate risk
- Those 50 years and older and those with health conditions of lowest risk
- Everyone else

Staff will notify you if the shipment is delayed and reschedule your “Flu Shot Day”. Additional “flu” vaccine will be available at regularly scheduled immunization clinics, beginning in November, while supplies last.

The “Flu” vaccine is recommended yearly for those over 50. Those under age 50 with chronic health conditions are also highly encouraged to receive it. One dose of the Pneumonia vaccine is recommended after age 65. New this year: if you received your pneumonia vaccine prior to 1983, a “booster” dose is now recommended.

You must bring your Medicare card to the clinic as the City is mandated to bill for both the flu and pneumonia vaccines.

The Health Department also receives grant funding to assist

low-income residents to receive the vaccines. If you qualify, the vaccines are free of charge; otherwise the costs are \$15 for the “flu” vaccine and \$23 for the pneumonia vaccine.



Note: We require a written prescription yearly from your child’s doctor for children under 18 years to receive the flu and/or pneumonia vaccine.

HELP COMMEMORATE WORLD AIDS DAY ON DECEMBER 1st. WEAR A RED RIBBON!

Immunization Up-Dates



The state immunization law has changed to include protection against chicken pox. This affects all children ages 2-4 years in day care and all kindergartners. These children must either have the vaccine, a report of when they had the disease, or a signed waiver to be in compliance with the law.

Prevnar (a pneumonia vaccine) is now available to children under age 5 years. It is highly recommended for infant and toddlers. The number of doses in this series varies, based on the age of the child.

There is still a shortage of the Tetanus/Diphtheria toxoid. All health care providers are only offering the Td vaccine for wound management; this includes the health department.

Routine immunization clinics are held at the Oak Creek City Hall on 1st Thursdays between 2:30 & 5:30 pm and on 3rd Thursdays between 9:00 & 11:00 am. Call 768-6525 a few days prior to the clinic to pre-register; this will guarantee vaccine availability for you or your child.



Head Lice Information

Head lice are tiny insects that live in human hair. They range in size from a “speck of dirt” to ¼ inch in length. The female louse will lay 7-10 eggs or “nits” per day for up to 30 days; she lays them on hair strands within ¼ inch of the scalp. The nits are attached with a glue-like substance secreted by the female and feel like a grain of sand or salt. The louse matures in the egg for 7 days and then hatches, becoming an adult within a week.

Head lice fall and crawl. They do not jump or fly. They are transmitted from borrowed hats, ribbons, scarves, combs, and/or brushes. Use caution when shopping for hats/coats/etc. for winter and for your child’s Halloween costume. Head lice also “hide” in upholstered furniture, including that in your car, and in bedding.

If you think someone in your family has head lice, contact the Health Department for a “head check”. If there is a lice infestation, a PHN will guide you through the treatment process.

Only those who have head lice should be treated. Shampoos for lice are pesticides and are not meant to be used on a precautionary basis. Follow the instructions exactly.

An alternative treatment is the use of olive oil which must be applied to the hair and left on for 8 hours. This needs to be repeated 5 times, every

fourth day.

Vacuuming is the safest and best way to control lice on mattresses, rugs, furniture, and the seats in your car.

Pillows, bedding, and clothing may be washed in hot water and dried on high heat. Pillows should be washed and/or dried (20 minutes on the highest drier setting, not counting the time needed for warm-up and cool-down) every 2-3 days during and immediately following an infestation.

Stuffed animals and feather pillows should be placed in a sealed plastic bag for 30 days. Human head lice do not live on pets, but brushing outdoors or vacuuming the animal is a good way of eliminating the pet as a transporter of the lice.

Students who have been infested must have a “clearance” from the Oak Creek Health Department in order to return to school.

Regular head checking is the best means of preventing and controlling head lice. Families, please incorporate “head checks” into your weekly routine.

Contact the Oak Creek Health Department at 768-6525 for further information. Also see: [www\HeadLice.org](http://www.HeadLice.org).

Attention Book Lovers

If you enjoy reading and sharing your ideas with other book lovers, then you might consider joining a book discussion group at the Oak Creek Public Library.

The library’s afternoon group meets the third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm; the evening group meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. Come join us for a lively discussion and meet new friends who love to read!

For more information call the library at 764-4400.

Sue Kaczmarek, Reference Librarian



On June 28th. Wauwatosa Savings Bank donated a U. S. flag to the City of Oak Creek.

OCTOBER 2001

- 2 7:00pm Common Council Meeting
- 3 6:00pm Municipal Court
- 4 2:30-5:30pm . Immunization Clinic
- 9 4:45 pm Library Board
7:00 pm Plan Commission
- 10 . . . 5:00 pm Municipal Court
7:00 pm Traffic & Safety Commission
7:30 pm Water & Sewer Utility Commission
- 11 . . . 6:30 pm Parks & Recreation Commission
- 15-16 9 am-4 pm . . Committee of the Whole Budget
Discussions (tentative)
- 16 . . . 7:00pm Common Council Meeting
- 17 . . . 6:00pm Municipal Court
- 18 . . . 9-11:00am . . Immunization Clinic
7:30 pm County Supervisor Launstein Town
Hall Meeting
- 23 . . . 7:00 pm Plan Commission
- 24 . . . 5:00 pm Municipal Court
- 28 . . . 4-7:00pm . . TRICK OR TREAT

NOVEMBER 2001

- 1 11:30am Board of Health
2:30-5:30pm . Immunization Clinic
- 6 7:00pm Common Council Meeting
- 7 6:00pm Municipal Court
- 12 . . . 7:00pm 2002 Budget Hearing (tentative)
(alternate date 11/19/01)
- 13 . . . 4:45pm Library Board
7:00pm Plan Commission
- 14 . . . 5:00pm Municipal Court
7:00pm Traffic & Safety Commission
7:30pm Water & Sewer Utility Commission
- 15 . . . 9-11:00am . . Immunization Clinic
6:30pm Parks & Recreation Commission
- 20 . . . 7:00pm Common Council Meeting
- 22 . . . CLOSED . . . THANKSGIVING
- 23 . . . CLOSED . . . HOLIDAY
- 27 . . . 7:00pm Plan Commission
- 28 . . . 5:00pm Municipal Court

DECEMBER 2001

- 4 7:00 pm Common Council Meeting
- 5 6:00 pm Municipal Court
- 6 2:30-5:30pm . Immunization Clinic
7:30 pm County Supervisor Launstein Town Hall Meeting
- 11 . . . 4:45 pm Library Board
7:00 pm Plan Commission
- 12 . . . 5:00 pm Municipal Court
7:00 pm Traffic & Safety Commission
7:30 pm Water & Sewer Utility Commission
- 13 . . . 6:30 pm Parks & Recreation Commission
- 18 . . . 7:00 pm Common Council Meeting
- 19 . . . 6:00 pm Municipal Court
- 20 . . . 9-11:00 am . . Immunization Clinic
- 24 . . . CLOSED . . . CHRISTMAS
- 25 . . . CLOSED . . . HOLIDAY
- 31 . . . CLOSED . . . NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

