



**March 8, 2014**

**The Village of Oakwood Hills  
March 2014 Newsletter**

## **From the President**

### **WINTER! WILL IT EVER END?**

Well at least we have been able to keep our streets plowed and safe, and we have learned a few things along the way. We have learned that in the past we have been using way too much salt when plowing. We now know that salt/sand works much better and is substantially easier on the budget, and much better for the health of our lake. Planning for next year Algonquin Township has agreed to mix our salt with sand as needed. In our contract with Waste Management they provide free spring street cleaning.

There has still been a fair amount of people parking on the streets during a snowfall. Our plow driver will notify the police department of cars on the road and you will be ticketed. I have also noticed that garbage cans and bins are left on the road several days past the garbage pick up. Both of these issues make it difficult for the plows to properly clear the roads. Please do your part and keep things out of the roadway.

This is a great place to live and we are working hard to make it even better. Thanks for the many supportive letters that I have received during this difficult season. It is much appreciated.

Melanie Funk  
Village President

## **From the Police Department Cell Phones and Texting**

As of January 1, 2014, a new law in Illinois bans the use of all hand-held devices while driving in Illinois. Only hands-free technology such as speakerphones, blue tooth, and headsets are permitted.

### **How is it Enforced?**

Fines for violation of Illinois cell phone law start at \$75. Illinois's cell phone and texting laws are considered "primary" laws. A primary law means that an officer can pull you over for the offense without having to witness some other violation. That is, the officer sees you texting and issues a citation. A secondary law refers to the fact that an officer can only pull you over and issue a ticket if the officer has witnessed some other violation - for example, you ran a stop light while texting. Info from:

<http://www.drivinglaws.org/ill.php>

Driving in Illinois while using a cell phone is illegal for:

- Learner's permit holders
- Drivers younger than 19
- School bus drivers
- All drivers while operating in school and construction zones

Illinois is also one of six states in which localities are allowed to ban cell phone use for all drivers. Currently, Chicago is the only major city in Illinois in which driving while using a cell phone is illegal under any circumstances.

### **All drivers of all ages are banned from texting.**

Regardless of whether or not it is illegal for you to use a cell phone while driving, it's important to be cautious when making calls. Distracted driving can be a significant safety hazard, especially when you're traveling in heavy traffic or under poor weather conditions.

Thank you for helping to make our community safe,  
Peter Goldman  
Chief of Police

## **Community Events**

Coming in **April** we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt in the North Park. A tentative date will be either **Sat. April 12<sup>th</sup>** or **Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 pm. Signs will be going up in plenty of time with the scheduled date.

On Tuesday **July 15<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm there will be a free concert in the North Park given by the Crystal Lake Community Band. There are approximately 80 members of the band that will play a variety of tunes for the whole family to enjoy. Bring a blanket and a bite to eat and come and show your support for this great local band.

In **September** we will be having our fishing derby at the North Beach. The date is yet to be decided. Tentatively it will be the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Lots of fun prizes not to mention the fun of seeing what you can catch. Hopefully we can get more girls out this year.

In **October** we will be having Halloween in the Park. No date is set at this time.

In **December** our 2nd annual Christmas Tree lighting. No date set at this time.

**We would like to encourage residents to attend the Board and Committee meetings; as well as, volunteer for our many events. We need the help and there is plenty to do. Simply call the Village and leave your name and phone number and you will be contacted.**

## **Com Ed Customer Care Program Outreach**

Please click on the link below to learn more about the Com Ed Customer Care Program to assist their customers facing financial hardship during this extreme winter season.

[ComEd](#)

**Village Hall Hours: M, T, W 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM and T, Th. evenings 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM - 815-444-9435**

**Building Department Hours: M and W 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM and F 4:30 PM until 5:30 PM - 815-444-9437**

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