



# Village of Oakfield Newsletter

Spring 2020

## Message From Mayor Dave

Let me start by saying I enjoy working with the Trustees of our Village. They are hardworking, independent thinkers who always focus on making Oakfield a great place to live and work. I am truly grateful as your Mayor for the opportunity you have given me to support Oakfield as a great place to be!

Several recent accomplishments will provide long term value to our Village. The first is completion of our Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade. It is now complete except for a short “punch list” ---small items that need completion when the weather turns warmer. We are ahead of what was expected and are fine tuning the new equipment. For instance, we are using the new ultraviolet disinfection system which greatly reduces the use of chemical treatment. (This is the technique of the future for Waste Water Treatment Plants.)

On the personnel front, the Board convinced Kim Staniszewski to be our new Village Clerk. Many of you know that she grew up in the Village and has stayed very active in our community and is an experienced professional. She has already lent her hand and with help from our O&M Crew (Dave, Tom and Eric) spruced up our office. (Stop in sometime to admire their work and sample the candy dish.) Kim was selected from dozens of applicants and was the strong and unanimous choice of the Trustees to replace Andrew McGuire who now serves as Director of Economic Development for the Batavia Development Corporation.

With the help of the Town and the Oakfield Betterment Committee substantial work has been completed at Triangle Park. This includes restoration of the Gazebo by Tim Nickels of Masonry Medic and electrical improvements by Charlie Carrol of Able Electric. We hope you noticed that, for the most part, the trees remained lit for this year’s “Lights in the Park” even though we had another rainy Holiday Season. More importantly, the electrical work was “done to code” and provides protection for those who visit. Thank you to Crossen Christmas Tree Farm for donating our gazebo Christmas tree.

We are looking forward to Spring’s arrival and know that Summer will quickly follow! Thank you for your cooperation with the Winter Parking rules as it makes snow plowing much easier and cost effective. In anticipation of Spring we have added a section in this newsletter to remind ourselves of some of the community wide events that will be coming.

Some major projects are in the works and will start when the weather is better. These include micro paving of North Pearl Street and the beginning of a two-year cycle for repairing/replacing individual sidewalk panels that have been damaged by Village trees or equipment. The Village will be applying for a grant to remediate the infiltration of water into our waste water treatment system. This effort, hopefully, will help to reduce the cost of operating our sewer plant. We also expect to replace badly damaged tree grates on Main Street with more durable ones. Finally, we are near completion of a three-year process to upgrade our roadway signage.

Thank you for the support you have given in the past and for continuing it in the coming year. As seems to have become the recent norm, a goal of the Village will be to control costs while coping with mandates and stagnant revenue from the State. I am confident that with the help of so many talented people, the Village will be able to continue its history as a great place to reside.

Best Regards, Dave Boyle

### Calendar of Village Events:

March 18th-The Village Elections  
Saturday, April 18th-11th Annual Oakfield Earth Day Cleanup -  
Sunday, April 19th-Oakfield Historical Museum Opening Day  
1 PM – 3 PM

### HAXTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**New Hours:** *Monday:* 9 AM -3 PM, *Tuesday:* 1 PM - 5pm,  
*Wednesday:* 9AM - 3 PM, *Thursday:* 1PM - 5 PM, 6:30 - 8:30 PM  
*Friday:* Closed *Saturday:* 9AM—3PM, *Sunday:* Closed

Thank you to Library Director: Kimberly Gibson; Library Clerk:  
Vicki Carroll and Children’s Library Clerk: Kathy Engle for main-  
taining such a fine facility.

Watch your mailbox in March for your 2020 Census questionnaire. Your participation in the Census is important to ensure proper Federal funding is allocated to our School, Village and State. Visit <https://2020census.gov> for more information



## DPW SUPERVISOR MESSAGE

I am happy to report the Village Board recently approved upgrading of our Security Camera's at the Village office and in Memorial Park. In addition cameras will also be added to Triangle Park helping to make our Village safer. Last fall we did a Streetlight upgrade to all LED lighting. This upgrade will provide energy savings to our Village of approximately \$4,000 per year. There will be several street projects coming up this Spring and Summer, please be courteous to our road crews when driving around the Village.

Some dates to note: Brush pick-up will be on Monday's starting April 6<sup>th</sup> and overnight parking on the Village streets will resume on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Please remember there is no parking in the municipal parking lots from 2:00am to 8:00 am year-round. If you have any questions regarding

## News from the Historical Society

We are busy changing the displays for this year. We are honoring the businesses on the south side this year. Our walking tour last August highlighted the south side and all its little businesses. People were amazed at all the little businesses.

Our opening day this year will be Sunday, April 19, 2020, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

This year we will once again host a cemetery tour at Cary Cemetery in September. We had so much fun "meeting" our ancestors. If anyone is interested in portraying a character please contact Laurie Nanni, 585-259-4145.

We began some great programs this year starting with Brian Glor, on March 3 2020 at 7:00 at the Oakfield Town & Government Center. He presented Aircraft Down, the true story of his fathers' plane being shot down over Corfu, Greece and how the villagers helped him. Our meetings are the first Tuesday of the month. Check out our Facebook page for more information.

Our OACS 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will be coming in June for their annual tour. This is one of our favorite days of the year.

If you have never been to the museum please stop in. We are open Sundays from 1:00 -3:00 or by appointment. We have a fantastic display on the US Gypsum Company, the "war room" and our Native American room is always a hit. Bill Chase is responsible for this room and is constantly learning new things such as knapping arrow-heads.

## VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD ON THE WEB

Have you ever visited the Village's website? This site is a treasure trove of information! Did you know you can make your water/sewer payments online? There is also a link that promotes municipal transparency by allowing residents to see the visual breakdown of the Village's audited finances and the Village's demographics and population. Please take a few minutes to explore your Village website. If you would like your community activity/event placed on the website, please contact the Village Office at 948-5862.

Here are a few more examples of other available information.

- Dates and Times of Village Board Meetings
- Information on Village Zoning and Codes
- Web Links to other organizations in Oakfield

## REMEMBER TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF OILS, FATS AND GREASE

One of the leading causes of sewer backups and pipe clogs in the Village is the improper disposal of residential oils and grease. These are typically the by-product of cooking, and are found in meats and other food scraps, sauces and gravies, fats, lard, cooking oil, shortening and butter. It is extremely important to properly dispose of these substances, because when they are flushed or poured down the sink, drain or toilet they cool, harden and stick to the inner walls of the sewer pipes. Over time, as more fats, oils and grease are added to the system, these blockages build up and harden until they completely block the pipes. This can lead to raw sewage overflowing and backing up into your home or business, exposing you and your family to unsanitary conditions and potentially dangerous organisms.

Further, once these substances make their way into the Village sewer lines, they can clog and damage the sewer treatment plant. This leads to expensive and time consuming remedial measures, which has a direct impact on the cost of operating our sewer system and the corresponding sewer rate.

So how does one minimize the impacts of residential grease on the sewer system? Easy, just follow these simple rules:

- 1.All cooking oil and grease should be poured into a non-recyclable container to be disposed of in the garbage. Never pour them down the sink.
- 2.Dishes, pots and pans that are coated with greasy leftovers should be wiped down with a disposable towel prior to washing or placement in a dishwasher.
3. Never put fat trimmings or greasy meats down the garbage disposal. Instead, put them in the trash. If smell is a concern, place them in a plastic bag or place them outside in a trashcan.

By following these simple rules, we can all help reduce the risk of an expensive sewer backup into our homes, and help minimize the cost of operating our sewer treatment facility.



- Status of Capital Projects
- Calendar of Community Activities