

The OakLeaf

FALL 2025

VILLAGE OF GREEN OAKS NEWSLETTER



President's Corner

Bernie Wysocki ~ Village President

It was wonderful to see so many friends and families at the Green Oaks Oaktobfest. Each year the gathering becomes a great social event while also supporting Lambs Farm.

My President's Page is going to be a bit lengthy since I would like to cover two important Village matters. First, our beautiful Village Hall needs some remodeling and expansion. Our Village Hall is over one hundred years old and remains one of the last one room school houses in the area. It served Oak Grove students until 1957 when a new school was built.

The old school was vacant until the United Way of Lake County used it as their main office. The United Way eventually out grew the building and the Village purchased and dedicated it on May 23, 2004. Other than adding the Board Room, very little has changed in the old building.

After accessing the existing building, there is a need for structural review expanding the capacity, accessibility and safety concerns. We have cramped offices for the staff. We have no offices for the engineer, building commissioner or public safety officer. We meet with residents, business owners and developers at the staff's lunch table.

With the new Patriot Path bike trail to be installed along Route 137 (Buckley Rd), we will be losing additional parking spaces. If we have more than 10 people in our audience for our Village meeting, we will



not have enough space for everyone to park in our lot. Fortunately, the property to the east of the Village Hall became available for purchase. We bid on the property and were successful in obtaining 1.7 acres this past summer. The 1950's house and garage will be demolished in the near future and the land will provide us with the ability to expand our footprint. Since we are in the process of reviewing options of adding wings or floors or repurposing existing areas, this is a good time to make a part of the expansion a multi-purpose community center. Resident involvement and engagement are vital to the long-term success of the project.

Secondly, thank you for all the kind words from the folks at the Oaktobfest that love our Memorial Garden on the corner of Route 137 (Buckley Rd) and O'Plaine Rd. Our beautiful grounds will be enhanced with customized paving bricks which will honor our veterans, families of Green Oaks and the many people who have made our Village so unique. There is an application form on page 11 of the Newsletter



if you wish to have a personal brick placed around the center of the garden. Once the applications are received, the pavers will be installed in early spring. We hope to have a ceremony once the bricks are installed. Thereafter, anyone who later wants a brick will have the opportunity for a second installation later in the year.

The paver bricks offer a choice and timeless look that will add warmth and character to our outdoor space. If you have additional questions about the brick paver program, please contact Village Hall.

In this digital age, face to face interactions is becoming increasingly rare, yet these personal connections are vital for nurturing social cohesion and community engagement. Please let us know your thoughts to boost the success of our community projects.

If you wish to complete the Community Center Survey, please visit our website at GreenOaks.org or directly to the form at <https://forms.office.com/r/18LbL8zLzT>

We need to hear from you in helping the Board of Trustees in undertaking this phased construction. We have prepared a survey that lets us know what the Village residents would like to see in a Community Center. Please fill out the survey and return.

The survey will assist us with designs, accessibility, security and future needs. Once the Board has a general idea and direction for the project, we will schedule a meeting with an architect to discuss design and costs. Feasibility of the project is of utmost importance and no project in the Village will be constructed without adequate funding.



2020 O'Plaine Road • Green Oaks, IL 60048
Phone: 847.362.5363 • greenoaks.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 2pm

MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULES

Combined TIF & Committee of the Whole:

1st Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Plan Commission: 2nd Wednesday @ 7:30pm

~ As Needed ~

Committee of the Whole: 3rd Wed @ 7:00pm

Regular Board: 4th Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Bernard Wysocki ~ Village President

bernard.wysocki@greenoaks.org

Denise Kafkis ~ Village Administrator

denise.kafkis@greenoaks.org

Clare Michelotti ~ Village Clerk

clare.michelotti@greenoaks.org

TRUSTEES

Richard Glogovsky ~

Annexation, Planning & Zoning
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Pete Furlong ~ Building

pete.furlong@greenoaks.org

Mahdi Sellami ~ Finance

mahdi.sellami@greenoaks.org

Kevin Griffin ~ Public Affairs

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Jack Flaig ~ Public Works

jack.flraig@greenoaks.org

Dan Sugrue ~ Streets & Roads

dan.sugrue@greenoaks.org

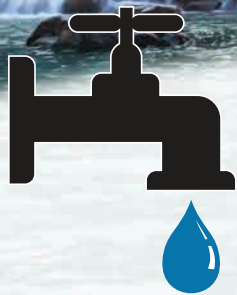
PLAN COMMISSION

Jeff Powers ~ Chairman

Greg Winters ~ Vice-Chairman

MEMBERS

Pamela Milroy, Anne Gordon, Tony Filippo,
Scot Singer, Kate Siegel



Learn How to Connect to Water & Sewer

The Village has compiled a webpage which contains information regarding the SSA establishment process, costs, potential limits of the service area, and several other items.

For More Information, Please Visit Our Webpage At GreenOaks.org



Plan Commission Member Kate Siegel

John T. Wagener Court

On October 3rd, retired trustee, John Wagener, surrounded by the Mayor, Trustees, family and friends, was presented with an honorary street sign. John served on the Village Board for 27 years. The Village Board and the residents of Green Oaks would like to thank John for his dedication to the Village of Green Oaks and for his service on the Public Works Committee, which was instrumental in bringing water and sewer service to many residents within the Village. In addition, John served as the Green Oaks' SWALCO Director for more than 20 years. We wish John all good things in his retirement.

Please welcome our new Plan Commission member, Kate Siegel. Kate and her family have called Green Oaks their home for more than 25 years. Kate lives in the Glenmore Woods neighborhood with her husband, Jim, and two boys, Thom and Griffin who attended and graduated from Rondout and Libertyville High Schools. **Welcome, Kate!**

Kate is taking the place of outgoing Plan Commission member, Justin Beger. Justin has served on the Plan Commission for 7 years. The Mayor, Village Board of Trustees and residents of Green Oaks appreciate the time and commitment Justin gave to the Village. **Thank You, Justin!**



Streets & Roads

Dan Sugrue ~ Village Trustee

As we enjoy the benefits of our new roads recently installed, we have to remind ourselves that winter is quickly approaching. Soon enough we'll have to deal with snow and snow plowing matters:

- **All village streets** will be plowed when accumulation is greater than one inch.
- **Major intersections** will be salted during a plow event.
- **In the event of icy conditions**, neighborhoods and side streets will be salted.
- **Mailboxes that inadvertently get damaged by the contractor:**
 - Will be repaired or replaced with a temporary mailbox until weather permits to allow for permanent solution.
 - Will be permanently repaired, usually in spring, with a new mailbox of contractor's choice, installed by contractor, or, you can request a \$50 reimbursement.
 - Must be reported to the village within 5 (five) days of damage.
- **Clear your sidewalk.** This is especially helpful for children trying to get to school or for packages/mail delivered safely.

- **Consider helping senior citizens & handicapped** who live nearby by shoveling their sidewalks.
- When clearing your driveway, **shovel or blow the snow onto the parkway to the right side of your driveway** as you face the street. Do not deposit on your neighbor's property.



- **Park vehicles off the street.**
- Make sure your **mailbox is 12 inches from the curb** and that the post is secure.
- **Adopt a fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow.** It's there to protect you.
- **Please stay clear of street while shoveling or snow blowing** your driveway if you see a plow or any traffic. The safety and well being of our community is our number one priority.
- **If your property has difficult or blind areas** that a snow plow driver may not be aware of, please consider placing temporary stakes in the areas of concern to help alleviate any possible damage that may occur. The best time to do this is in early december.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Village Hall Monday – Friday, 9am – 2pm.



**Our Residential Waste Hauler Observes 6 Holidays Per Year.
Collection Is Delayed 1 Day For The Following Holidays:**

**New Years • Memorial Day • 4th of July
Labor Day • Thanksgiving • Christmas**

Emergency Numbers

Cut out and keep in a safe place

VILLAGE OF GREEN OAKS • 2020 O'PLAINE ROAD • GREEN OAKS, ILLINOIS 60048

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm (Closed Sat & Sun) • Village Hall: 847-362-5363 • vilgnoaks@greenoaks.org

Village Building Department	847-362-5363	Lake County Public Works Dept.	847-377-7500
Village Building Inspection Line	847-847-1631	Lake County Public Works Dept. (After Hours)	847-377-7188
Village Water Emergency	847-478-9800	Libertyville Township	847-362-5900
Village Water Emergency (After Hours)	847-212-1559	IL Dept. of Transportation (IDOT)	847-705-4300
Fire Department (Libertyville Fire Dept.)	847-362-5664	J.U.L.I.E.	800-892-0123
Lake County Animal Control	847-377-4700	GROOT (Garbage Disposal)	847-693-2700
Lake County Sheriff (Emergency)	9-1-1	Oak Grove School (Dist. 68)	847-367-4120
Lake County Sheriff (Non-Emergency)	847-549-5200	Rondout School (Dist. 72)	847-362-2021
Lake County Health Department	847-360-6711	Libertyville High School (Dist. 128)	847-327-7000
Lake County Dept. of Transportation	847-377-7400		

Public Affairs

Kevin Griffin ~ Village Trustee



OAKTOBERFEST

Village of
Green Oaks

On September 6, 2025, the Village hosted their 4th Annual Oaktoberfest at Lambs Farm. The evening was filled with friends and neighbors enjoying fun games, delicious food & refreshments, and live music! We'd like to thank the vendors who helped make this event special. Hope to see everyone again at next year's Oaktoberfest!!





Master Plan Groundbreaking Ceremony

September 9, 2025

September 9th was a historic day at Lambs Farm! They hosted a groundbreaking event to celebrate the official start of their Farmyard renovation project. As President and CEO Kathy Buresch said in her opening remarks, the Farmyard is a place of purpose, pride, and joy for our participants and the thousands of guests who visit each year. Mayor Wysocki was honored to be at the groundbreaking.



A Village of Green Oaks Resident On American Ninja Warrior

Green Oaks resident and Libertyville High School senior Kenzie Hughes, age 17, lived out a life-long dream when she was selected to compete on Season 17 of the NBC television show American Ninja Warrior that aired this past summer. In her rookie season of the show, she made it to the National Finals. In her qualifier episode she unfortunately fell, but was fast enough to that point to be in the top 5 for females and moved on to the semi-finals. On the extended 10 obstacle semi-finals course Kenzie conquered the rolling logs, made it up the iconic warped wall, beat the salmon ladder and finally fell on the eighth obstacle the corkscrew. She was the 2nd place woman of the night and moved on to the National finals.

In Ninja, she was once again selected to compete on Season 18 of American Ninja Warrior and that will air in the Summer of 2026.



A Day @ The Office

Denise Kafkis ~ Village Administrator



Happy Fall & Welcome to “A Day @ the Office” portion of our Fall Edition of the Oak Leaf Newsletter. More importantly, WELCOME to the many new families that have chosen Green Oaks to call their home.

With the holiday season vastly approaching, I don't know about you but for me it's hard sometimes to enjoy celebrating the current holiday in chronological order. So, over the course of this upcoming holiday's history ~Thanksgiving ~ I stumbled upon a study by Statista, and interesting enough they say that 50% of Americans reported that celebrating Thanksgiving is very important, while 70% of Americans think Thanksgiving is a holiday to spend time with family. Of the millions of people celebrating this holiday, many feel the need to express their gratitude and take inspiration from others.

When someone moves to Green Oaks, one quickly realizes you're becoming a part of this amazing Village family. We all come from different doors to make a family and the trust, cohesiveness, respect and inspiration we find and share here in G.O. is something you won't find anywhere else.

Ever wonder how to be a good neighbor, well it's simple.. LOVE your neighbor as yourself. Emphasizing that love should manifest in actions like showing respect,

Green Oaks Annual Drug Take-Back Held Saturday, October 25th.

Pharmaceutical take-back programs provide a safe, accessible and anonymous way to clear potentially dangerous drugs from homes. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to all those who came out to participate in this event.



hospitality and helping those in need. So, please show love and respect to your neighbors and the entire Green Oaks Community when taking a healthy walk or bike ride around our beautiful town. It is the consensus of many that it's NOT preferred to see what your neighbor's four-legged family member left behind for you to see or have to pick up on the roadway or on private property. So, at this time having some baggage is a good thing. Let's be considerate of our neighbor's property and the community, and carry a “doggie bag” and kindly dispose of it in your own waste container.

Building & Community Development

Pete Furlong ~ Village Trustee

Winter is coming soon and fall cleaning is starting. Please be aware that parking and storage of trailers, campers, and motor homes in driveways are prohibited.

Please consider these tips when preparing your property for winter:

- Keep wood piles away from the exterior of your home to reduce rodent infestation.
- Trim and clean bushes, trees, and debris close to your home.
- Make certain sump pump discharge lines are at least 10-15 feet from your home.
- Clean / cut any debris from ditches for spring rains.
- Check and clean gutters for debris.
- Pick up or place all leaves to the street for fall leaf pick up.

If you ever have any questions, please call us for support.



Finance

Mahdi Sellami ~ Village Trustee

The Village of Green Oaks Approved its Annual Audit for the Fiscal Year ended April 30, 2025 on Sept. 24, 2025.

- The Village's total receipts exceeded total disbursements, on the modified cash basis of accounting, by \$2,901,143 for the year, resulting in an increase in net position of 14.2% over the previous year. This was mainly due to significant capital outlay expenses and an increase in cash receipts.
- The Village's General Fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$2,952,513, which was an increase of 13.4% over last year. This was due to an increase in cash receipts and a decrease in road improvement spending.

**“Transparency
AND
Fiscal Responsibility
HAVE BEEN THE CORE
to Who We Are
AS A VILLAGE AND
Set to Continue So!”**

Annexation, Planning & Zoning

Rich Glogovsky ~ Village Trustee

The primary purpose for enacting the TIF District was to provide a funding source to improve the aging infrastructure of the Rondout area, (Annexed into Green Oaks in the early 1990's) that was developed over the last approximately 100 years. The Village continues to seek and improve the conditions in the TIF District to attract private investment in the TIF District which sustain and increase the tax base. In Illinois, TIF Districts have a maximum statutory limit of 23 years, it is projected that the Green Oaks TIF District will expire by the end of 2037.

- The Village's TIF District total receipts exceeded total disbursements, on the modified cash basis of accounting by \$2,750,607 for the year, resulting in an increase in net position of 48.88% over last year. The Village's TIF Fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$4,371,323.

At right is a snapshot of how well the TIF District is doing after 11 years. ▶



TIF Redevelopment Project Area 1: Rondout Area Year 11 EAV & Tax Increments

IL DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE PTAX 251-TIF

Tax Year	EAV Increment	Tax Increment	Fiscal Year
2014	\$ 39,519	\$ 2,627	FY 16
2015	\$ 423,365	\$ 28,159	FY 17
2016	\$ 2,690,614	\$ 171,324	FY 18
2017	\$14,381,067	\$ 957,891	FY 19
2018	\$29,314,587	\$1,928,301	FY 20
2019	\$32,962,791	\$2,235,558	FY 21
2020	\$33,309,028	\$2,278,575	FY 22
2021	\$31,761,111	\$2,244,963	FY 23
2022	\$32,940,925	\$2,364,297	FY 24
2023	\$35,410,963	\$2,571,423	FY 25
2024	\$39,336,961	\$2,760,955	FY 26

HAVE A BUSINESS & WANT TO ADVERTISE?

Contact the Village Administrative Office or visit greenoaks.org for the application.

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amaiden@rolfcampbell.com

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MEMORIAL GARDEN BRICK PAVER PROGRAM ORDER FORM

Our Memorial Garden will honor the valuable members of our Green Oaks Community whether they are veterans, first responders, teachers, village leaders, coaches, business owners and all the wonderful families that have created “a great place to live”.

Illustrated below and highlighted in **GREEN** is the location where the brick pavers will be placed. Orders must be received by January 1st for Spring '26 Installation. Questions, please call Village Hall Monday through Friday 9am - 2pm @ 847.362.5363.

The Village of Green Oaks reserves the right to reject any application it deems to contain an inappropriate message or is incongruous with the respectful purpose of the Memorial Garden. In its sole discretion, the Village will determine the time to install any paver brick and the specific placement location of any paver brick. In general, the Village plans to install bricks at regular intervals when the most cost-effective quantity of purchased paver bricks minimizes required installation costs.



• Above are the 5 available Icon options •
• Icons are optional •

• Allow 3 spaces on 2 lines for Icon No. 1 (flag) • 2 (heart) • 4 (butterfly) • 5 (dove) •
• Allow 5 spaces on ALL lines for Icon No. 3 (tree) •

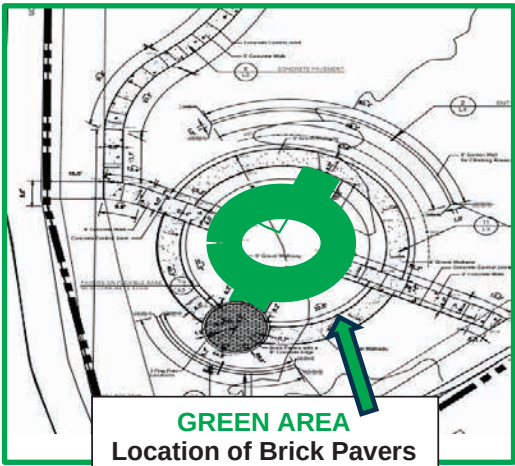
• Should you wish to include an Icon on your Brick please indicate the Icon No.# Below •

- ☐ 4x8 Brick - 3 Lines • 13 Characters Per Line @ **\$100** Per Brick • Icon No.# _____
- ☐ 8x8 Brick - 6 Lines • 13 Characters Per Line @ **\$200** Per Brick • Icon No.# _____

Please print clearly as you wish the inscription to appear on the brick

The Engraving Company reserves the right to determine the final location of the icons

LINE 1														
LINE 2														
LINE 3														
LINE 4														
LINE 5														
LINE 6														



*Kindly fill out the bottom portion of this form • Please mail & make check payable to:
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You may also email this form to: Memorialgardenbrick@greenoaks.org*

Name:		Address:	
Phone:	Email:	Check No.:	
Amount:	Credit Card No.:	Exp. Date:	
Sec Code:	Card Type:	Date:	



2020 O'Plaine Rd. • Green Oaks, IL 60048

The poster for the Santa Parade features a festive winter scene. On the left, a Santa Claus figure in a red suit and white beard stands behind a white picket fence. A sign on the fence reads "GREEN OAKS" with a blue arrow pointing right. Above the fence, a sign reads "NORTH POLE". The background is a dark, snowy night with falling snow and small evergreen trees. On the right, a large, stylized Santa Claus head with a red hat and white beard is positioned above the text "Santa PARADE". The word "Santa" is in a large, red, cursive font, and "PARADE" is in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Below this, the text "Village of Green Oaks" is written in a smaller, white, serif font. Further down, the date "Saturday, December 13, 2025" and the time "Begins at 1:00pm" are listed, followed by the instruction "Visit Greenoaks.org for Full Details". A QR code is located in the bottom center, with the text "SANTA PARADE" below it. The bottom of the poster is decorated with red and white Christmas ornaments and small evergreen trees.