

New Trustees Sworn In

Election season has come and gone; the recent local electoral process has ushered in changes to the Village's Board of Trustees. We are pleased to welcome back Trustee Sandra J. Finley for another four-year term. We are also excited to welcome newly elected Trustees Jennifer Beasley and Kenneth F. Smith. The three trustees were each sworn into office at the May 10 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustees Beasley, Finley and Smith join sitting Trustees Victor Blackwell, Kelvin Oliver and Howard White on the Board.

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Tribute to Trustee Willis Pennington, Jr.

President Sterling M. Burke and the Board of Trustees honored the service of the late Willis Pennington, Jr., who was the Village's longest serving elected official. A member of the Village's Board of Trustees for 16 years, Trustee Pennington was instrumental in ensuring the Village's stability through his work as chair of the Finance Committee and Trustee Liaison to the Building Department. Moreover, he was instrumental in making the Olympia Fields Country Club annexation a reality. President Burke presented Trustee Pennington's family with a plaque dedicated to his memory and honoring his service.



We're Looking Good... Keep Up the Good Work!

In case you haven't noticed, there has been a noticeable up-tick in interest in our community of late. From business owners and commercial developers to families choosing Olympia Fields to raise their children, the Village has garnered much attention. The Midcentury Modernism Road Rally Tour of Homes that took place here in June attracted world-wide attention drawing 400 attendees. Participants were wowed by our high-quality and architecturally-significant housing stock, impressive tree canopy and beautiful greenspace.

The eyes of the world will be on our Village, once again, during the BMW Championship, which takes place from August 15-20. This will be a time for us to shine on the global stage as the event will be televised worldwide. There will be an estimated 50-plus hours of televised coverage. More than 120,000 spectators and over 400 local and national media will be onsite for the event. Our entire community will be on display; so, let's show our pride of place and make sure that we all do our part to showcase the beauty, nature and charm of Olympia Fields.



BMW CHAMPIONSHIP

OLYMPIA FIELDS COUNTRY CLUB
AUGUST 15 - 20, 2023



Interested in attending the BMW? Just scan the QR Code or go to <https://bmwchampionship.com/> to purchase tickets.



VILLAGE HAPPENINGS

New Trustees

(Continued from Page 1)

A Word from Our New Trustees

Trustees Beasley, Finley and Smith share their goals as members of the Board of Trustees:

Trustee Beasley



"In my new role as Trustee, I would like to create great working relationships with my fellow Trustees so that we function as a team

to continue to develop Olympia Fields. Being open to residents' feedback on what is happening in the Village is important to me, as well as being fiscally and environmentally responsible for the actions we take."

Trustee Finley



"I am committed to preserving the natural beauty of Olympia Fields' lifestyle—specifically, by supporting our robust governance strategy to continue to modernize our Village infrastructure systems in anticipation of our growing residential and

enterprise needs for innovative, efficient and convenient public works services."

Trustee Smith



"As a Trustee, I hope to continue to support the interests of our great Village by continuing to foster smart economic growth by recruiting, promoting and supporting the businesses in the Village and ensuring greater access to information for Olympia Fields residents. I look forward and am humbled to serve the residents of our great Village."

2023 Midcentury Modernism Road Rally



Connoisseurs of Midcentury Modern architecture and design (think the AMC series "Mad Men") descended on the Village of Olympia Fields in June to tour Midcentury Modern style homes in the Village. Homes on Country Club Drive in the Olympia Fields East subdivision and in the Graymoor subdivision comprised the majority of the 10 homes on the tour. However, the famous "glass house" on Oak Lane and one home on Hellenic Drive were also featured. Four homes in the Village of Flossmoor were also showcased on the tour.



Sponsored by the Edith Farnsworth House, the event drew 400 attendees from across the nation and even a few from abroad, who took interior and exterior tours of homes designed with the Midcentury Modern aesthetic by renowned modernist architects including Keck and Keck, Edward Dart and Bertrand Goldberg.

Mrs. Arlene Burke, chair of the Beautification Committee (pictured top right), and Mrs. Jackie Lewis represented the Village at the event.

Photos provided by Marcellus Marsh, Bionic Content

3 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1

Maintaining and Protecting the Beauty and Charm of the Village

2023 Summer Landscape Award Winners Announced

It's summer landscape awards time again. The Homeowners Associations have submitted their nominations, and the Beautification Committee has made its final selections. So, without further ado, the winners of the 2023 summer landscape awards are...



First Place: The Walker Family
16 Graymoor Lane



Second Place: The Young Family
20801 Thornwood Drive



Third Place: The Mavrogeanes Family
20717 Thornwood Drive

Congratulations to all of the winners and nominees! View the full list of nominees on the Village's website, under Beautification Committee.

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2

Improving the Efficiency of Our Government

Monthly Water Billing

The Village's monthly water billing program has been in full force since April. The transition from billing every two months to once a month took a little getting used to for some, but residents have slowly but surely gotten into the swing of paying monthly. Monthly payments are due the first day of every month, and there are several ways to pay:

- Scan the QR code in the upper left-hand corner of the newly designed water billing statement; it will take you to the bill payment page on the Village website;
- Pay online at www.olympia-fields.com/180/Water-Billing;
- Leave your payment in the drop box located at Village Hall; or
- Mail your payment to Village Hall at 20040 Governors Highway or drop it off in person during office hours.

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3

Protecting the Village's Property Values through an Economic Development Program Consistent with Future Lifestyles and New Economy Business Models

Quick Run Shell Station's Opening Is Grand

The Quick Run Shell Service Station and Food Mart is now open and doing a bang-up business. The 3,000 square foot service station and convenience store, located at 3780 Lincoln Highway, marked its grand opening on July 18 with an official ribbon cutting ceremony. Owner Paramvir Singh and his staff graciously hosted Village President Sterling M. Burke; Village Administrator Drella C. Savage; Trustees Jennifer Beasley, Victor Blackwell, Sandra Finley and Kelvin Oliver; Economic Development Commission Co-chairs Trinette Britt-Johnson and Mike Lewis and Commission Members Kevin Brookins, George Chandler and Phillip Paige; Beautification Committee Chair Arlene Burke, and Rich Township Supervisor Calvin Jordan.

Mr. Singh expressed appreciation for the opportunity to join

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Guiding Principle 1

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Yard Waste 101: How to Properly Dispose of Your Yard Waste

Yard waste is material resulting from landscaping and yard maintenance including brush, grass, tree limbs and similar vegetative material. This also includes land clearing debris such as leaves and stumps.

Garbage services will collect yard waste if placed in proper containers. Check with your disposal service for more information about their requirements. Some yard waste can be composted. Refer to the chart to determine what is and isn't compostable.

Compostable Materials

Green materials

Nitrogen-rich

- Fruit scraps
- Vegetable scraps
- Grass clippings
- Green plants & garden waste
- Weeds
- Used coffee grounds
- Bread, pasta, rice
- Chicken manure
- Cow and horse manure
- Feathers
- Flowers
- Organic fertilizer (in small quantities!)

Brown materials

Carbon-rich

- Fallen leaves
- Wood ashes
- Paper
- Coffee filters
- Cardboard (shredded)
- Toilet paper rolls
- Hair (human or animal)
- Dryer lint
- Used potting soil
- Woody plant stems & trunks (chop before composting)
- Fallen pine needles
- Hay or straw
- Eggshells (powdered, calcium-rich)

Do not compost

• Fish	• Animal waste	• Herbicide or pesticide -treated plants
• Cooked foods	• Citrus peels	• Diseased plants
• Oils and fats	• In-ground soil	
• Dairy products	• Cat litter	

Guiding Principle 2

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Vollmer Road Clean Up Day August 9th



On August 9, 2023, the public works departments of the Village of Olympia Fields, Village of Flossmoor and Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, once again, teamed up to clean up Vollmer Road. This time they focused on clearing the overgrowth of trees and hedges in the area of the viaduct. Vollmer Road was closed to traffic between Kedzie and Western avenues during the clean-up. This marked the second time this year that the three groups have partnered to tidy up Vollmer Road.

Sewer System No-Nos

Efficiency is the hallmark of a high-functioning organization, and it is one of our three guiding principles. One of the most important ways that we can achieve efficiency is by ensuring that our wastewater system is well maintained and functioning at full capacity at all times. Residents have a role to play by making sure that inappropriate items that can cause clogs and back ups are not flushed down the toilet. Our wastewater management system is not designed to accommodate trash or other refuse. Please DO NOT FLUSH the following items:

The No Flush List

Baby Wipes	Sanitary Products	Coins
Toys	Rags	Rocks
Doll Heads	Clothing	Cell Phones
Diapers	Underwear	Small Bottles

(Believe it or not, all of these items have been found in our sewer system!)

Guiding Principle 3

(Continued from page 3)

the Olympia Fields business community. "I feel very privileged," said Mr. Singh during his grand opening remarks. The Village presented Mr. Singh with a proclamation officially welcoming Quick Run to Olympia Fields, a check for \$250, a framed copy of their business license and an Olympia Fields-Opoly Monopoly game, to commemorate the occasion.

Located at the northeast corner of Lincoln Highway and Crawford Avenue, the Quick Run Shell's sign monument welcomes visitors to the Village. "Paramvir had no reservations about putting up a very nice sign letting people know this is a gateway to the Village," said President Burke.

VCA Animal Hospital Update

If you have driven down Olympian Way (Kedzie) lately, you've probably witnessed quite a bit of deforestation activity. Crews have cleared the area in anticipation of breaking ground for the VCA Animal Hospital, which is expected to be completed by March 2024. Stay tuned for updates!



Olympia Fields Police Department Earns Accreditation

Congratulations to the Olympia Fields Police Department (OFPD) on its recent accreditation by the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP). The ILEAP accreditation process is extremely rigorous, requiring proof of meeting or exceeding 69 areas of ILEAP standards, which represent best practices



for developing high-quality law enforcement services and protocols. The OFPD put in hundreds of hours to become only the 58th police department in the entire state of Illinois to achieve accreditation—an impressive accomplishment.

Led by Chief Derrick Blasingame and Administrative Sergeant Donald Dean, the OFPD's accreditation team underwent a two-day onsite assessment in May 2023, during which an ILEAP assessment team reviewed the OFPD's written materials, conducted interviews and compliance inspections, received public comment, and participated in ride-a-longs. The assessment team then submitted recommendations to the full ILEAP council for final approval.

Gaining accreditation was a top priority for Police Chief Derrick Blasingame and his command staff. "Our badge gives us authority; our attitude gets us respect; accreditation will strengthen our professionalism and enable us to reduce risk," says Chief Blasingame.

The OFPD's ILEAP accreditation is good for four years. The department will submit annual reports to maintain accreditation.

View the official accreditation letter received by the OFPD on the Village's website under Announcements.

New Officers Sworn In

The Olympia Fields Police Department (OFPD) welcomed three new officers on board. President Sterling M. Burke administered the oath of office to Officers Jerral Houser, Diamond Lasenby and David Poindexter at the June 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Welcome to the OFPD team!



Ofc. Houser



Ofc. Lasenby



Ofc. Poindexter

OFPD Honored by Lexipol

The OFPD was recently awarded the Lexipol Connect Bronze Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement Policy Management. The Lexipol Connect Program recognizes public safety agencies and local government organizations that achieve policy and training management excellence. Congratulations on another job well done OFPD!



OFPD Goes to Camp

OFPD officers recently visited with KE campers at the Olympia Fields Country Club.



Franciscan Health's Emergency Pediatrics Department Reaccredited

The Illinois Department of Public Health recently renewed Franciscan Health Olympia Fields' Emergency Department Approved for Pediatrics (EDAP) status. "We are thrilled to again receive EDAP approval for re-accreditation," said Franciscan Health Olympia Fields Director of Nursing and Emergency Services Cindy Mele, RN, MSN. The recognition follows a rigorous recertification process and indicates the hospital's emergency department has the

essential resources and capabilities in place to meet the emergency and critical care needs of seriously ill and injured children.

"The contributions that Franciscan Health Olympia Fields has made to the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Facility Recognition program over the last several years is recognized and appreciated," Evelyn Lyons, MPH, RN, EMSC manager for the Illinois Department of Public Health

said in her April 3 letter to hospital officials announcing the renewal.

Currently, more than 100 hospitals in Illinois, including Franciscan Health Olympia Fields, have received recognition by the Illinois Department of Public Health through the Pediatric Facility Recognition program. Franciscan Health Olympia Fields' EDAP status will remain in effect through 2026.

Franciscan Health Family Birth Center Olympia Fields Receives Honors

The Franciscan Health Family Birth Center in Olympia Fields recently received two awards from the Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative for its patient-centered care—the Leader Award for Birth Equity and the Quality Improvement Excellence Award.

Per Joan Culver, director of patient care services at Franciscan Health Olympia Fields, the Family Birth Center was lauded for its efforts to promote universal screenings and address racial and social inequities to ensure women of color have optimal births. Family Birth Center staff receive training to help remove implicit bias from pre-natal care through delivery and post-partum care.

"We know non-Hispanic Black women are more likely to have pregnancy-related complications and we want to eliminate that as much as possible," said Culver.

The Family Birth Center was also recognized by the Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative for working to reduce Cesarean sections in first-time mothers.

More information about the Olympia Fields Franciscan Health Family Birth Center, including a virtual tour, is available online or by phone at (708) 852-2600.

VILLAGE FOCUS

Beautification Grants Still Available

There is still time for Homeowners Associations to apply for a \$3,000 Beautification Grant. Grants may be used to upgrade or renovate common areas of your subdivision, landscape subdivision entrances, or plant trees.



The application can be found on the Village's website at www.olympia-fields.com. Scan the QR code to access the application. HOAs, come and get your money!

GET CONNECTED ... STAY CONNECTED



The Village, in conjunction with the Public Safety Commission, is embarking on a Village-wide initiative to get as many residents as possible signed up to receive critical, need-to-know, emergency information via telephone, email and text. When emergencies happen, we have to be able to reach our residents quickly. The **Get Connected, Stay Connected** enrollment program will enable us to capture the most up-to-date contact information for our residents, which will ensure that they receive any and all emergency CodeRED, email, or text alerts in a timely fashion. Look for our mailer with more details, coming soon. Our Community Resource Officer will also be personally contacting residents to verify and update contact information. S/he will have a Village ID, and all information will be confidential. We thank you in advance for your assistance in making our **Get Connected, Stay Connected** initiative a success!

RESIDENT NEWS YOU CAN USE

A Few Neighborly Reminders ...

Put Your Dog on a Leash

- **Dogs** — Per Article II, Section 5-19 (a)(2) of the Village's Code of Ordinances, dog owners are required to leash their dogs when on public property.

We want to ensure the safety of all residents, please leash your dog. And don't forget to scoop up the poop!

Turn Your Music Down

- **Noise Abatement** — Per Article III, Section 15-22 (4) and (5) of the Code of Ordinances, loud music that unreasonably disturbs the peace, quiet and comfort of neighbors and passers-by in residential and other noise sensitive areas, including single-family dwellings or is plainly audible to persons other than the person playing the music, is prohibited. Events with permits are exempt.

Please be considerate of your neighbors and help preserve the quiet, peaceful nature of our community by keeping the music down.

Show Us Your Address

- **Premises Identification** — Per Section 304.2 of the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), buildings, including residences, are required to have address numbers that are legible and plainly visible from the street or road fronting property.

Make it as easy as possible for emergency vehicles, delivery people, service providers and visitors to find your home; display your address prominently.

Take Care of Your Curb Appeal

- **Private Landscaping Service Providers** — Please remind private landscapers to clean up grass clippings after mowing. Additionally, if you live in a subdivision with curbs, please ensure that your landscapers mow all grassy areas including those adjacent to the curb.

Enhance your curb appeal!

Look Out for Solicitors

- **Solicitation of Contributions** — Article 1, Section 18-1 of the Code of Ordinances regulates solicitation and canvassing activities in the Village. Interested parties are required to submit an application and a valid Certificate of Insurance in order to solicit. Solicitation is limited to two days per year, per organization. Applicants must also pay a fee of \$25 per person, per day. The Village issues an ID to anyone authorized to canvass. So, if you see someone soliciting without a valid ID, report them to the Village immediately.

See Something, Say Something!

Violations of any of the above could result in citation.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Training Day for DPW



The Department of Public Works' entire maintenance/laborer staff participated in flagger training on June 8, 2023. This training program aligns with state of Illinois requirements for workers who direct or otherwise engage in activities in vehicular traffic zones. Participants learned how to protect themselves and others in public work zones through the proper use of signs, signals and barricades.

Village Launches Facebook Page



The Village of Olympia Fields is now on Facebook. Beginning August 18, 2023, residents will be able to access Village news and information through this new platform.

So please Follow Us on Facebook!

LIBRARY NEWS

Little *Red* Free Libraries



The old Little Free Libraries located at the Olympia Fields Park District and Post Office are gone and have been replaced with new, weather-resistant units. The new mini-libraries are hard to miss with their bright red color

and roomier design. We encourage residents to take advantage of the Little Free Libraries; they are great ways to share the joy of reading community-wide.

New Drive-Up Window Is Open for Business

The Park Forest Library now boasts a new drive-up window. The library celebrated the grand opening of its new addition on July 5, with a prize raffle and other giveaways. The drive-up window is a quick and convenient way to drop-off books and other items, pick up reserved materials and even sign up for a library card—all from the comfort of your car.



OLYMPIA FIELDS PARK DISTRICT

Upcoming Senior Events

The Olympia Fields Park District is sponsoring two excursions for seniors this year:

Let's Go Apple Picking!

- On Wednesday, September 13, 2023, the Park District will be taking seniors apple picking at the County Line Orchard in Hobart, Indiana.

Lancaster Show/Dutch Country Trip

- Attendees will enjoy guided tours of Philadelphia and Lancaster from Monday, November 13–Saturday, November 18, 2023. The trip includes five breakfasts and three dinners.

Cost: \$775 per person/double occupancy

For more information about any of these activities, please contact Jennifer@ofparks.org or 708-481-7313 ext. 221.

OLYMPIA FIELDS PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY

SHRED DAY & ELECTRONIC RECYCLING



WHERE & WHEN

SATURDAY 09/16/2023

9AM -12PM

SERGEANT MEANS PARK (PARKING LOT)
20712 WESTERN AVE, OLYMPIA FIELDS, IL



ALL AGES: CHILDREN MUST BE ACCCOMPANIED

BY AN ADULT

VISIT US ONLINE @ OFPARKS.ORG

