



Oak Park Police
Community Policing Newsletter
Zone 4
July-September 2008



*"Committed to
community,
integrity, and
excellence in
public safety"*

Resident Beat Officer: Robert Primak
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Zone 4 Borders:
Austin Blvd to Oak Park Ave.
Madison Street to South Blvd.

Community Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at Percy Julian Middle School 416 S. Ridgeland Ave.

Zone 4 Beat Meetings

The purpose of these meetings is to provide a forum where the residents and the police department can discuss issues in our specific zone that affect our quality of living. During these meetings we will be focusing on criminal activity in the beat, crime prevention, street safety, home security, as well as traffic and parking issues. The meetings are held at Percy Julian Middle School on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Please stop by and find out what's going on in your neighborhood.

Block Parties

Block parties are a great way to meet your neighbors and have some fun this summer. The streets around the party location will be barricaded and children will be allowed to play in the street designated for the party. A petition to hold a block party must be returned to the Village two weeks prior to the requested event date. You can request a police officer or a community relations representative to attend your event. Pick-up a block party guide at Community Relations or online http://www.oak-park.us/Community_Services/Block_Parties.html. Let me know when you have your block party and I can come out meet the residents and register bicycles.

Vacation Checks

The summer months are finally here which means that soon it will be vacation time. If you plan to go out of town this summer and would like to have your resident beat officer conduct a "vacation house check" please contact us via e-mail or telephone and be sure to leave an emergency contact number.

Bicycling Tips

The warmer weather means that many children and adults will be out riding bicycles. It's important to remember that bicycles on the streets are subject to the same traffic rules as motor vehicles. For example cyclists are expected to obey traffic signs and signals, right of way, and the like just as they were driving a car. And remember to always wear a properly fitted and adjusted helmet. Be safe and have a good summer.

From the desk of RBO Primak

The resident beat officers were recently issued cellular telephones so that we can be accessible while walking or riding our bicycles this summer. I can be reached at 708.305.9780. If for some reason I am not available please leave me a voice mail. You can also send me an e-mail at primak@oak-park.us. The resident beat officers will be out in the community this summer walking and riding police bicycles. When you see me wave me over to say hi and let me know about any problems or concerns in the neighborhood. By working together we can keep our neighborhood clean and safe.

Village News

Did you know that you can directly contact the West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center for non-emergency police services at 708-386-2131. Please note if you have a non-emergency question you may still call the police non-emergency number 708-386-3800 to speak with an officer.

Remember for all emergencies dial **9-1-1**

RU-OK This program gives participants a phone call every day at a predetermined time to check if you're OK. If you don't answer the phone we send an officer and if necessary the paramedics to assist you. Interested? Call 708-383-8060 to get the process started.

Zone 4 Crime Watch



Over the past several months the Oak Park area has been targeted by thieves who are stealing copper gutters and downspouts off of houses and buildings. The thieves are also targeting churches in the area. If you have copper gutters or downspouts on your residence make sure that they are fastened to the concrete or brick on the building. The longer it takes a thief to steal something, the greater possibility that they will be observed. Please report any suspicious activity immediately to 9-1-1.

Police seeking volunteer block captains

The [Oak Park Police Department](#) is seeking volunteers to serve as *block captains* who help Resident Beat Officers communicate with residents at the neighborhood level. The block captains would serve primarily as liaisons between their neighbors and police by creating contact lists and telephone trees, tools that can help ensure that important information is shared among neighbors. Since not everyone has Internet access and a growing number of people are moving from landline telephones to cell phones, officials say having an individual on every block who knows how to reach out to his neighbors can greatly enhance police communications efforts. The time commitment is minimal. Individuals interested in becoming block captains or learning more about the program, should contact their RBOs.

The Oak Park Police Department and Police Explorers Post #8 Presents the 2008 "Youth Basketball Camp"



August 11th-15th, 2008 (8:00 am to 12:00 pm)

Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School

Applications Available for:

Boys and Girls ages 10-14

Pick-up applications at the Oak Park Police Department, 123 Madison St. The "Basketball Camp" activities will include one-on-one and group instruction, team play, full court games, contests and awards. For more details contact Sgt. Rygh at 708-358-5542 or rygh@oak-park.us