



Oswego Police Department

Chief Jeffrey R. Burgner



Homeowners Association Newsletter

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Editor –Deputy Chief Nick Sikora

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Information

Citizens Police Academy

The Oswego Police Department would like to invite you to attend our Citizen's Police Academy (CPA). The CPA is a unique chance to see and experience the inside workings of your police department. Various Oswego Police Officers will introduce you to their world by sharing their areas of expertise and interest. The CPA runs for twelve weeks on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Areas of discussion include various topics normally used in the police field.

The next academy class is scheduled to begin March 2, 2016 and will run for 12 weeks, depending on the number of applicants. The classes will be held on Wednesdays at the Oswego Police Department located at 3525 Route 34. All classes will be held in the Community Room in the lower level of the police department.

More information and registrations may be found on our website at:
www.oswegopoliceil.org

Community Shred Event

This is advance notice to begin collecting your items. In our continuing effort to help prevent identity theft the Oswego Police Department has partnered with First National Bank (Formerly Castle Bank) to provide another shred event day. On Saturday April 16th from 9:00am – Noon we will be set up to collect your old bank, credit card or other statements, receipts, or any documents that may contain financial information. This will be at the bank located on Rt 34 west of Orchard Rd.

Comments or questions about this publication can be directed to Deputy Chief Nick Sikora.

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Identity Theft Protection – *Identity Theft is the assumption of a person's identity in order, for instance, to obtain credit; to obtain credit cards from banks and retailers; to steal money from existing accounts; to rent apartments or storage units; to apply for loans; or to establish any other accounts using another's name. An identity thief could steal thousands of dollars in a victim's name without the victim even knowing about it for months or years. Identity thieves are able to accomplish their crimes by doing things such as opening a new credit card account with a false address, or using the victim's name, date of birth, and Social Security number. When the thief uses the credit card and does not pay the resulting bills, the delinquent account is reported on the victim's credit report.*

There are several ways identity thieves attempt to obtain your personal information. They can obtain information by stealing your mail, or looking through your trash for discarded account information. Although these methods are not as common as they once were, they should still be considered a concern.

So what can you do to protect yourself? There are many paid services that will monitor your credit for a fee, such as Lifelock, Identity Guard, and others. You can also pay a minimal fee to one of the three credit Bureaus, Experian, Transunion, or Equifax; they also offer a service to monitor your credit. You can also take steps to make it more difficult for criminals to obtain your information. Shred personal documents before throwing them away, especially if they contain personal or account information. Do not give out any personal information over the phone or via email to anyone you are not familiar with. Also monitor your mail and your credit reports.

Vehicle Emissions Tests – *Another notification program from the State of Illinois has been suspended due to the state's budget problems. In order to cut costs the Illinois EPA has stopped mailing out notices informing vehicle owners that they are due for a required emissions test. If your vehicle is due for a test and you do not have one completed you are unable to renew your license plates. When you had your last emissions test done you should have received a print out that included the next date your vehicle is due for a test. We suggest you mark that on your calendar as to when your next test is due. The state's EPA is looking at other options for notifications.*

*You may log onto the Illinois Secretary of State website and register for their electronic email notices for your license plate renewals. Remember we previously reported that the mail notifications for license plate renewals was also suspended. As part of that license plate renewal notice it is noted if your vehicle is due for an emissions test or not. The following link can be used to request e-notices:
<https://www.ilsos.gov/greenmail/>*

Polar Plunge - *Saturday, March 6th at 1:00PM a group of brave men and women will be jumping into the freezing waters of Loon Lake in Yorkville to support Special Olympics. For more information or to make a donation to Team Oswego Police Department use this link:
http://soill.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=558&in stance_id=5359*