



2009 Public Health Awards

Fitzsimmons Award: Each year, as part of Public Health Week, the Oak Park Department of Public Health Department and Board of Health solicit nominations for the annual *Fitzsimmons Award*, honoring those individuals or organizations who have worked to improve the health of the community. This year, nine individuals and two organizations have been honored for their work in keeping Oak Park healthy. The Fitzsimmons Awards for exceptional contributions to the health of Oak Park were given to:

- Bulldog Boot Camp & Cross Fit
- The Community Action Team for Healthier Kids
- Jeanne A. Douglas, PhD, Clinical Director Oak Park Vets' Center
- Eric Gershenson and Carolyn Newberry Schwartz of the Collaboration for Early Childhood Care and Education
- Diane Gilliard, LCPC, CADC, Pillars Adolescent Substance Abuse Coordinator
- Oak Park Medical Reserve Corps, H1N1 Vaccination Campaign Volunteers
- Constance Papciak, Group Exercise Manager, Fitness Formula
- Charlie Ruedebusch, Head Gardener, Cheney Mansion
- Mary Shields, Volunteer, Oak Park Health Department
- Abby Schmelling, Director (retired), The Volunteer Center
- Barbara Temeck, MD, Chief of Staff, Hines VA Hospital

The award is named after a local physician and humanitarian Dr. William Fitzsimmons who volunteered many years of service to the Oak Park Health Department and to the residents of this community.

Johnson Awards: The Oak Park Board of Health and Department of Public Health annually present the Johnson's Restaurant Award to Oak Park restaurants that excel in food service sanitation. Recognized for their high level of food sanitation in 2009 were:

- Starbucks Coffee #13342 - 711 Lake St.
- Cucina Paradiso - 814 North Blvd.
- Oberweis Dairy - 124 N. Oak Park Ave.
- Java Oasis - 1113 North Blvd.
- Five Guys Burgers and Fries - 1115 Lake Street
- Rehm Park Concessions (Robinsons #1 Ribs) - 515 Garfield St.
- Chipotle Mexican Grill - 1128 Lake Street
- Hole In the Wall - 901 ½ Oak Park Avenue

Named in memory of Oak Park's first lunch room which began operation at 124 Lake St. in the early 1890's, the Johnson's Restaurant Award is part of the Health Department's ongoing incentive program to encourage restaurants to consistently meet or exceed mandated responsibilities in providing safe food.

To be eligible for the award, restaurants must have an average score of 85 or more (of 100 possible) points on routine Health Department sanitary inspections over a two-year period. The inspections cover all phases of food handling from receipt of supplies to service as well as facilities, equipment and housekeeping. In addition, the restaurants must have had a minimum of 3 routine inspections over the two year period and be classified as an IDPH Category I or II facility as defined by the Illinois Department of Public Health Local Health Protection Grant Rules.

2009 is the 24th year that the Johnson's Restaurant Awards have been given.