

17W245 16TH STREET – OAKBROOK TERRACE

DISPENSA'S SPECIAL EXHIBIT

CASTLE OF TOYS &
KIDDIE KINGDOM
MEMORABILIA

Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society presents
100's of items on loan from
the John Dispensa, III Family.

Special presentation by
John Dispensa, III

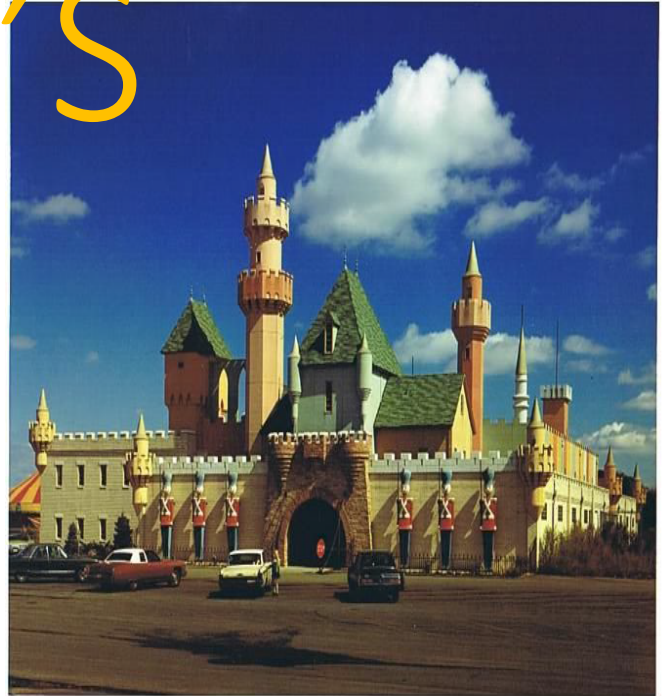
Monday November 11, 2019 7:30 p.m.
at City Council Chambers

EXHIBIT OPEN

NOVEMBER 2ND - 16TH 2019

MONDAY – THURSDAY 3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

SATURDAY 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.



Obthistory.com

Press Release

Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society will be hosting a two-week exhibit on Dispensa's Kiddie Kingdom and Castle of Toys. The event will be held at the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society's historic Sears Homart Home located at 17W245 16th Street, Oakbrook Terrace, from November 2, through November 16, 2019. The exhibit will be open Monday through Thursdays 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Parents and kids enjoyed the experience and there are many fond memories. John said his great grandfather created the idea to provide an affordable family outing at an amusement park. All are welcome to attend the exhibit and special presentation and will be treated to a glimpse of days long gone. The Elmhurst Historical Society has graciously lent the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society posters and a display case that were recently used in their Worlds of Wonder exhibit. There will be lots of memorabilia on display. Also on display will be two original toy soldiers that once sat out in front of the Castle, courtesy of Rocky Hayes. At one time, Dispensa's Castle of Toys was the largest independent, free standing toy store in the world. The amusement park known as Kiddie Kingdom advertised rides for a quarter or six rides for a dollar.

John Dispensa, III, great grandson of the founder, will hold a presentation at the Oakbrook Terrace City Council Chambers on November 11th 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Mr. Dispensa plans to talk about the amusement park and family history. Dispensa and Sons started in 1919 when his great-grandfather purchased a Ferris wheel, which grew into a carnival. The Dispensa's eventually added a toy store and a permanent amusement park to the land they had owned in Oakbrook Terrace. The business completely shut down in 1985. This year they would have celebrated 100 years.