

Where history and progress meet.



WINDOW TO WEST CHICAGO

Fall/Winter 2017

IMPORTANT DATES

October (Date TBD)
Hydrant Flushing

October 28
Coffee with the Mayor

October 30 – December 1
Seasonal Leaf Collection

November 4
Senior Leaf-raking

November 5
Daylight Saving Time Ends

Week of November 6
Last Brush Pickup

November 11
Veterans Day

November 23 & 24
City Hall Closed

November 24 – January 19
Holiday Lights Recycling

November 30
Yard Waste Collection Ends

December 4
Brilliance in Business Awards

December 16
Coffee with the Mayor

December 22 & 25
City Hall Closed

No Parking Reminder

Parking ban on all streets after a two-inch snowfall until the street has been completely plowed.

An exciting initiative through DuPage County is positively impacting workforce development in West Chicago and the surrounding communities. The **workNet DuPage Career Center**, located on Cabot Drive in Lisle, is home to several organizations working in partnership toward the same goals: helping people get back to work, and maintaining a skilled workforce in DuPage County.

One of its largest partners is the DuPage County Workforce Development Division, which created a program several years ago, Make Your Way (MYWay), that teaches young people in need of direction that there is ample opportunity in DuPage County for them to successfully “make their way,” build a career, and become a successful, productive adult.

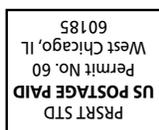
Soft skills, workplace etiquette, financial literacy, career exploration, and job search skills are all covered during the four-week workshop. The students also take tours of area employers and educational institutions that can be real eye openers. The business sponsors of the program act as guest speakers to the group of young people, conduct mock interviews, hold tours, and host interns in entry-level roles. The internships are paid for entirely by DuPage County, and there is no cost involved for businesses outside of the time involved providing a learning environment for the student.

The goal is employment and/or further education. As illustrated by the success story of a young West Chicago mother who attended the Program, excelled at her internship and ultimately landed employment as a Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Operator while also attending a CNC training program paid for by the Division, the Program works. Another impressive success story involves a young man with no direction who attended the Program, accepted an employment offer at his internship worksite and has now been promoted to a Maintenance Technician.



The MYWay program is geared for youth, ages 17 – 24, who need direction and financial assistance so they can make their way to a successful future. For more information, call (630) 955-2074 (hablamos español) or email youth@worknetdupage.org.

Lisa Schvach of the DuPage County Workforce Development Division contributed to this article.



ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

West Chicago City Hall
475 Main Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
www.westchicago.org



Mayor

Over the summer, I attended the presentation of a new DuPage County initiative, **Do GOOD DuPage**, which has totally inspired me. This ambitious service campaign, the biggest in DuPage's history, aims to involve 150,000 people in community service. As County Board Chairman Dan Cronin asked of those in attendance, "Imagine what would happen if an entire County 'did good' for an entire year?"



The transformative power of volunteerism unleashed in the County's individual cities and villages has an enormous potential to significantly improve neighborhoods and change lives. I would like to see West Chicago get involved in a big way with Do GOOD DuPage, and I have pledged my support to Chairman Cronin.

While we already have many active community volunteers serving on City Boards and Commissions or church ministries, adopting highways, or working at local food pantries, I would like to launch an organized effort to increase those numbers and accomplish even greater good in West Chicago



and DuPage County. I will be reaching out to other West Chicago community partners including intergovernmental agencies, faith-based communities, businesses,

homeowners' associations and schools in the near future to coordinate a Citywide schedule of volunteer projects. Then we will share our stories, and celebrate the success our efforts are sure to generate.

Let's build on the volunteer spirit that already lives in West Chicago, the spirit that has driven initiatives like the Prairie Stewardship group, an annual senior leaf-raking event, a Main Street art gallery and so much more.

Let's continue to Do GOOD West Chicago!

Respectfully,

Ruben Pineda, Mayor

Art & Culture

Artoberfest is themed *Autumn Inspirations* this year and features the work of 20 Gallery artists who will display their unique, one-of-a-kind art. Media ranges from oils and acrylics, to photography, jewelry, clay, glass, wood, fiber and mixed media. An **Opening Reception** for the month-long exhibit is scheduled for **Friday, October 6, 2017 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

November's featured glass artists, **Susan Delaney, Mindy Milan and Sue Tripp** work across the bench from each other and share the same kiln. Although they take inspiration from each other, their finished art is very different. Fused glass art objects for exhibit and sale will include plates, dreamcatchers, jewelry, garden stakes and more. An Opening Reception for *Fused for You II: A Touch of Glass*, on **Friday, November 3, 2017 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.** will include refreshments and music by a Native American flute jam.

Gallery 200 has proven to be the perfect place for holiday shopping, as the month-long sale, *Small Gifts of Art*, begins on **Friday, December 1, 2017 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.** and includes small and artistic pieces that are gorgeous and unique and designed to please those on your gift list.

Gallery Theater introduces audiences to the Nowaks of Buffalo, NY in *Miracle on South Division Street* with **six shows in November**. Clara and her three grown kids have always known they were special, ever since the miraculous night in 1942 when the Blessed Mother appeared to Grandpa in his barbershop. Since then, the neighborhood has looked upon the Nowaks' 20-foot commemorative shrine as a beacon of hope and faith amidst the urban rubble. Now, daughter Ruth unveils her plan to write and star in a one-woman show about the family miracle so the "whole world will know!" However, as her plans for theatrical immortality unfold, the entire family's faith is shaken to the very core when a deathbed confession causes the family legend to unravel. The results are heartfelt and hilarious. See *Around Town* on the back page of this newsletter for dates and times of performances. For updates and ticket information for Gallery Theater, contact gallerytickets@gmail.com.

GALLERY 200

103 W. Washington Street • (630) 293-9550 • www.gallery200.org

GALLERY THEATER

129 Main Street • (630) 234-5919 • www.gallerytheaterstudio.org

The West Chicago Police Station at 325 Spencer Street

now has a **Little Free Library**. The Library was installed by City of West Chicago Public Works staff this summer thanks to the efforts of resident Melissa Barbier. Little Free Library is a neighborhood book exchange where anyone passing by can take a book to read or leave a book for someone else to find.



✓ TAKENOTE

October **brush pickup** will begin on Monday, October 2, 2017 and, as a reminder, the **final week for brush pickup this year will begin on November 6, 2017**. Brush may be placed at the curb two days prior to the scheduled pickup. Placing brush out before the allowed timeframe will result in a \$50 citation (ticket), without a warning or prior notice. Visit westchicago.org/brush-pick-up/ for more information.



Cooler weather and end-of-the year home remodeling promotions make fall a popular time to enhance your home before winter. Please follow the permitting guidelines below before you begin work:

Driveways – Permits are always required. When applying for a permit, please provide a copy of your Plat of Survey.

Siding or Roofs – Permits are always required. To apply for a permit, please complete a Building Permit for siding and/ or Roof Permit Application. Permits are ready within 24 hours unless a Homeowners' Association also requires approval for these types of exterior changes.

Windows or Doors – Permits are only required if you are expanding or reducing the size of the existing opening.



2018 City Renewals – Due by December 31, 2017

Please renew your company's **business registration** by completing the registration form and paying the \$25.00 renewal fee. The City will mail the renewal information to your business by October 1, 2017, but Registration Applications may also be downloaded from the City website, www.westchicago.org.

If you own a **rental property** in the City, please remember to **renew your license(s)** by the end of the year. Renewal information will be mailed by November 1, 2017, but you may also obtain the necessary renewal form(s) on our website, www.westchicago.org. The license renewal fee is \$240.00 per year for single-family homes, which includes condos or townhomes, and multiple family buildings with no more than two units. For buildings with three or more units, please contact the Community Development Department at (630) 293-2200 x141 for the cost of the annual license fee.

The West Chicago Police Department is now an Internet purchase exchange location. Thanks to the folks at OfferUp, the donation of a sign is now posted at the Police Station. Residents are encouraged to use the Station lobby or parking lot, located at 325 Spencer Street, for a safe location to exchange items sold via the Internet.

The exchange location is open and available for use, but residents should not expect officers to mediate transactions.

The West Chicago Police staff recommend using the exchange location during daylight hours. In an event that an officer is needed, people can go into the Police Station and request to speak with an officer or call 911.



SAVE THE DATE

The City of West Chicago's annual **Halloween Parade and Downtown Trick or Treat** take place this year on Saturday, October 28, 2017. The Halloween Parade features the community's youth dressed up in a wide variety of costumes. Participants should arrive downtown by 11:30 a.m. to register for the **Costume Contest**. Costume judging will begin at 12:00 p.m., with prizes given out by costume category and age group. The **Halloween Parade** will begin at approximately 12:15 p.m., immediately followed by **Downtown Trick or Treat**. Trick or Treaters can fill their candy bags by visiting participating West Chicago businesses from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Help kick-off the fun of **Frosty Fest** with the **Frosty 5k and Kids Fun Run** at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 2, 2017. Walkers and runners of all ages and abilities are welcome! All participants will receive a holiday-themed long sleeve Frosty 5k race t-shirt. Santa hats will be given to participants who sign-up by the early registration deadline.

The holiday celebrations continue at **Frosty Fest** in Downtown West Chicago from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Gather your family and friends along Main Street as the community begins the celebration with the annual Frosty Fest procession and tree lighting ceremony. *(The City wishes to extend a special thanks to Kramer Tree Specialists for generously decorating the tree for the enjoyment of the entire community.)* Afterward, warm up with hot cocoa and enjoy a horse drawn trolley ride. Take a moment to decorate a cookie, create arts and crafts, and enjoy the sights and sounds of local musical and dance performers. Don't forget to stop in to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, visiting West Chicago all the way from the North Pole!



Details and updates on all events may be found in the *Special Events* section of the City's website, www.westchicago.org.

Around Town

OCTOBER

- 1** **Gallery Theater Presents *Grace and Glorie***
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street
3:00 p.m.
- 6** **Opening Reception of Artoberfest**
Gallery 200, 103 West Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 7** **Tales Tombstones Tell**
Calvary Cemetery, East Washington Street and Easton Avenue
10:00 – last tour at 11:15 a.m.
- 14** **West Chicago Sister Cities Dinner**
American Legion Post 300, 123 Main Street
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 28** **Halloween Parade and Downtown Trick or Treat**
Parking lot behind Library,
118 West Washington Street
11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



NOVEMBER

- 3** **Opening Reception for Fused for You II: A Touch of Glass**
Gallery 200, 103 West Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 10, 11, 17, 18** **Gallery Theater Presents *Miracle on South Division Street***
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 7:30 p.m.
- 12, 19** **Gallery Theater Presents *Miracle on South Division Street***
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 3:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 1** **Opening Reception for Small Gifts of Art**
Gallery 200, 103 West Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 2** **Frosty Fest 5k and Kids Fun Run**
Race to start at Turner Court
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
- 2** **Frosty Fest**
Assorted venues on Main Street
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.



Signage dedicating a new **Monarch Waystation** at City Hall was made possible this summer by the involvement of many community groups and individuals. The network of support continues to grow tri-nationally for the conservation of the Monarch butterfly through the efforts of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation. The National Wildlife Federation was able to officially expand to Mexico and Canada, encompassing the full migratory range of the Monarch. As an active community, West Chicago has automatically become a part of this tri-national collaboration.



NUMBERS TO KNOW

CITY COUNCIL

Ward 1



Lori Chassee
(630) 231-8709



James Beifuss
(630) 231-0584

Ward 2



Jayme Sheahan
(630) 330-7972



Heather Brown
(630) 853-7131

Ward 3



Michael Ferguson
(630) 248-6053



Alton Hallett
(630) 254-7112

City Hall (630) 293-2200
Fire Administration (630) 231-2123
Police Administration (630) 293-2222
Police and Fire Emergency 911

Ruben Pineda, Mayor
Nancy Smith, City Clerk
Michael Guttman, City Administrator

Ward 4



Sandy Dimas
(630) 293-5170



Melissa Ferguson
(630) 621-0128

Ward 5



Kurt Meissner
(630) 235-4725



Currently Vacant

Ward 6



Rebecca Stout
(630) 293-7335



George Garcia
(630) 842-1645

Ward 7



Bonnie Gagliardi
(630) 677-5836



Noreen Ligino-Kubinski
(630) 762-9929