



Village of Westchester

March 2012 Newsletter

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From the Desk of The President



President Pulia and Commissioner Patlak following the Property Tax Appeal Seminar hosted at Village Hall in late February.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

March has arrived and with it brings not only March Madness for our basketball followers but the first day of Spring. Yes, that's right, March 20th is the first official day of Spring. This winter has been very mild compared to last year, but I do remember getting piled with snow in mid-April. Our compliments to the Public Works staff who salted and plowed our streets up to now without any problems.

Water main breaks continue to be an issue with several more breaks over the past month. Presently, we have experienced over 15 water main breaks this year. A water main had the audacity to break on Super Bowl Sunday requiring an emergency call-out that unfortunately took several hours to repair. Residents residing in the area of Carlisle and Sunnyside and the surrounding streets had to deal with not only their water being shut off for a considerable amount of time, but with discolored water as sediment began to make its way through the system.

Westchester's drinking water receives fresh "potable" water from Lake Michigan after it is filtered, chlorinated and processed. Chicago pumps water not only to Cook County suburbs but to Du Page communities as well. Westchester receives its water from our main pump station located at 10th Avenue and Roosevelt Road in the Village of Broadview. Westchester and Broadview have been the controlling municipalities since we began receiving Lake Michigan water from Chicago beginning in the late 1930's.

Westchester has two reservoirs: one at Crestwood Lane and Mannheim, and the other, an elevated tank, located at I-294 and Cermak Road. The Broadview Westchester Joint Water Agency not only supplies water to the founding municipalities, but also services Loyola Hospital, Madden Mental Health Center and Hines Veteran Hospital.

Westchester water is received at the homes and businesses via a "looped" system. Miles

See **PRESIDENT**, page 4

Profile



Name: Regina Keith
Rank: Telecommunicator
Years as Telecommunicator: 11

What made you choose police/fire dispatching as a profession?

Actually, I was a Westchester resident and I came in to pay my water bill. I asked if the village was hiring. Serendipity.

Describe a good day at work?

Professionally handle all calls received, gathering enough specifics so all village personnel can be safe and efficient in their duties.

What is the best part of your job?

Feeling of pride - when you realize you've helped someone in a time of trouble.

What is the downside of your job?

Unscheduled work hours, which is time away from family and friends.

What advice would you give someone looking to be a 9-1-1 telecommunicator?

Make sure you are a dependable, caring person, and comfortable multi-tasking.

What would occur on your perfect day off?

Girls day out: Spa services & lunch. Of course shopping.

Fraud alert!

Beware next time you answer your phone or open an unfamiliar e-mail. Telemarketing or e-mail scams often involve offers of free prizes, low-cost health care products, and "free" or inexpensive vacations. If you hear these or similar lines from a telephone salesperson or an e-mail request just say "no thanks" and hang up or press delete:

- "You must act now or the offer won't be good."
- "Congratulations! You've won a free gift/vacation/prize! You just need to pay for postage and handling"
- "You can't afford to miss this high-profit, no-risk offer..."

It's very difficult to get your money back or repair your credit if you fall victim to a scam. If you've been solicited over the telephone or

through the internet, please consider the following:

- Don't buy from an unfamiliar company. Legitimate businesses understand that you want more information about their company and are happy to comply.
- Always ask for and wait until you receive written material about any offer or charity.
- Always check out unfamiliar companies with your local consumer protection agency such as, the Better Business Bureau, Attorney General, the National Fraud Information Center, or other watchdog groups.
- Don't pay in advance for services. Pay for services only after they are delivered.
- Be wary of companies that want to send a messenger to your home to

pick up money. They are taking your money without leaving any trace.

- Take your time making a decision. Legitimate companies won't pressure you to make a snap decision.
 - Don't pay for a "free prize." If a caller tells you the payment is for taxes, he or she is violating federal law.
 - Be sure to talk over potential investment offers with a family member and a trusted financial advisor before investing.
 - Never give personal information such as credit card or bank info, birth dates, or social security numbers to unfamiliar companies or persons.
- For more information on Crime Prevention, contact Officer Rob Verber at (708) 345 0060 x440 or rverber@westchesterpolice.com

Police Blotter

1. At 12:44pm on January 21st 2012, a **residential burglary** — ruse entry scam was reported on the 1900 block of Boeger. A male Hispanic subject wearing a dark sweater and khaki pants knocked at the back door requesting the resident view working that was being done in the back yard area. When the resident exited the house, two subjects entered the house and removed money from the house.
2. At 7:33pm on January 22nd 2012, a **burglary to garage** was reported on the 1200 block of High Ridge. The resident reported between 9am and 7:30pm that unknown person(s) entered the garage through a side service door. There were no signs of forced entry to the garage.
3. At 2:06pm on January 26th 2012, a **theft** was reported on the 3000 block of Halifax. The resident reported that approximately \$900 in items delivered to the house via UPS was taken sometime during the day from the front porch.
4. At 12:16pm on February 7th 2012, a **theft of motor vehicle** was reported on the 2200 block of Mayfair. The resident stated that he had left his vehicle running and unlocked in the driveway while warming it up. Vehicle was later recovered by the River Forest Police



- Department.
- 11141 Roosevelt Road. The vehicle owner reported that their rear passenger side window was broken out on their vehicle and a tote bag was taken from inside.
5. At 2:31pm on February 10th 2012, a **theft** was reported at the Hampton Inn located at 2222 Enterprise Drive. The vehicle owner reported that unknown person(s) had broken out the rear driver's side window on his vehicle. Taken were a Dell laptop, and personal documents.
7. At 3:01pm on February 11th 2012, a **criminal damage to vehicle** was reported on the 1600 block of Westchester Blvd. The resident reported that between 11am and 3pm unknown person(s) broke out the rear window of their vehicle. Nothing was reported missing from the vehicle.
6. At 9:34pm on February 10th 2012, a **burglary to motor vehicle** was reported at the Alpine Banquet Haus located at

Profile



Name: Jason Lhotak
Rank: Firefighter/Paramedic
Years as Firefighter: 2

Was there a moment when you realized this is the job for me?

After my 1st day of riding with a Department, I knew this was the job for me. I found it exciting driving in a vehicle with lights and sirens on. I find it very rewarding to be able to help people.

Describe a good day at work:

A good day at work is one where we don't run any calls. That means everyone in the community, for the most part is safe and healthy.

What is the best part about your job?

The best part about my job is being able to help others. I also like the 24 on / 48 off schedule because it allows quite a bit of time for me to spend with my family.

What is one downside to your Job?

Being away from my family is a downside to the job. I'd have to say the hardest part is receiving calls where children are sick or hurt. Having children of my own, it really hits home with me.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to follow your career path?

Ride with a Department to see what it's like first. Go on ambulance calls, fire calls and ride a whole 24 hr. shift. Not everyone can handle 24 hr. shifts. This way you can make sure it's really what you want to do.

What would occur on your perfect day off?

My perfect day off would consist of spending time with my family on a warm sunny day, being at an amusement park or even at the beach.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

What to Wear

- Dress infants and children warmly for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them dry and warm. Don't forget warm boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.
- The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.
- Blankets, quilts, pillows, sheepskins and other loose bedding may contribute to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and should be kept out of an infant's sleeping environment. Sleep clothing like one-piece sleepers is preferred.
- If a blanket must be used to keep a sleeping infant warm, it should be tucked in around the crib mattress, reaching only as far as your baby's chest, so the infant's face is less likely to become covered by bedding materials.

Hypothermia

- Hypothermia develops when a child's temperature falls below normal due to exposure to colder temperatures. It often happens when a youngster is playing outdoors in extremely cold weather without wearing proper clothing or when clothes get wet. It can occur more quickly in children than in adults.
- As hypothermia sets in, the child may shiver and become lethargic and clumsy. Speech may become slurred and body temperature will decline in more severe cases.
- If you suspect your child is hypothermic, call 911 at once. Until help arrives, take the child indoors, remove any wet clothing, and wrap him in blankets or warm clothes.

Frostbite

- Frostbite happens when the skin and outer tissues become frozen. This condition tends to happen on extremities like the fingers, toes, ears and nose. They may become pale, gray and blistered. At the same time, the child may complain that his/her skin burns or has become numb.
- If frostbite occurs, bring the child indoors and place the frostbitten parts of her body in warm (not hot) water. 104° Fahrenheit (about the temperature of most hot tubs) is recommended. Warm washcloths may be applied to frostbitten nose, ears and lips.
- Do not rub the frozen areas.
- After a few minutes, dry and cover the child with clothing or blankets. Give him/her something warm to drink.
- If the numbness continues for more than a few minutes, call your doctor.

American Academy of Pediatrics, 12/10
SafeKids, 11/105

Natural gas is used as a fuel for many things in our homes, like cooking, heating and drying clothes. While rare, a natural gas line leak is extremely dangerous due to the potential of an explosion. Natural gas has no scent of its own, so for safety reasons, an odorant similar to rotten eggs is added. The rotten egg scent helps you detect even the tiniest gas leak.

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF NATURAL GAS LEAKS IN THE HOME ARE THE PILOT LIGHTS OF GAS-FIRED STOVES, FURNACES AND HOT WATER HEATERS IF YOU THINK YOU SMELL GAS OR SUSPECT A GAS LEAK:

- Open doors and windows to let in fresh air.
- Make sure the burners on your stove are completely turned off.
- Do not turn on or off any electrical appliances or light switches.
- Do not attempt to locate the leak.
- Do not use the house-phone or a cell-phone within the house.
- Do not smoke or light matches or lighters.
- Leave the house and from a safe distance call 911.

Never hesitate to **CALL 911** if you smell gas!

How long will my smoke alarm last?

Remember check your smoke detectors monthly and as a reminder you should have changed your batteries when you change your clocks for daylight savings to ensure proper operation. Most alarms installed today have a life span of about 8-10 years. After this time, the entire unit should be replaced. It is a good idea to write the date of purchase with a marker on the inside of your alarm so you will know when to replace it. **Always** follow the manufacturer's instructions for replacement.

PRESIDENT

Continued from page 1

of water pipe is buried beneath the parkways and streets. Having a looped system allows water to flow continuously throughout the system. Conversely, having a non-looped system could allow water to stagnate in the pipes when capped at the end of the line. Control valves have been placed strategically throughout the system to allow for maintenance and an isolation of a specific portion of the system when a water main break occurs. Having these valves in place allows our Public Works crews to repair a break without shutting down service to the entire village. The valves have to be closed in a very slow and methodical manner to avoid “spikes” and “surges” in the pipes.

Our watersystem is under controlled pressure down of approximately 65 pounds. Westchester is fortunate to have two licensed water operators on staff. They are Wally Wiza and Brian Grippo who take their jobs very seriously and monitor daily the operations at Crestwood Lane and the elevated tank.

During the last few water main breaks, crews of 4 or 5 workers have encountered valves that were not able to be closed down, or were frozen in the open position. These repairs had to be made with water still flowing through the pipe. On several occasions we have had to replace the valve as well as repair the



Public Works employees diligently repairing a valve.

broken mains.

This year we will be embarking on a more extensive program where valves will be “exercised”. This involves shutting down and reopening the valve. It will also allow us to identify which valves, some of which have been in place for over 60 years, are not operating properly. Fire Hydrants will also be flushed more regularly to not only “exercise” the internal working parts but to flush sediment that accumulates at the bottom of the main lines. A vast majority of the Fire hydrants in town are the original hydrants that were installed in the late 1920’s. It is the entire Board’s belief that a schedule for regular maintenance needs to be implemented, documented, and completed each year. Hopefully, we will not have the weather events

that have disrupted the best of plans we have in the past several years to accomplish our goals.

CHICAGO WATER RATE UPDATE

The West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) that Westchester and 40 other communities belong to has met with representatives of the City of Chicago, to discuss an increase to the water rates. As you recall, Chicago passed on to all of its customers a 25% increase beginning January 1, 2012, and has also notified us that there will be an additional 15% rate increase each year for the next three years. I, along with the other Village Presidents, Mayors, and Elected Council members of the Conference are very concerned about the increases and have banded

together to address the issue with Mayor Emanuel and his staff. The WCMC requested the City of Chicago forgo the three 15% increases proposed for the future. The City of Chicago reiterated their need to upgrade their systems so they could provide the necessary clean water to all of their customers both in the city and to the suburban communities.

At our recent WCMC Legislative breakfast meeting, the collective body authorized the WCMC to continue our quest to stop any further unilateral increase of water rates without prior discussion and justifications. Two thoughts have surfaced. One is to file a lawsuit against the City of Chicago to block the increases. The second was to work with the State Legislature and have them pass a law to create an agency that would, review and grant or deny water rate increases in a manner that is similar to the agency that approves or denies other proposed utility rate increases such as electric, gas, etc. The WCMC and all of the member communities will continue to monitor this situation and respond appropriately in a manner that best addresses the needs of our communities.

VILLAGE TREE TRIMMING

During March you will see the continuation of our wholesale tree trimming program in the High Ride area of town. Sinnott Tree Service has been trimming since early February

See **PRESIDENT**, page 9

Senior Citizens Invited to Breakfast with the President

WHEN?:
Friday March 16, 2012 @ 8:30 am

WHO?:
Senior Citizen Residents of Westchester

WHY?:
Senior Citizens of Westchester will have an opportunity to attend a free breakfast with Village President Sam D. Pulia to learn about upcoming projects in the community and voice their opinion on issues important to them. Reservations are required.

WHERE?:
St. Joseph High School
Global Resource Center
-10900 W. Cermak Road-

To reserve your spot at the breakfast table, please call Molly at 708-345-0020 ext 594.

WESTCHESTER VEHICLE STICKERS ARE MANDATORY

Westchester vehicle stickers for 2011 will expire on April 30th 2012. By ordinance, each vehicle (including motorcycles & trucks) registered or housed in the village is required to have a 2012 Westchester vehicle tag, correctly displayed on the lower right corner of each vehicle windshield, or on the license plate for motorcycles, by May 1st 2012 to avoid late fees and potential ticketing for non-compliance. Current stickers are scheduled to go on sale March 1st, 2012. Your pre-printed application form will be mailed and should be received by March 3rd, 2012. Please bring this form with you if you are purchasing your sticker at the Village Hall.

Failure to purchase the required vehicle tag is not an option. The revenue generated through the purchase of vehicle tags is an integral part of our budget and is used to provide the best police, fire, ambulance and public works services to our residents. For each thousand tags sold, the Village collects approximately \$35,000.00 in revenue. As you can see, any reduction in these revenues caused by the failure of residents to purchase their vehicle tags as required would negatively impact the services that residents have come to enjoy.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

On Tuesday, March 6th at 6:00 pm in the Village Hall Council Chambers, the University of Illinois Urban Planning graduate class invites all Westchester residents, business owners, officials and other interested stakeholders to hear presentations by the students on their research and observations on Westchester's community outlook. The graduate school is preparing an Economic Development Plan for Westchester business corridors, to be completed this spring, and this mid-semester presentation will provide the Village's options for change.

Survey News

Our thanks to everyone who sent in their completed Resident Surveys, expressing their opinions on what types of restaurants, stores, services and development they would like to have in Westchester. We received hundreds of responses in January and continued to receive more in February as we extended the deadline. We appreciate your interest in and opinions for improving Westchester and we will announce the results in the April newsletter.

A Word from the Westchester Food Pantry

No matter how young or old, how much and/or how small; your precious time, your donated food, and your generous monetary gifts have made a significant impact on the lives of our neighbors. During this economical down time we have come together to help those in need. I feel truly blessed and grateful to live in a community that has supported and volunteered to keep the Westchester Food Pantry stocked and successful for over 17 years.

A very big thank you to the following individuals and groups that help me during the Holiday Season; Westchester Jewel Food Store and Old Glory Lodge #141 for all the ham and turkey dinners, Westchester Chamber of Commerce, Hancock Engineering, and individual Westchester residents for their monetary gifts, Inland Bank, Hillside, Westchester Girl and Boy Scouts, the Westchester schools and churches, MacNeal School for their food collections and their continued support.

Thank you, to the DeFalco Girls, Karilee and Jessicalee, Ward Girls, Delaney Girls, Seegers Girls, Noesen Family, Gary and Cathy Steffeson, Claudia and Ken Forsberg, Mike Gobber, Mary and Bob Bakas for their many years of support and dedication to the food pantry. Also thank you to the newcomers that continue to help throughout the year, too many to name.

Special thanks to Bridget Rowan, Aque Harris, and Pat Millett who keep the food pantry well organized along with the Westchester Village Hall staff. Last but not least my husband Lloyd and my 2 sons Parker and Tyler that fill in wherever needed and all of you as residents that donate to the scouts, churches and schools that give to the Westchester Food Pantry.

Wishing you and your families a Bright and Healthy Year!!

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

-UPDATE-

Family Walk and Health Quest

Westchester's Citizen's Advisory Board will be hosting a Family Walk and Health Quest this spring. The children of Westchester will come together to participate in our FAMILY WALK and HEALTH QUEST 2012. The walk will benefit JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). The CAB is still in the preliminary planning stage, but please check future issues of the newsletter for more details regarding our FAMILY WALK AND HEALTH QUEST 2012!

The Health Quest will showcase some of our very own in-town health and allied care providers as well as family friendly activities for all to enjoy. The CAB is still seeking vendors for this event. If you would like to participate please contact Tom Yurkovich at tyurkovich@westchester-il.org. Applications will be taken until vendor spots are filled. Priority consideration will be given to Westchester based providers.

Friends We Can Count On

Back in June, staff were delighted to have new tables for Library programs and meetings held in the re-opened Community Room—the new folding tables were a thoughtful donation from the Friends of the Library following the 2010 flood.

This January, the Friends of the Library again demonstrated their support for the Library when they presented director Fidencio Marbella with a generous donation of \$2,500 to enable the Library to proceed with new initiatives to improve library services and facilities.

In the last year, ebook readers have exploded in popularity. A portion of the Friends' donation will be used to purchase ebook readers for circulating to Westchester patrons so more people have an opportunity to experience this new format and sample offerings on MyMediaMall. Watch for announcements later this spring.

Second on the agenda is a special "Prairie Mural Project" (see next story for details) to decorate the Community Room in a way that will reflect the community's own natural resource. A portion of the Friends' donation will cover the cost of art materials for this project.

The remaining funds will be reserved for other enhancements under consideration for the Community Room.

The Library Board of Trustees

and the staff thank the Friends of the Library for their impressive donation and their continuing financial support of the Library through the years. In addition, a thank you is extended to the many patrons who donate books and media throughout the year for the Friends' Annual Book Sale, which is their major fundraising event. The next Book Sale will be held September 27-29, 2012.

Prairie Mural Project

In February, director Fidencio Marbella and the Youth Department launched a new art project to engage school children in decorating the Community Room. The goal of the project is to have four "murals" depicting the four seasons of the Wolf Road Prairie to adorn the walls of the Community Room.

The project is open to any elementary school student (up through 8th grade) from Westchester. Entry forms and guidelines were distributed to the schools in February and copies are also available in the Youth Department for home schooled children and students from non-participating schools.

Students may submit up to four drawings, each representing a season of the prairie (spring, summer, autumn or winter) for their mural design. Students can work on their own designs individually or they can collaborate with others. Resources

are available in the Library for students who want to research the plants and animals that inhabit the Wolf Road Prairie. Students may turn in their entries at participating schools or to staff in the Youth Department.

All entries are due March 31.

In April, library staff will winnow down the entries in selecting a group of finalists and a panel of community leaders will be convened to select the winning designs. Winners will be announced in May.

During the summer, youth librarian Julie Yekel and a team comprised of the contest winners and teen artists will paint the winning images on large canvas panels to be mounted in the Community Room.

The official unveiling of the **Prairie Mural Project** will take place in September 2012. Watch for updates on this exciting new project in this publication and on the Library's website!

Take Charge of Your Health

The Library is pleased to join Age Options in presenting "Take Charge of Your Health," a six-week program for adults age 55 or older with an ongoing health condition. Participants will learn practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, understand new treatment options, and

learn helpful ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

The program will run Tuesday mornings **March 13 through April 17, from 10 am - 12:30 pm** at the Library. To register, stop by the Adult Reference Desk.

Spring Programs Bonanza

What happens when the new library director has a passion for photography? You book some photography programs for the Library! But wait, there's more!

• **Great Photos With Your Digital Camera.** Westchester resident and veteran Chicago Tribune graphic artist/photographer **Glenn Kaupert** will show you how to capture the right image on **Tuesday, March 27 at 7:00 pm.**

• **Documenting History With A Camera.** Chicago Tribune photojournalist **Alex Garcia** will share his experiences photographing news and world events on **Tuesday, April 10 at 7:00 pm.**

• **Financial Recovery.** A representative from BMO Harris Bank will discuss steps you can take to recover financially, rebuild your credit and avoid credit repair scams after experiencing a financial setback on **Saturday, April 28 at 10:00 am.** The program is part of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's *MoneySmart Week* April 21-28.

• **Senior Matinees.** Why should kids have all the fun? This spring, the Adult Department is hosting a series of movie matinees for adults and seniors at **2:00 pm on Monday afternoons beginning April 16 and running through May 7.** We have a great lineup of movies (*The Bucket List*, *Julie & Julia*, *A Night at the Opera*, and *Calendar Girls*) so you can plan a get-together with your friends!

Typewriter Update

Thanks to a donation from the Village, the Library has a typewriter available for patron use.

Friends News

The Friends of the Library thank everyone for an excellent turnout for their annual meeting in January, which featured a program on vintage snacks. Members, remember to send in your annual membership renewals or give the renewal to circulation staff on your next visit.

Apps for eBooks

Patrons can now read ebooks available in MyMediaMall using their smartphone or tablet with the proper app. Overdrive is the company "behind" MyMediaMall and their **Overdrive Media Console app** is available for Android, Blackberry, iPhone/iPad and Windows Phone for reading EPUB formatted ebooks.

You can download the app from your device's app store or the Overdrive website (Blackberry users). If you download the app from the Overdrive website, you will need to authorize the download with your Adobe ID. When you access the app on your device, be sure to select the Westchester Public Library **in Illinois** when prompted to pick your home library.

If, on the other hand, your device already has a **Kindle app**, you want to select Kindle formatted ebooks on the MyMediaMall site. When you are ready to check out, you will be redirected to Amazon.com. Click "Get Library Book," log into your Amazon account and choose "Kindle app" from the dropdown menu to indicate where to send the ebook. (Detailed instructions are available on Amazon when you log in.)

MyMediaMall has a newly expanded "HELP" feature on their site with detailed instructions for configuring your mobile device. Whether you check out an ebook from MyMediaMall on your device or on your computer, you will need to enter your Westchester Public Library card number and your last name (your pin).

Here are helpful links:

MyMediaMall www.mymedimall.net - see *Help* and *Digital Software* links on right side of screen

Overdrive www.overdrive.com/software/omc/ - mobile apps

www.overdrive.com/Software/OMC/faq.aspx - detailed instructions on apps and devices

www.overdrive.com/Resources/DRC/Default.aspx - device resource center

help.overdrive.com/adobe-authorization - authorizing with Adobe ID

Kindle www.amazon.com - search *Kindle store* and then select *Kindle support* in upper right corner for links to Kindle reading apps and link to page labeled *Public Library Books for Kindle*.



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY ▪ 10700 Canterbury ▪ Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 ▪ TTY/TDD 708-562-9364 ▪ askus@westchesterpl.org ▪ www.westchesterpl.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-9:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm, Sunday 1:00-5:00 pm.

Library Director Fidencio Marbella ▪ Board of Trustees Donna Malecki, president, Steve Cerasuolo, Timothy Hinsdale, Phyllis Kastle, Carole E. Levy, Allison Muzal, and Celestine T. Reda ▪ Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month.

Adult Programs

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE
Call 708-562-3573 or stop by the Adult Reference Desk.

Great Photos With Your Digital Camera

With veteran Chicago Tribune graphic artist/photographer Glenn Kaupert
Tuesday, March 27 7:00 pm

Documenting History With A Camera

With Chicago Tribune photojournalist Alex Garcia
Tuesday, April 10 7:00 pm

Financial Recovery

With a representative from MBO Harris Bank
Saturday, April 28 10:30 am

Take Charge of Your Health

With staff from Age Options (registration required)
Tuesdays, March 13 - April 17 10:00 am

Senior Matinees Mondays at 2:00 pm

Apr 16 *The Bucket List* Apr 30 *A Night at the Opera*
Apr 23 *Julie & Julia* May 7 *Calendar Girls*

Book Discussion Group

Meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm and in the afternoon at 2:00 pm in March only.

Mar 15 *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by Alan Bradley
Apr 19 *The Confession* by John Grisham
May 17 *Answer as a Man* by Taylor Caldwell

Library Fun on FLICKR

See photos of Library activities and events on **FLICKR**, a popular photo-sharing website. Visit our **FLICKR** page: www.flickr.com/photos/westchesterpl or click the link on our website!

INTERNET CLASSES

Classes meet Wednesdays at 1:30 pm and a valid library card is required. Registration for residents begins on the 1st day of the month in which the class is held (the day after for non-residents). Beginner's Class requires mouse skills.

** indicates classes in Conference Room*

March - Registration begins	Mar 1
Mouse Mania	Mar 7
Beginner's Internet	Mar 14
Email Class*	Mar 21
April - Registration begins	Apr 1
Mouse Mania	Apr 11
Beginner's Internet	Apr 18
Email Class*	Apr 25
May - Registration begins	May 1
Beginner's Internet	May 9
Email Class*	May 16
Intermediate Class*	May 23

If you are unable to attend our classes, ask a reference librarian about tutorials on our website!

Note: Photographs taken at Library events may be used for promotional purposes. Library programs are open to the public and patrons with disabilities are welcome. Please call 562-3573 (TTY/TDD 562-9364), visit or write us to discuss accommodations at least five (5) working days prior to a scheduled program.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Registration for Youth programs is ongoing.
Call 708-562-3573 or visit the Youth Department to register.

POETRY CONTEST



All Westchester students in grades 1 through 8 are invited to submit a poem for the Library's annual Poetry Contest. Submit a poem on the theme **Surprise/the Unexpected** to the Youth Department by Monday, March 19. Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony in April.

Deadline for entries: Monday, March 19
Awards Ceremony: Sunday, April 15, at 1:30 pm

Contest information is available at the schools and in the Youth Department.

THE DAY OF THE CHILD



The wonderful, wacky juggler **ANDY HEAD** will be here to help us celebrate children, families and the joys and benefits of reading.
Sunday, April 29 1:30 pm

Summer Volunteers

For students entering grades 7 through 12 in the fall

Students looking for a meaningful way to spend their summer can apply for a volunteer position in the Youth Department. Each volunteer is asked to work two hours each week during the entire Summer Reading Club Program (June through July). Applications will be available in the Youth Department in March, but don't delay since there are a limited number of volunteer positions available. Candidates will be scheduled a brief interview and skills test. Many students have used this opportunity to fulfill community service obligations for school, church or scouting.

TODDLER STORYTIME

For children up to age 3-1/2 and their parents/caregivers

Wednesdays Thursdays
9:45 - 10:00 am **OR** 9:45 - 10:00 am
Mar 14 - Apr 25 Mar 15 - Apr 26

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

For children age 3 1/2 - pre-K (not yet in K)

Wednesdays Thursdays
10:30 - 11:00 am **OR** 10:30 - 11:00 am
Mar 14 - Apr 25 Mar 15 - Apr 26

MAGIC CARPET CLUB

For children in grades K-2

Wednesdays 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Mar 14 - Apr 25

READING ROUND TABLE

For children in grades 3-8

Tuesdays 4:00 - 5:30 pm
Mar 27 - Apr 10 Stained glass windows
Learn how to help us beautify the Library and/or your home

Reminder to parents and caregivers: please remain with your children under the age of nine whenever in the Library.



FAMILY FILM NIGHT

Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm

Apr 4	Smurfs	103 min
Apr 11	Adventures of Tintin	91 min
Apr 18	Kung Fu Panda 2	91 min
Apr 25	Puss and Boots	90 min



Attention All Westchester Veterans The American Legion Post 1437 Organizational Meeting

The First Meeting of Westchester Post 1437 will be held Thursday, March 8, 2012. It is an exciting time for the veterans of Westchester.

I am please to invite you and any other veterans you know to the organizational meeting for Westchester Post 1437. It will be held on Thursday **the 28th of March at 7:00 PM** at 3040 Wolf Road, Westchester (near Paul's Pizza). At this meeting Officers will be selected and a normal meeting night will be set.

In addition to the normal excitement of a Post's first meeting, Westchester will have the unique privilege of having State Commander Dave Hicks officiating over the installation of Post 1437 officers.

On behalf of 108,202 members of The Illinois American Legion statewide, I congratulate Westchester on its new Post, and invite you to attend this unique meeting, and look forward to your participation in The American Legion and your community. For more information contact Marty Conatser at 309-838-6706.

Have Your Say in Planning the Future of Westchester

With the assistance of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the Village of Westchester is embarking on an interactive, community-based process to develop its first comprehensive plan in 55 years. This planning process will explore opportunities in land-use planning, residential and commercial development, transportation, parks and open space, and numerous other aspects important to the Village's prosperity. The comprehensive plan will identify and build upon the community's assets and identify ways to support regional goals from the GO TO 2040 comprehensive regional plan.

In February, CMAP and the Village hosted two public meetings attended by 180 residents to discuss the strengths, issues, and challenges that should be addressed by the plan.

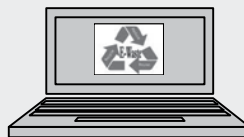
Residents can continue to provide input on the plan on-line by visiting
<http://westchester.metroquest.com/>

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING



FIRST EVENT
OF 2012!

*SATURDAY, APRIL 14TH
FROM 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
AT VILLAGE HALL BEHIND THE
WESTCHESTER POST OFFICE*



- Accepted Electronics
- Computers, Monitors, & Laptops
 - T.V.s, DVD/VCR's & Stereos
 - Printers, Fax Machines, & Scanners
 - Video Game Consoles
 - Phones, Cell Phones, MP3s, & iPods
 - Peripherals; Mice, Keyboards
 - & all other Computer Parts

PAYING YOUR UTILITY BILL

~ FOUR CONVENIENT WAYS ~

Option 1: Pay in person, at Village Hall

Village Hall hours of operation are as follows;

- ◆ Monday-Friday 8:30AM to 5:00PM
- ◆ Second Saturday of every month from 8:30AM to 12:30PM

Option 2: Utilize E-pay services to pay online

- ◆ Go to www.westchester-il.org
- ◆ Click the "Online Bill and Ticket Payment" tab
- ◆ Follow the instructions to make payment

Option 3: Use the preaddressed return envelope included with your bill to submit payment by check to our lockbox.

Option 4: Set up automatic debit payment from your checking or savings account.

IF SUBMITTING PAYMENT FROM YOUR PERSONAL BANK WEB-SITE, PLEASE ALLOW A MINIMUM PROCESSING OF 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE. YOUR BANK WILL NEED TO PREPARE AND MAIL A CHECK. PERSONAL CHECKS ARE POSTED THE DATE OF RECEIPT, AND NOT THE DATE INDICATED ON THE CHECK OR POSTMARKED.

WESTCHESTER'S NEW WATER RATES AS COMPARED TO SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

As you can see from the chart below, even after the recent water rate increase, Westchester still has the lowest combined water and sewer rates of the surrounding municipalities. Rates are current as of February 16, 2012.

Municipality	Water Rate February 2012	Sewer Rate February 2012	Measured Units	Total Rate per 1000 gallons
Westchester *	6.86	1.22	1000 gal	8.08
Broadview **	8.63	1.08	1000 gal	9.71
Hillside	8.55	.45	1000 gal	9.00
Brookfield **	8.83	1.60	1000 gal	10.43
Berkeley	7.23	1.35	1000 gal	8.58
Lagrange **	8.47	.97	1000 gal	9.44
LaGrange Park **	8.70	2.79	1000 gal	11.49
Bellwood	7.34	2.55	1000 gal	9.89
Maywood **	13.15	.68	1000 gal	13.83

*Amount includes the entire \$0.50 increase per 1000 gallons. The increase is being phased in at \$0.16 per 1000 gallons in the February billing, to \$0.33 per 1000 gallons in the March billing and to \$0.50 per 1000 gallons in the April billing.

**Amount shows the rates converted from 100 cubic feet measured units to 1000 gallons.

PRESIDENT

Continued from page 4

and is slowly making their way west. Steve Crowley, our in house arborist, has been placing a small green dot on the Ash Trees in that section. These Ash trees are being trimmed by Public Works staff to eliminate any safety concerns.

I have received a few emails from residents who are not happy with the look of the trees after they have been trimmed. It is important to note that the trees are being trimmed consistent with industry standards which are 14 feet on the street side and 8 feet on the sidewalk side. Since these trees have not been trimmed in quite some time, and in some cases never, the finished product may look unappealing to you. However, remember that there are no leaves on the trees at this time, but when they are in full bloom they will look much better, be stronger and be less susceptible to the forces of nature when the thunderstorms and strong winds return this spring and summer.

The trimming being done allows for dead wood to be removed, and it does stimulate better growth and a healthier, heartier tree in the future. Steve and Rick Sinnott are available to answer questions you may have regarding this tree trimming process.

COM ED TREE TRIMMING

ComEd has notified the Village that they will be trimming trees in Circuit D3411. Circuit D3411 covers a diverse area along Cermak Road. Trees in the rear easements behind Shelley, Shakespeare, Shaw, Boeger Ct. Burns, Mandel, as well as Dorchester. South of Cermak Road includes Bellevue, Hawthorne, Stratford, Sunnyside, Buckingham, Fleet, Preston, Newberry, and into the Forest Preserve.

COM ED ASSISTS MILITARY PERSONNEL

ComEd has also notified the Village that help is available for veterans, and deployed active military personnel having difficulty paying their electric bills. To enroll in the CHAMP program please call 1-888-806-CARE (2273) or at web site www.ComEd.com/CARE.

BOARD MEETING NEWS

At our February 14th Valentine's Day meeting several items were discussed. An intergovernmental agreement was signed with the Village of Hillside where the Village



Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Patlak conducting the Property Tax Appeal Seminar to a packed house at Westchester Village Hall on February 21st

of Hillside will pay for a portion of the sewer rehabilitation project presently underway since Hillside residents residing between Roosevelt and Canterbury Street are attached to Westchester's sanitary sewer system. This amount equals 1/12th of our project and shall not exceed \$120,000.

An agreement was signed authorizing an agreement with Kane McKenna and Associates to evaluate property belonging to St Joseph H.S. regarding a potential Tax Increment Financing District. The property of the old St. Joseph H.S. is for sale and interested developers have been in contact with St. Joseph H.S. officials. Having this location placed under a TIF District allows for redevelopment of the area and assistance with costs associated with the improvement of the area.

A resolution was signed to engage the services of the Engineering firm of Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC to provide engineering services for the relocation of a sanitary sewer line presently located through the Cook County Forest Preserve property east of Sunnyside Ave at Wakefield.

Background: Prior to the Cook County Forest Preserve taking ownership of the aforementioned property it was a planned subdivision called Westchester Woods. A residential subdivision including several streets were planned in the subdivision. Water mains, fire hydrants and sanitary sewers were installed throughout the area attaching to what now is the MWRD interceptor at Brainard Ave and Jackson in the Village of La Grange Park. During our wholesale cleaning and televising of the sanitary sewer system, this area encompassing approximately 1 mile was not done due to there not being any access without cutting

down a swath of trees through our 20 foot easement. Several meetings with Forest Preserve Officials, environmentalists, and engineering consultants, and our village attorney were held on site to determine what course of action would accomplish the goals of the village, and all of the stake holders, with the minimum amount of disruption.

Three engineering firms the Village has a professional relationship with, submitted proposals for the project. They are Burke Engineering, Hancock Engineering and V3Engineering. Each of these firms is authorized to perform work for the Village. Since the bids are for professional services there is no bidding process. The Village simply outlines the scope of the project and the selection of the firm is based on the scope of the project provided by each firm.

A resolution was approved to enter into a marketing agreement with Utility Service Partners, doing business as Service Line Warranties, to offer external water and sewer line warranties at a 10% discount rate. Resident will be receiving more information via mail regarding this warranty program.

An Ordinance Abating the 2011 Tax Levy for the issuance of \$3,500.00 Village of Westchester Illinois Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Motor Fuel Tax) in the amount of \$240,064.38 was approved. Similarly an Ordinance Abating the 2011 Tax Levy issuance of \$1,610,000 Village of Westchester Illinois Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Water and Sewer) in the amount of \$182,300.14 was approved.

A resolution naming Ms. Hope Garrett and Ms. Molly (Magee) Keane as Deputy Village Clerks was approved.

Discussion in the Committee of the Whole encompassed the following:

Greg Hribal our 9-1-1 Supervisor and in house IT employee, has been working with cell phone providers who have leased access to our elevated water tower to provide cell services. Trustee Nick Steker presented information on a potential revenue source from another provider who is interested in financing wireless infrastructure. The provider's proposal offers cell site lease prepayment to maximize the value of our cell site.

Village Manager Janet Matthys presented a Financial Summary of the Fiscal Quarter ending January 31, 2012.

I, along with Trustee Wally Novak, spoke about having a water main valve replacement and repair program in place. Several valves have outlived their life span and are in need of replacement. As we embark on our fire hydrant flushing program and our exercising of the water main valves, I know replacements are going to be necessary. The board considers this a necessary expenditure and we will be making appropriations in our next budget.

Similarly, I presented information to the board to either fix or seek a replacement for our paving box. The paving box we purchased to perform a host of spot repairs over the past few years is in need of repairs that, if done by the equipment provider, would cost in excess of \$18,000. In house labor could reduce the amount to just over \$10,000. The decision to be made is the same one each of us face when contemplating making a purchase of a new car. Do we fix the old one, bite the bullet and get a new one, lease one if possible, or just fix it enough to get by. Manager Matthys informed us that a low favorable interest rate is available for municipalities for capital equipment to which we may want to avail ourselves. I will be getting additional proposals for the equipment and present those to the board in the near future. I would like to start repairing sections of street as soon as possible after the weather breaks.

A change order was approved to allow the repair and replacement of the sanitary sewer lining project underway in the High Ridge area. A new collapse was recently identified and in need of repair before it could be re-lined properly.

Trustee Gattuso who, along with Keith Suchy, DDS are discussing changes to the fest tent layout, along with other modification to the fest grounds. The topics of wristband sales have also begun with the vendor Windy City. More information will be forthcoming when available. Please

See PRESIDENT, page 19

THE SMELL OF SPRING IS NEAR... JOIN THE GOOD TIMES at SJHS on MARCH 10th
Your attendance will help support the students of St. Joseph High School!

The Michael J. Lisuzzo Benevolent Foundation was founded by Matt Lisuzzo '92, Jeff Aultman '92, Louie De Gusepie, Maurice O'Connell '89, and Cory Robbins '91, in honor and in memory of Michael Lisuzzo '89. Michael's life was tragically cut short on December 28, 2010 in an automobile accident.

The Michael J. Lisuzzo Benevolent Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is primarily to give a young man or woman a Catholic education at Michael's alma mater, St. Joseph High School.

"In one way or another we all can say that we owe our high school for the education and life values that they provided us. The Foundation is a great way to say thank you and give back to the school and the community." - Matt Lisuzzo

To learn more or to show your support for the Michael J. Lisuzzo Benevolent Foundation email, mjlbenevolentfoundation@hotmail.com or visit the Michael J. Lisuzzo Benevolent Foundation Facebook page.

LET THE WARMTH OF GOOD TIMES
take the chill from the air and
THE SMELL OF SPRING
make winter easier to bear.

Support a Good Cause & Join the
MICHAEL J. LISUZZO BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION
for an Evening of Fun, Food & Drinks!

SATURDAY, MARCH 10TH

St. Joseph High School
10900 West Cermak Road
Westchester, Illinois 60154

ENTRANCE AT NORTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING

6pm-12am
3.10.12

\$20 entry fee for a chance to win
Blackhawk Tickets!!

\$3 top shelf liquor, shots and wine
\$2 domestic beer

Appetizers will be provided.

NON-HOME RULE SALES TAX REFERENDUM

F.A.Q.'S

What is a Non-Home Rule Sales Tax?

A Non-Home Rule Municipality (community of less than 25,000 people) may impose an additional 1% sales tax for capital improvement projects.

Why is Westchester seeking a Non-Home Rule Sales Tax?

Westchester is experiencing rising capital and infrastructure costs. The Village experienced nine water main breaks in January 2012 alone. The revenues generated from the Non-Home Rule Sales Tax will be used solely to maintain the quality of services and improve the aging infrastructure of the village.

How will the new sales tax affect me?

The proposed increase is 1%, which is a **penny on a dollar**. A shopper purchasing \$100.00 worth of goods would see the retail sales tax rise \$1.00.

How will the additional revenue be used?

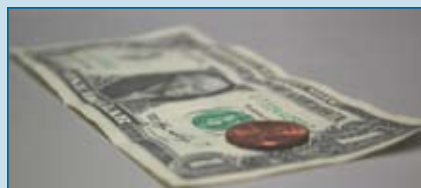
All revenues received as a result of the Non-Home Rule Sales Tax will be used for infrastructure-related projects in accordance with State of Illinois' Statute.

-Will appear on the March 20, 2012 Primary Election Ballot-

"Shall the Village of Westchester Impose a Non-Home Rule Sales Tax of One Percent?"

THE PROPOSED NON-HOME RULE SALES TAX WOULD:

- * **ADD ONE PERCENT (1.0%) RETAIL SALES TAX**



"PENNY ON A DOLLAR"

- * **ALLOW FOR INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF:**

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| • STREETS | • STORM SEWERS | • SANITARY SEWERS |
| • SIDEWALKS & CURBS | • STREET LIGHTING | • PARKWAYS |

- * **ADDRESS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AFFECTING THE RESIDENTS OF WESTCHESTER**



BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Saturday, March 24th
 7:00am-Noon - Breakfast
 8:30am-11:30am - Entertainment



The annual Breakfast with the Easter bunny will be Co-Sponsored with the Westchester Kiwanis Club. All residents and friends of Westchester are welcome to attend the breakfast. The breakfast includes the Easter Bunny and roving entertainment.

Tickets should be purchased early so the Easter Bunny has time to prepare; however, tickets will also be available at the door.
 \$6.00 per Adult / \$4 per child under 12
 Free – children 2 years and under



EARLY BIRD POOL PASS
 RATES END
 APRIL 30TH.
 GET YOURS TODAY &
 SAVE!



EASTER CANDY & EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 24th
 Noon SHARP!
 Ages 2-10

Guess who's hopping down the bunny trail? Join oodles of children as you collect candy and eggs. The hunt will be held outside so please dress appropriately. Signage will identify age groups. Parents are invited to watch, however participation is limited to the children only.



Visit us at wpdparks.org

For the latest in park information and to view the spring/summer program brochure!

MARCH

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3 True Power Martial Arts
4	5 Circuit Training This Ain't No Rest Camp... It's Boot Camp	6 True Power Martial Arts Cardio Kick Boxing Yoga / Tone & Strong	7 Dynamic Dual 20/20 Total Body Toning	8 Gastronomical Goodies 30 Minute Abs	9 Animal Antics Intensity! - Express Training for the Busy Person	10 Chicago Flower & Garden Show Ocean Friends / Junkyard Smash
11	12 Preschool Drawing Cartoon Drawing	13 Busy Builders Guitar Lessons	14	15 Sew Much Fun	16	17 Mural Painting for Kids Foam Roller Workout
18	19	20	21	22 April Fools Faux Foods	23 Messy Me's Part 2	24 Breakfast with the Easter Bunny & Candy Hunt Fit Kids
25	26 Sassy Senior Exercise	27 Adult Volleyball	28	29	30	31

APRIL

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2 Parent/Tot Super Sports All-Star Soccer	3	4 Rhythmic Gymnastics T-Ball / Salsa & Latin Dance	5 Kids Cook Off The Bucket List	6 Spring Fling	7

Please visit our website, www.wpdparks.org or call the park district at 708.865.8200 for additional information on any of the above programs.
 (fees are listed Resident/Non-Resident)

ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

And the Winner is...?

Written by: Tony Quattrochi, Faculty Member



“And the Emmy goes to ... **Joe Vinci, Class of 1984**, St. Joseph High School!” This Charger keeps rolling up the credits, including three Emmy awards, as technical director on a variety of television programs. Ever since he graduated from St. Joe’s, Joe has worked tirelessly to help produce numerous shows (see below) as he expands his expertise in an ever increasing technology-driven medium.

“I really became interested in television production when I gained experience recording St. Joe events, especially basketball games. I then went to Columbia College downtown where I gained excellent hands-on experience and I became a Television Department Assistant which was a major opportunity to be more than just a student. This advantage allowed me to showcase my work ethic with instructors who were working professionals in the broadcast market here in Chicago.” Joe formed his own company – **Vincivision** – where he freelances as a technical director specializing in sports remotes.

“‘Vincivision’ was a nickname affectionately bestowed upon me by my classmates at St. Joe’s,” Joe related. “Now I am flying across the country, broadcasting different events. I am always excited about the impact of technology, especially the Internet now, in the transmission of games, concerts and the like. It’s a very exhausting but highly rewarding profession. I believe that my passion, creativity and organizational abilities rub off on my crew and that’s very rewarding. It helps make for a perfectly clean and smooth production.”

A Selection of Joe Vinci’s Work as Technical Director

Chicago Blackhawks, White Sox & Cubs (WGN & Comcast)
Live YouTube HD Webcasts (music festivals)
All six Chicago Bulls championship seasons
ESPN’s national coverage of the NHL
E’s Talk Soup
Farm Aid 2000
Ellen DeGeneres Special from the Chicago Theatre
1996 Democratic National Convention
John Mellencamp at the Vic Theatre
The Jerry Springer Show

When asked to share advice with students who may wish to follow a path similar to his, Joe suggests:

“Once you get your foot in the door, show your boss you’re worth keeping. Let your work and attitude shine bright. This business dictates that you’re only as good as your last job so prove it!”

Joe Vinci’s Three Emmys

2008 Chicago Marathon (NBC)
2006 Chicago Bulls (Comcast)
2005 Chicago Auto Show (NBC)



Pictured from left to right: David McCreery, President; Ron Hoover, Principal; Rey Carpio; Matthew Sanders; Anthony Gebhart; Victor Perez; Susan Lamparter, Technology Director; Stacy Sajder, Faculty Member; Mark Garstki, Director of Technology for the Office of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

St. Joseph Video Production Students Take 2nd Place and Honorable Mention in First Chicago Archdiocese Video Competition

Last semester, Susan Lamparter, Technology Director at St. Joseph High School, informed faculty member, Stacy Sajder, of a video contest being hosted by the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Office of Catholic Schools. The topic of cyber-bullying was presented to St. Joseph’s video production class. Two teams were created and they did an amazing job! A team of Victor Perez ‘12, Anthony Gebhart ‘13, Rey Carpio ‘13, and Matthew Sanders ‘12 should be congratulated for winning second place in the competition. These young men were awarded a \$300 Best Buy gift card from Mr. Mark Garstki, Director of Technology for the Office of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago on February 2, 2012 at St. Joseph High School.



Pictured from left to right: Jazmin Mendoza; Kyla Clark; Jamoiya Williams; Constance Gates; Gabby Foster; Stacy Sajder, Faculty Member.

Also, congratulations to Jazmin Mendoza ‘15, Kyla Clark ‘15, Jamoiya Williams ‘15, Constance Gates ‘15, and Gabby Foster ‘15 for their video entry and Honorable Mention.

Intro to Video Production and Editing is a new course at St. Joseph High School this year. This course will acquaint students with the technical and aesthetic concepts involved in successful studio and field production. Students will also develop skills through a series of in-class exercises, studio and field exercises, and critical evaluations of past and present production styles. Grants are continuously pursued to fund the equipment needs with the long-term goal being a television morning show that would broadcast the prayer, pledge of allegiance and morning announcements to the St. Joseph student body.

Where do Your Property Taxes Go?

Each year, we include summaries of property tax information in the newsletter.

We hope you find this information helpful in interpreting the true value and purchase power of the property taxes you pay. As you can see from the charts below, the Village's share of your property tax bill is 13.40 or 14.32%, depending on whether you reside in School District 92.5 or School District 93, respectively.

The Village continues to provide outstanding value for your money by keeping the streets and public areas neat and well maintained, providing police and fire protection, reliable water and sewer service, and doing these as efficiently as possible.

As the charts below illustrate, the majority of your property tax bill, approximately 62.08-64.51% supports the grade schools and high schools, and Triton College. The

Westchester Park District and the Westchester Public Library combine for another 6.979-7.25% of your property tax bill and the remaining 15.3-16.34% supports county and township wide governmental functions.

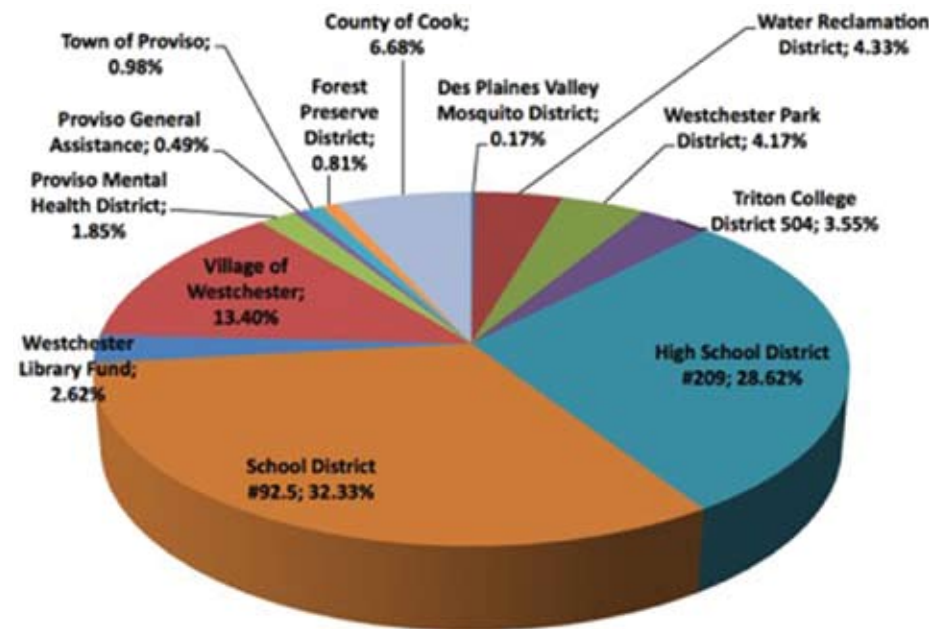
Total Tax Levy

Property taxation in Cook County can be confusing. The property taxes

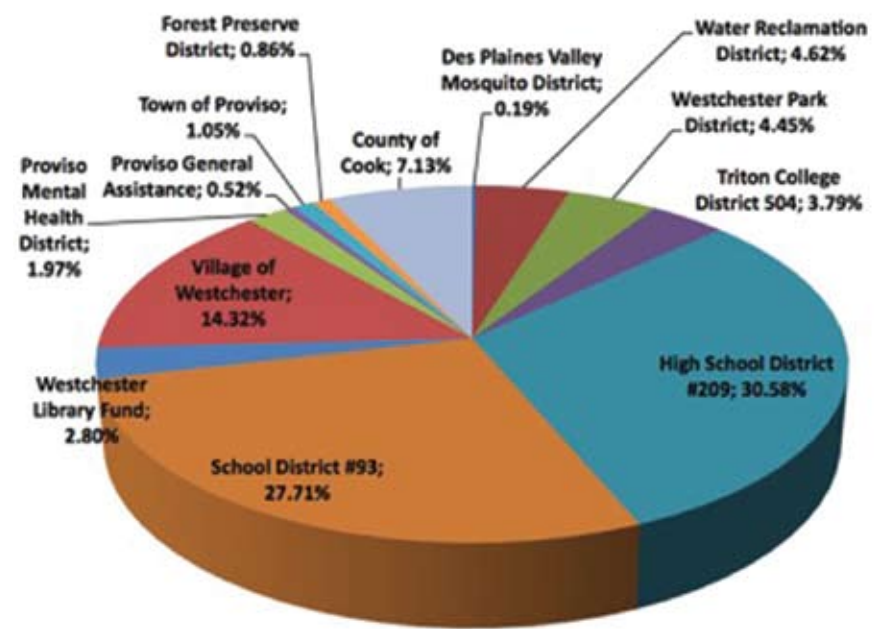
that you paid in calendar year 2011 were for what is called the "2010 Tax Year".

The 2010 total tax rate per \$100 of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) was \$6.334 for homes and businesses in School District 92.5 (the majority of the town), and \$ 5.929 for homes and businesses in School District 93. You will find below a chart showing the tax rates over time.

Tax Year	Total Property Tax Rate if your property is in School District 92.5	Total Property Tax Rate if your property is in School District 93
2001	8.183	7.552
2002	7.554	6.513
2003	7.782	6.738
2004	7.608	6.596
2005	6.795	5.982
2006	6.887	6.095
2007	6.679	5.935
2008	6.244	5.561
2009	6.220	5.743
2010	6.334	5.929



District 92.5



District 93

How Property Tax is calculated

In Cook County we receive a property tax bill twice each year. One bill is mailed to us in the Spring, and one in the Fall.

For 2011 the first property tax bill was due March 1st. The first property tax bill that we receive is based on 55% of the total amount of property taxes you paid the previous year. If you want to know how much you will have to pay March 1st, simply look at your second installment tax bill from 2010 and multiply the total tax paid in calendar year 2011 (what is called the 2010 tax year levy) by 55 percent.

The second bill, which is supposed to be mailed in early Fall, and which was delayed until November of this past year, takes into account changes in assessed value as well as the amount of money each taxing district has asked for.

If you want to try to calculate your tax bill, look at your final tax bill for 2010. In the right hand (upper) column of the tax bill you will find the information you need to see how

your tax bill was calculated. Basically, the County takes your estimated market value and multiplies that times 10% (residential property equalization factor) to come up with the assessed value. This in turn is multiplied by the State Multiplier (a factor the State of Illinois applies), which for 2011 (or the 2010 tax year levy) was 3.300, and results in your 2010 Equalized Assessed Value or EAV. The EAV is then multiplied by the tax rate to determine your tax bill before exemptions. If you are a home owner you are entitled to a homeowner's exemption, and if you are a senior citizen you are entitled to an additional senior citizen exemption.

Sample Calculation:
 Market Value - \$270,000
 Times 10% = \$27,000 (assessed value)

Times State Multiplier of 3.3000 = \$90,992, which is your EAV

Times tax rate of 6.334% (for those living in District 92.5) = \$5,644 or your taxes due prior to exemptions.

The property tax rate that you will pay in Calendar Year 2012 will not be known until early or late Fall 2012. The Village of Westchester did pass a 2011 tax levy in December. Tax caps will scale back the amount of the tax levy, and assessment changes will alter the final tax rate. The total levy amount for the Village was \$5,963,600, which was a 4.9 percent increase over the 2010 tax levy extension. However, that increase will be limited to the greater of the 4.9% increase levied or the increase in the CPI which is estimated at 1.5 percent.

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Westchester, IL 60154

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visit us online**

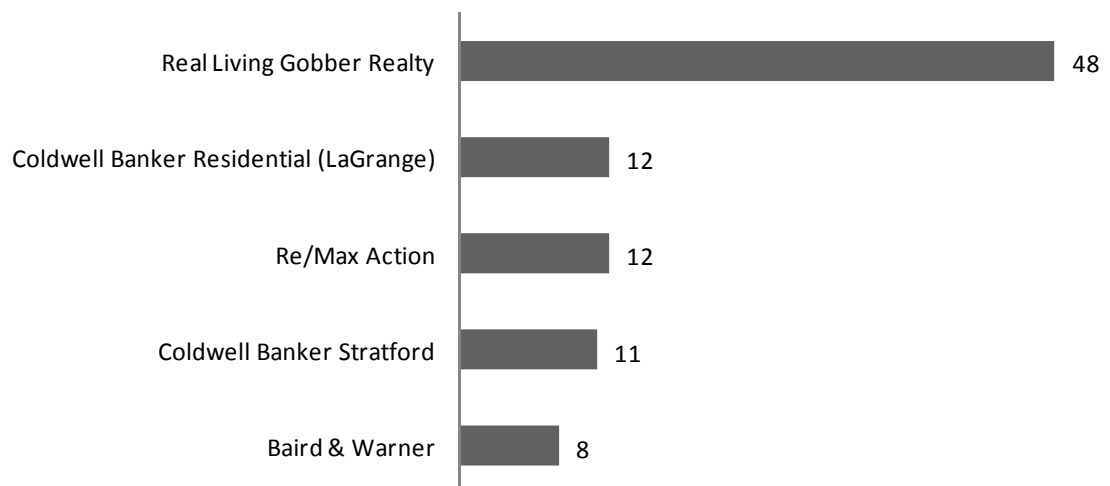
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Homes Sold in Westchester in 2011



This chart represents all detached and attached single-family homes that closed in Westchester according to MRED data between 1/1/2011 and 12/31/2011. The chart reflects offices with 8 or more deals and represents the total # of sides for each office. Data supplied by MRED may not reflect all real estate activity in the market. MRED is not responsible for the accuracy of the data supplied.



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PRESIDENT

Continued from page 9

mark your calendar for July 13, 14, 15th for the 21st Annual Westchester Fest and Fireworks Display.

9-1-1 Supervisor Greg Hribal gave a brief update of the Police Communication Consolidation Study. Hillside, Westchester, and Broadview are reviewing the consultants report to determine the advantages or disadvantages to the three village consolidation.

Village Manager Janet Matthys also reported on the State of Illinois Debt Recovery Program. Public Act 097-06332 allows a unit of local government to request Comptroller Judy Barr-Topinka to withhold delinquent obligations owed to units of local government from a debtor's State Income Tax refund. Delinquent payments for water bills, ticket violations, including Red Light Camera violations would fall under this act.

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL SEMINAR

On February 21, 2012 we held a Property Tax Appeal Seminar. The session was hosted by Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Dan Patlak, along with Proviso Township Assessor Steven J. Zawaski, and the Village of Westchester. The room was packed full as Commissioner Patlak explained the process of appealing and offered helpful tips for filing appeals. For more information please go to www.cookcountyboardofreview.com or call the Commissioner's office directly at 312-603-3644.

CELEBRATE WESTCHESTER

The Westchester Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual "Celebrate Westchester" event on January 28th at the Alpine Banquet Haus. We would like to honor all of the award recipients who give their time to benefit of our community. The Village recognized Public Works Director John Fecarotta, School District 92.5 commended Pam Moldenhauer for providing a safe, healthy, and nurturing lunch room for the children. The chamber awarded Le Petite Café the business Image Award for outstanding Leadership in Service and Appearance. The Chamber Person of the Year award was given to the Westchester Lion's Club for their enthusiasm, energy and service to the community. Rev. Joe Mills was thanked for all his effort in 2011 as the Chamber President and a Chamber Lifetime Membership was given to Bill Ernst for his endless



Celebrate Westchester award recipients pictured above from left to right John Fecarotta, Pam Moldenhauer, Rich Spino, Mary Spino, Bill Ernst, and Matt Duff

service to the Chamber of Commerce and the Community. The evening was enjoyed by all in attendance which included representatives from the Village, Park District, Library, School District 92.5, St. Joseph High School, The Chamber of Commerce and many individual residents.

ADDISON CREEK NEWS

I recently attended a Lower Des Plaines Watershed Meeting at the Village of Northlake where Addison Creek was mentioned. Senior Engineer Joe Kratzer from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District reiterated that preliminary engineering for several projects, including Addison Creek, had been approved and was moving forward. The Addison Creek Plan has been identified as ADCR-6B. The communities affected are Northlake, Stone Park, Melrose Park, Bellwood, and Westchester. The Project description is to construct a 960 acre-foot reservoir, pump station and channel improvements to protect infrastructure, residential, and commercial structures. The location of the reservoir is at Addison Creek and Lake Street and Mannheim Road. The benefit to cost ratio is 1.47. The total benefit is projected at \$196,500,000 dollars. The total cost is projected at \$134,000,000 dollars. I am pleased that this project has been selected and is moving forward. I wish I could tell you a start date of the construction but it has not yet been set. I will tell you that the project is further that it has ever been in the past and I, like you, want it to become a reality as soon as possible.

Patrick Jensen another MWRD Engineer offered a power point presentation outlining the sewer

system and how it was designed from the 1800's until now including the Deep Tunnel Project. I am working with the MWRD to have this presentation available for all of our residents' viewing.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

On February 2nd the Village of Westchester hosted a meeting with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) to assist us with creating a comprehensive plan for Westchester. Westchester's last comprehensive plan was done in the mid 1950's and certainly could use an update. Samantha Robinson and Pete Saunders from CMAP engaged those in attendance seeking information that addresses current local issues as well as a longer term plan for the future.

Approximately 65 persons were in attendance and participated in ranking a host of concepts and issues. Participants were broken down into focus groups and asked to answer several questions about the future of Westchester. The comprehensive plan will build upon the Village's assets and provide a roadmap for achieving those goals and objectives. Residents can continue to provide input on the plan on-line by visiting <http://westchester.metroquest.com/>.

DOES THE STATE OF ILLINOIS HAVE YOUR MONEY

Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford reminds us all that the Treasurer's office is currently holding \$1.5 billion dollars in unclaimed cash and contents of Illinois bank safety deposit boxes that have been abandoned for at least 5 years. Examples of unclaimed

property include money in inactive savings accounts, unpaid wages, stocks, bonds, paid up life insurance policies, and safety deposit box contents. Visit the Treasurer's office at www.treasurer.il.gov and follow the Cash Dash link to find out if you have unclaimed property coming.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

I recently attended a forum where Cook County Clerk Dorothy Brown highlighted several on-line based services available through the clerk's office. Unclaimed child support money, online traffic ticket system, electronic case filing, mortgage surplus search, online order of protections can all be accessed online at: www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org.

ELECTION REMINDER

March 20th is election day. Please make every attempt to cast your vote. In this election season, Westchester has two referendum questions that will have a lasting impact on all of our residents. The Municipal Aggregation initiative will certainly have a positive effect on your finances. The Non-Home Rule Sales Tax initiative will certainly have an impact on the sorely needed infrastructure repairs to future street, sewer, and water projects.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOSEPH DAY

Each year we all look forward to our Corned Beef and Cabbage and the Sweet Table of St. Joseph Day. From all of us at the Village, please have a safe and happy celebration.

**Wednesday February 29 thru
Wednesday March 28:**

Grace Lutheran Church 1101 Manchester Westchester, IL 60154. On Wednesdays in Lent (February 29th, March 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th) all are invited to "Simple Suppers". We will begin in the chapel at 6:00 p.m. We will then move to the Activity Room for a simple supper and reflections on "The Signs of Jonah." Call the church office at 708-345-1375 for more information.

March

Registration for Youth spring programs and story times at Library. Register in Youth Department or call 708-562-3573.

Thursday, March 1

Family Science Night at WMS from 6 PM to 8 PM

Friday, March 2

Moms and Muffins at WPS, 8-8:40 AM
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fish and Chicken Fry - Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154 708-865-1282

Sunday March 4

Tower Chorale Concert will be held at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue Westchester IL, 60154 Call the rectory at 708-865-8071 for more information.

Monday March 5

Lenten Mass at 7:00 PM Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Monday, March 5-16

ISAT Testing for Grades 3-8, Westchester Public Schools

Wednesday March 7

6 PM - Lenten potluck dinner, open to the neighborhood. Please bring a dish to pass, Lenten program to follow. Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154 708-865-1282

Wednesday March 7

All School mass at 8:00 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Wednesday March 7

Divine Infant Jesus School Advisory Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Rectory, 1601 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Friday March 9

Divine Infant Jesus - 8th grade

Over 50 Club

The Divine Providence Over 50 Club will be meeting on March 7 at Noon in the Mayfair Room at Divine Providence (ticket required). Tickets are still available for the St. Pat's/St. Joe's Luncheon being held on that day, members \$8 and guests \$9. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at Noon. Our meeting will be at 1:30p.m. Tickets are available until March 1. Call Ruth at (708) 947-9020. Membership is open to all registered parishioners of Divine Providence and Divine Infant. New membership is open until June 30. Dues are \$12 annually. Guests are welcome for a \$1 donation.

A trip is planned for October 14-20, 2012 to Myrtle Beach and Charleston, S.C. The cost will be \$629 per person double occupancy which includes Motor coach transportation, 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners, shows, and touring. Sounds like a lot of fun. If you are interested call Marianne at 708-562-3766 for details. If you have any questions you can call Betty Noonan at (708)562-2765.

students will be leaving for their trip to Springfield at 6:30 AM. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Friday March 9

Eucharistic Adoration from 8 AM to 6:15 PM Divine Providence Ministry Center 2540 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Stations of the Cross at 2 PM and 7 PM, Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Westchester, IL 60154

Saturday, March 10

Market Day pick-up @ WMS, 10:00 AM

4 p.m. - 7 p.m. 17th Annual Spaghetti Dinner. Grace Lutheran Church 1101 Manchester Westchester, IL 60154. Tickets are \$8, children 7 and under eat free. Call the church office at 708-345-1375 for more information.

Monday March 12

Lenten Mass at 7 PM Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Tuesday, March 13

"Take Charge of Your Health" with staff from Age Options. 10:00 AM at Library. Six-week program open to adults age 55 and older. Register in advance at Adult Reference Desk or call 708-562-3573.

Village Board Meeting at 7 PM followed by the Committee of the Whole. Meetings are held at the Village of Westchester, Board Room.

Wednesday March 14

All School mass at 8 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. Come join us. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Market Day pick-up from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus, 1640 Newcastle Avenue.

Call the rectory at 708-865-8071 for more information.

Teetering Tots Playgroup 9:30-10:30 AM. Teetering Tots is an activity playgroup for ages 0-4 years olds. Children must be accompanied by parents or caregivers. Teetering Tots Playgroup will meet in the school gym the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from January through May. Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Ave., 708-562-2258 or www.divineprovidenceschool.org

Thursday, March 15

Early Childhood Screening at WPS, by appointment only (call Jolie #708-450-2700 x649)

Friday March 16

Stations of the Cross at 2 PM and 7 PM Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Taize Prayer, 7:30 PM Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Faculty Inservice - No School, Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Ave., 708-562-2258 or www.divineprovidenceschool.org

Saturday March 17

Market Day Pick-up 8:30-9:30AM, Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Ave., 708-562-2258 or www.divineprovidenceschool.org

Save the Prairie Society - Volunteers are needed for a workday cutting buckthorn from 9:00 AM to NOON. Meet at the Prairie House, 11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester Call 708-562-3280 or visit www.savetheprairiesociety.org.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance will be held in Divine Infant School's Langan Hall. Doors will open at 6:00 PM, dinner served at 7:30 PM. Sponsored by the Divine Infant Holy

Name Men's Club. Call the rectory at 708-865-8071 for more information.

Saturday/Sunday March 17/18

St. Patrick/St. Joseph Hospitality following 5 PM Saturday Mass and 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Sunday Masses, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154.

Sunday March 18

Teen Mass at 9:30 AM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

The Westchester Library and Save The Prairie Society are co-sponsoring a presentation on "The Use of Trees and Shrubs in a Sustainable Landscape." Presenter Jeff Swano is a professional landscaper who advocates for environmentally friendly design, maintenance, and plantings. Please join us 2pm at the Westchester Library for an enjoyable and informative afternoon. For more information call the library at 708-562-3573 or visit www.savetheprairiesociety.org.

Monday March 19

All School St. Joseph Day Mass, 11 AM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

St. Joseph Day Mass, 7:00 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Pre-Confirmation Meeting at 7:00 PM for 7th grade parents of Divine Infant Parish. Contact Sr. Susan Majcen at 708-865-8086 for more information.

Deadline for entries for Poetry Contest for children in grades 1 through 8. At Library. Contact Youth Department or call 708-562-3573.

Tuesday March 20-21

WPS 2nd Grade Fine Arts Celebration, 7 PM

Wednesday March 21

All School mass at 8 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. Come join us. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

6 PM - Lenten potluck dinner, open to the neighborhood. Please bring a dish to pass, Lenten program to follow. Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154 708-865-1282

Thursday March 22

The Divine Infant Jesus School

CALENDAR

Continued from page 20

student body will be praying the rosary - 1:40 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Bilingual PAC Meeting at WPS, 7 PM

Friday March 23

Reconciliation Liturgy at 7:00 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church. Call the Rectory at 708-865-8071 for more information.

Stations of the Cross at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Reconciliation (Confession), 7:30 PM until all are heard, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Save the Prairie Society will be hosting a Woodcock Watch to see the courtship flight of the male woodcock on the deck of the Prairie House, 11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester. Meet around 6:30 PM. Call 708-354-5512 or visit www.savetheprairiesociety.org for more information.

Saturday March 24

Mother/Daughter Mass & Fashion Show. Mass will be at 9 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church with continental breakfast and fashion show to follow in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus School 1640 Newcastle Avenue, sponsored by the Divine Infant Women's Guild. Contact the Rectory at 708-865-8071 for more information.

9:30AM-11 PM Scrapbooking Fundraiser - For more details contact the church office. Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154 708-865-1282

"A Night Among Stars", Divine Providence School's annual dinner dance and auction. 6 PM until midnight at Divine Providence School. Tickets \$60 in advance, or \$70 at the door. Includes dinner, silent and live auctions, entertainment, and open bar. Please call Divine Providence School for more information and to purchase tickets in advance: 708-562-2258.

Monday March 26

Lenten Mass, 7 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Amphibian Conservation

Saturday March 24: Challenges to Amphibian Conservation in Illinois and Abroad, A natural history class. Presented by the Salt Creek Greenway Association, will begin at 1:30 PM at 1 Aloha Lane Meeting Room, Hickory Lane Buffer to Wolf Road Prairie at Forest Preserve District of Cook County Police Headquarters, North side of 31st Street west of Wolf Road, Westchester. **Presenter: Allison Sacerdote - Reintroduction Biologist with the Lincoln Park Zoo, Dept. of Conservation and Science.**

Amphibians play key roles in the environment. They are top vertebrate predators in ponds, prey species for many predators and nutrient cyclers between aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. They are dependent upon both land and water. Pollution, disease and habitat fragmentation, conversion and loss present unique challenges to their persistence.

Allison will talk about these issues which exist locally as well as globally as the numbers of declining amphibians are continually on the rise. How does this impact the chain of biodiversity on Earth? What conservation efforts are being used to reverse these trends? Are these efforts successful? Find out by attending this important class dealing with one of the most critical issues facing conservation and the environment today. If weather conditions permit, we will take a short field trip around the 1 Aloha Lane pond in search of frogs and other wildlife. The class is limited to 12 persons. Pre-registration is required.

To sign up for this free class sponsored by the Salt Creek Greenway Association, email stpsspa@aol.com or call 708-865-8736. Reservations will be confirmed. www.saltcreekgreenwayassociation.org Wolf Road Prairie is owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission oversees management and protection of the site.

Monday-Friday March 26-30

No School - Spring Break, Westchester Public Schools

Tuesday March 27

Confirmation of School and Religious Education Students by Bishop Perry, 7:30 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Village Board Meeting at 7:00 PM followed by the Committee of the Whole. Meetings are held at the Village of Westchester, Board Room.

"Great Photos With Your Digital Camera" with Westchester resident and veteran Chicago Tribune graphic artist/photographer Glenn Kaupert 7:00 PM at Library. Register in advance at Adult Reference Desk or call 708-562-3573.

Wednesday March 28

All School mass at 8 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. Come join us. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Teetering Tots Playgroup 9:30-10:30AM. Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Ave., 708-562-2258 or www.divineprovidenceschool.org

Friday March 30

Living Stations (featuring Divine Infant 8th grade students) will begin at 1:30 PM at Divine Infant Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school

office at 708-865-0122.

Annual "All You Can Eat" Fish Fry at 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus School, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. Menu: fried fish or grilled cheese sandwich. Bakery goods will be available. Adults: \$10, Seniors: \$8, Children under 11: \$6. Contact person: Al Castillo 708-837-7556.

Living Stations of the Cross at 2 PM and 7 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Saturday March 31

Reconciliation (Confession), 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

"DI Rocks the House 3" 2012 Talent Show, sponsored by DISPA, will be held at 7 PM in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus School, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact Yolanda Powell at 312-758-9389.

Deadline for entries for Prairie Mural Project at Library. Contact Youth Department or call 708-562-3573.

Sunday April 1

Palm Sunday Family Mass, 9:30 AM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Monday April 2

Lenten Mass at 7 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Reconciliation (Confession), 7:30 PM until all are heard, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Fish/Chicken Fry - 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154 708-865-1282

Classes Resume at WPS, WIS, WMS

Tuesday April 3

WMS 8th Grade Washington D.C. Parent Mtg., 7 PM

Simple Supper 5:45 PM in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus School. Contact Sr. Susan Majcen at 708-865-8086 for more information.

Living Stations (featuring Divine Infant 8th grade students) will begin at 6:30 PM at Divine Infant Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122.

Wednesday April 4

All School mass at 8:00 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue.

Come join us. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Tenebrae Service at 7:30 PM, Divine Providence Church 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

Education Roundtable at WMS, 6:30-8 PM (open forum)

Friday April 6

Non-Attendance Day for Students and Staff, Westchester Public Schools

Divine Infant Jesus begins their Easter break. School resumes on April 16 2012.

Village Hall closed in observance of Good Friday

Sunday, April 8

Library closed for Easter.

Sunday, April 8 - Saturday, April 14:

National Library Week

Tuesday, April 10

"Documenting History with a Camera" with Chicago Tribune photojournalist Alex Garcia 7:00 PM at Library. Register in advance at Adult Reference Desk or call 708-562-3573.

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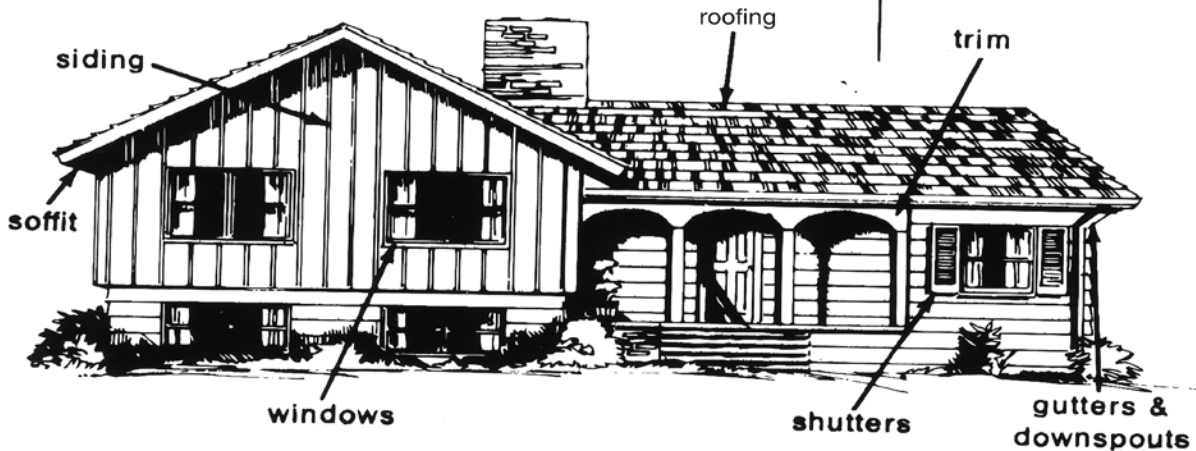


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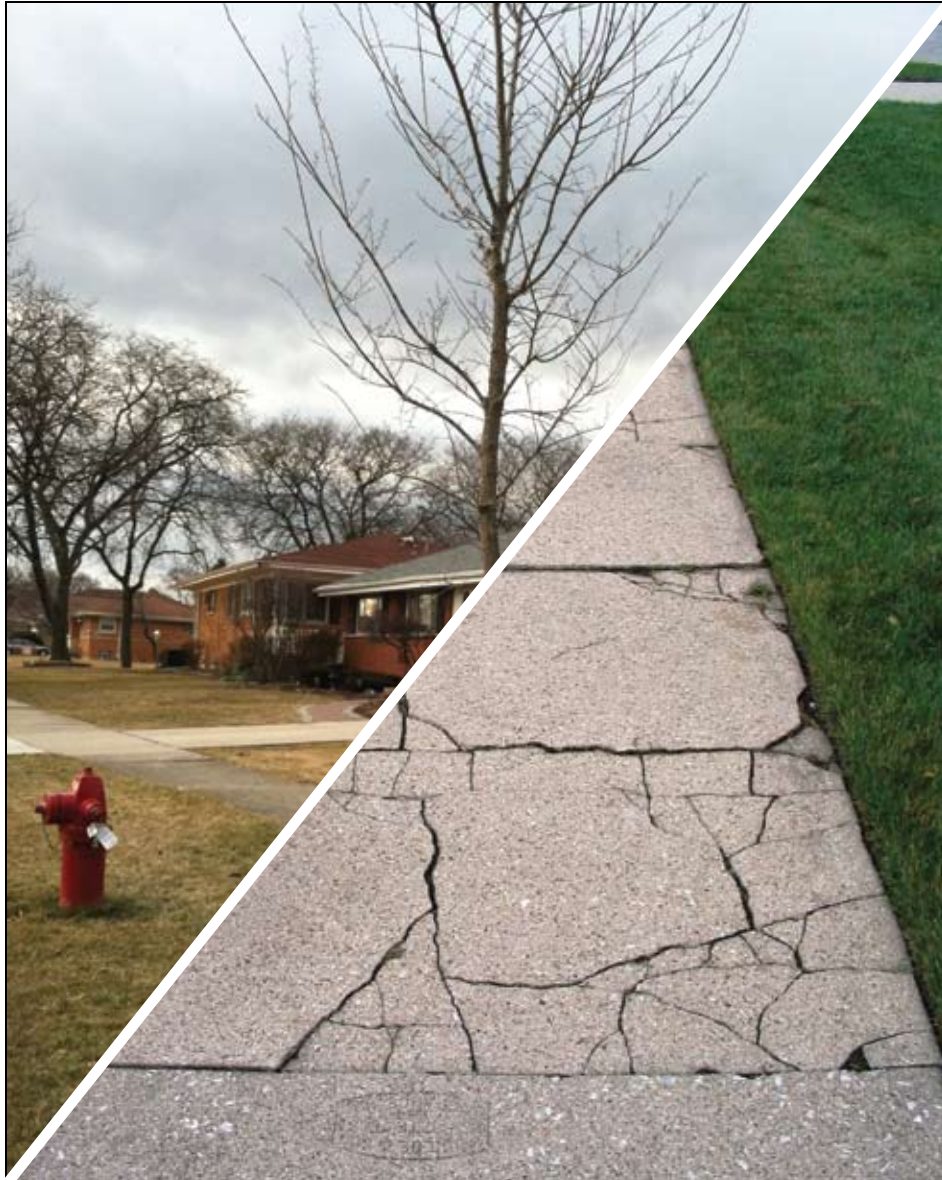
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50/50 Shared Cost Replacement Programs

Sidewalk program

The Village offers a shared cost sidewalk replacement program. If the sidewalk in front of your residence is in poor condition and you would like to replace it, the Village will split the cost with you. Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 for more information or to register.

Parkway Tree program

Beautify your yard, add to the curb appeal of your home and preserve neighborhood charm!

The Village offers a 50/50 shared cost program that includes the purchase and planting of a new parkway tree. Residents have a choice of 4-5 types of trees indigenous to the area.

The trees will be planted in November 2012. Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 to register!

News from Public Works

- The Public Works Department continues to fill potholes with cold patch. Please call Public Works at 708-345-0041 to report potholes.
- Parkway Restoration: The Village will begin repairing parkways damaged by sewer and water excavations and snow plow damage this spring, as weather permits.
- Concrete work will also begin soon. This will be for all driveways and sidewalks damaged during water main break repairs.
- The vac and jet machine will be out cleaning storm sewer inlets, as weather permits.
- As Always..... Village residents are asked to call Public Works at 708-345-0041 or the Police Non Emergency number after hours at 708-345-0060 if an unusual amount of water is visible in the street or parkway. This could be a main break or water leak that requires our immediate attention.
- Remember to contact the Water Department at 708-345-0041 before signing a contract with a plumber to rod out sanitary lines. We will check to make sure that the problem is not in our lines.

Waste Management News

Yard waste pickup will start Monday, April 2, 2012.

If you would like to identify your yard waste container with a yard waste sticker they are available FREE at the Village Hall front counter.

As a reminder, Waste Management will also pick up your branches, bushes, etc., as long as they are tied up in bundles no more than 4' in length. These will be picked up on your regular garbage day every week.

Important Information Regarding Branch Pick-up:

Village branch pickup starts Monday, April 2, 2012.

The Public Works Department will pick up branches the first full week of every month. All brush must be put out on the front parkway no later than 7:00 a.m. on the designated pickup day. Branches can be up to 7' in length and stacked with the butt ends facing the street in the same direction. If not stacked properly, a "restack" notice will be left. Public Works Crews will only pass through a designated pickup area once due to time schedule and other workload responsibilities. Thursday and Friday are Open Load days for pickup of any brush that will not fit through the chipper, such as logs, stumps, and large limbs. These must be cut for one man to lift. **Landscaping contractors are responsible for their own brush pickup and disposal.**

Please note the following schedule for branch pickup:

- MONDAY:** From Mannheim Road west to Wolf road and from Canterbury south to Windsor-including both sides of Windsor Drive. Also, Waterford, Waverly, Camelot and Concord.
- TUESDAY:** Roosevelt Road south to Cermak Road-from Gardner Road west to Mannheim Road.
- WEDNESDAY:** From Roosevelt Road north to the expressway and from Gardner Road west to Mannheim Road. Also, Roosevelt Road south to Canterbury from Haase west to Heidorn.
- THURSDAY:** From Belleview west to Wolf Road, Martindale Drive to 31st Street

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