



# Village of Westchester

May 2012 Newsletter

## Inside This Issue

**POLICE DEPARTMENT 2**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT 3**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 10**

**PARK DISTRICT 13**

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR 18**

**PUBLIC WORKS 26**

**FOURTH OF JULY PARADE 27**

## From the Desk of The President



Welcome home LCpl Angel Manuel Mota! We thank you for your service and sacrifice for our country.

### April Showers Bring May Flowers!

This catchy phrase has been in my psyche since childhood. This year is no different except that the terrific March weather gave us a jump on the growing season. I don't know about you but I could certainly get accustomed to the early spring season. The Village seems to come alive with the Mannheim and Cermak Gardens, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our Westchester Garden Club and its members.

One of the recommendations of the University of Illinois in Chicago (UIC) Graduate class we have been working with is to enhance the beauty of our community. Adding just a little color to our homes by planting flowers, bushes, and trees, as well as adding a few outside decorations will certainly go a long way in

helping us achieve this goal. Also, the Village will be adding American Flags to our Street Pole Banners along the main thoroughfares to honor our country and the Men and Women who are presently serving in our armed services, and our veterans. Their dedication to duty and sacrifice should never be forgotten, or taken for granted.

### WESTCHESTER OFFICIALS GO TO SPRINGFIELD

In late March, Village Manager Janet Matthys, Trustees Frank Perry, Nick Steker, and I travelled to Springfield as an entourage representing the West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC). I substituted for President Jeff Tobolski, the WCMC President, who was unable to attend. I

See **PRESIDENT**, page 4

## Profile



Name: Brian Chmara  
Rank: Patrol Officer  
Years as Patrol Officer: 31

### *What made you choose police officer as a profession?*

Looking for a job that changed day to day and try to make the area safer for all.

### *Describe a good day at work.*

A good day at work would be to have a safe shift and for everyone to return to their loved ones.

### *What is the best part of your job?*

To see the victims of crimes feel better after helping them out on either lockouts of cars or houses or at least that someone had listened to them.

### *What advice would you give someone looking to be a police officer?*

Test everywhere and be prepared to work in all kinds of weather, and realize you will be working holidays and weekends.

### *What would occur on your perfect day off?*

Fishing and grilling with the family, or a baseball game with my wife.

## Police Blotter

1. At 1:07pm on March 21<sup>st</sup> 2012, a **criminal damage to vehicle** was reported at 2901 Wolf Road, WestchesterHealthandRehabilitation Center. An employee advised that some time during the past 8 hours the paint on their vehicle appeared to be intentionally scratched.

2. At 5:16pm on March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012, a **theft** was reported on the 1200 block of Balmoral. The resident reported that a check was removed from their mailbox sometime during the previous 2 weeks. The resident also reported that the check was fraudulently cashed.

3. At 4:26pm on March 26<sup>th</sup> 2012, a **burglary to motor vehicle** was reported on the 1600 block of Boeger Ave. The resident reported that person(s) unknown entered a vehicle via an open drivers door window and removed a wallet from the center console. The vehicle was parked in the driveway at the time of the incident.

4. At 5:13pm on March 26<sup>th</sup> 2012, a **burglary to garage** was reported on the 700 block of Portsmouth. A resident reports that some time on March 24<sup>th</sup> unknown person(s) gained entry into the garage by forcing open the side door. Offender(s) removed a bicycle valued at \$120. Additionally, the resident advised that on March 25<sup>th</sup> the garage was entered again and a bicycle valued at \$150 was taken.

5. At 10:56pm on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2012, a **burglar to motor vehicle** was

## Village of Westchester

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH



reported at the Hampton Inn located at 2222 Enterprise Drive. The vehicle owner reported that some time during the past two hours unknown person(s) broke out the rear passenger window and took various items valued at \$6,000.

6. At 6:30am on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2012, a **commercial burglary** was reported at the Time Center located at 9848 Roosevelt Road. The Westchester Police responded to an alarm and discovered that the front window had been broken out. Store security

cameras revealed 3 offenders inside taking watches and jewelry. The offenders left the scene in a unknown model silver vehicle.

7. At 12:11pm on April 8<sup>th</sup> 2012, a **burglary to motor vehicle** was reported on the 1800 block of Balmoral. The resident reported that between 7pm the previous day and noon on April 8<sup>th</sup> unknown person(s) entered their unlocked vehicle parked in the driveway and removed a GPS unit and headphones.

## Crime Prevention in Westchester

The Westchester Police Department offers residents a Home Security Survey.

The survey is a critical, on-site examination of a property to determine what the present security status is, identify any deficiencies of security, and determine what level of protection is needed. The officer then makes recommendations to improve overall security of the premises by making it more crime resistant.

If you are interested in scheduling a survey of your residence, please contact Officer Rob Verber at: rverber@westchesterpolice.com or (708) 345-0060 (ext. 440).



## Recognized for success

Westchester Police Officers receiving awards of Commendation at the April 10th Village Board meeting for their involvement in the recent arrest of a burglary suspect. As a result of their efforts, several Westchester (and neighboring communities) residential burglaries were closed. The suspect is currently awaiting trial. Pictured from left to right, Ofc. Ron Miklas, Ofc. Shaun Lynam, Chief April Padalik, Sgt. Vince La Manna, and Lt. Mike O'Hagan.

**Grilling Safety**

Be sure to use safe grilling practices as the peak months for grilling fires approach – July and August. Gas grills constitute a higher risk, having been involved in an annual average of 6,200 home fires in 2004-2008, while charcoal or other solid-fueled grills were involved in an annual average of 1,300 home fires.

Fire in the grill, under hot dogs and burgers, is a welcome sight at the family cookout. But fire anywhere else can make your summer kick-off barbecue memorable for all the wrong reasons.

**Safety tips**

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.

**Charcoal grills**

- There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

**Propane grills**

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.



# Summer Safety Tips

To help you prevent fires and make your summer safer here are a few safety tips. When barbecuing keep grills ten feet from siding and eaves. Never use a grill in a garage or carport or indoors. Before using a gas grill, check hoses and connections for damage. Whenever you are changing propane tanks check all connections with a soap and water mixture for leaks. Check that the venturi tubes-where gas and air mix are not clogged. When lighting a charcoal grill, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add fluid after the fire is started this can cause severe injury. To dispose of hot coals, soak them with water and stir to make sure the fire is out. Children are never allowed to play around grills and never leave a hot grill unattended.

To keep you and your family safe from fireworks injuries always leave fireworks to trained professionals. When attending professional fireworks displays stay a minimum five hundred feet away. The NFPA position is that there is no such thing as safe fireworks for both children and adults. Keep yourself and your family injury free and leave the fireworks to trained professionals.

Some summer facts barbeque grills caused about 900 home fires and about 3500 outdoor fires in 2002. Half of all grill related fires began on a balcony or enclosed porch. More U.S. fires are reported on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July than any other day. Fireworks account for half those fires. In 2004, fireworks started 1600 structure fires. The tip of a sparkler burns at more than 1200 degrees Fahrenheit hot enough to cause third degree burns. (Ref firesafety.gov)

The Westchester Fire Department wishes you a happy and safe summer. If you have any questions regarding Fire Safety call 708-345-0433. The Westchester Fire Department is always happy to assist in making the Westchester Community a Fire Safe Community.

Remember Helmet safety  
To prevent head injuries



## Make a Fire Escape Plan

In the event of a fire, remember - time is the biggest enemy and every second counts! Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly. In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for a house to fill with thick black smoke and become engulfed in flames.

**Important**

- Practice escape plans every month.
- Plan two ways out of each room.
- Immediately leave your home when a fire occurs.
- Never open doors that are hot to the touch.
- Designate a meeting location away from your home.
- Once you're out, stay out!



**Important**

Having working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home dramatically increases your chances of survival. Smoke alarm batteries need to be tested every month and changed with new ones at least once a year. Also, consider replacing the entire smoke alarm every ten years, or as the manufacturer guidelines recommend.

# PRESIDENT

*Continued from page 1*

welcomed all of the elected officials and their staff members who were in attendance. Our Wednesday, March 28th, visit included a luncheon with Illinois State Senator Martin A. Sandoval, the chair of the Senate Transportation Committee. Senator Sandoval was very candid about the state's ability to fund road projects that are tied to the Federal Government's reauthorization, and 90 day extension of the SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) program wherein dollars are sent from Washington to the states for transportation projects, including Metra and other mass transit initiatives.

Representatives of the Illinois Municipal League (IML) spoke about their legislative support of, or opposition to, several bills presently being discussed by our legislators. One theme that was apparent was the IML's opposition to any proposals that will diminish, eliminate or take any monies away from local governments.

From there we ascended to the Old State Capital Building where we met with several state agencies. There, I stood in awe of the surroundings that have been restored to reflect our historic past. The thought of our 16th President Abraham Lincoln walking the floor during his final term as a state lawmaker in 1840-1841 was especially significant. President Lincoln pleaded cases before the Illinois Supreme Court and delivered his famous "House Divided" speech in announcing his candidacy for the U.S. Senate in the very chambers we were seated in.

While in the Old State Capital Building we met with representatives from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic and Development (DCEO), and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The meeting with DCEO was extremely beneficial as we learned of several opportunities and programs we will be exploring that included short and long term savings in rebates to public facilities that are making energy efficient improvements to their electric and natural gas systems.

We also had a private meeting at IEPA headquarters. There we pushed our Sunnyside sewer re-location project. We also learned that there is funding for shovel ready (engineered) water improvement projects that get submitted by early summer. To this



**St. Joes First Charger Feast Chili Cook Off**

end, our staff is presently evaluating our project list to make every attempt for early submittal.

After completing all our prescheduled meetings we were able to converse with Representative Chris Nybo, and Representative Karen Yarbrough. Both were able to leave the floor of the House of Representatives to talk to us about projects still pending in the 2009 Capital Bill. Presently we are doing our best to get those projects, totaling some \$700,000, released from the caucus. Both Representative Yarbrough and Nybo, as well as State Representative Ann Williams, stated that they would make every attempt to get some of those funds released. However, they all cautioned that the Legislature was in the process of passing the state budget and that their deficit is in the billions of dollars. Nonetheless, we will continue to contact our state representatives and push for those earmarked dollars to be received by Westchester.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS

At our Village Board Meeting on April 10th Police Chief April Padalik presented Meritorious Service Awards to several detectives and police officers who were involved in the apprehension and follow-up investigation of a residential burglary suspect. Chief Padalik presented certificates to Lt. Michael O'Hagen, Detective Sergeant Vincent LaManna, Detective Ronald Miklas, and Patrol Officer Sean Lyman whose initial observation and conversation with the suspect resulted in his arrest and prosecution.

## TREE SERVICE CONTRACT

We have approved the contract renewal of Sinnott Tree Service for trimming and maintaining 1,500 trees, removing trees that have been found unviable throughout the Village, and the removal of various materials

in emergency situations. The cost of maintaining and trimming 1500 trees is \$45.00 per tree. The area of concentration for tree trimming will be trees on public parkways owned by the Village, south of Cermak Road from Belleview Ave on the east to Wolf Road on the west. Additional costs for services associated with tree removal will be dependent on the height and diameter of the trees removed. This contract will be in force for fiscal year 2013-2014. The Village has an option to renew this agreement for two additional one year terms. The cost of the tree trimming service in the 2nd and 3rd years will be reduced to \$37.50 per tree. The cost reduction is in part the result of all the initial tree trimming done throughout the village since 2009. This contract extension was passed unanimously by the Board.

## UPDATE ON NON-HOME RULE SALES TAX

As you all know, the residents of Westchester passed a referendum on March 20, 2012 to pass a 1% non-home rule sales tax to provide revenue for the maintenance of the Village's public infrastructure system, including municipal streets, roads and storm water drainage improvements. These revenues will be used, in part, to pay for the debt service on bonds to fund the infrastructure improvements. In conjunction with the prospective issuance of these bonds, the Village engaged special bond counsel to prepare our bond ordinance. The bond counsel has determined that a technical requirement needs to be addressed in order to clarify the revenue source and conform to State requirements. The bond counsel has advised us that we should delay the collection of our non-home rule sales tax until we have reviewed the additional technical requirements in more detail. The Village maintains a credit rating of Aa2 as awarded by

Moody's Investor Service which is a reflection of our strong financial management and we will want to go the extra mile to maintain our strong position in the bond market. We want to assure you that we are committed to obtaining these revenues for use in our infrastructure improvement programs and ask that you be patient while we evaluate the suggestions that have been presented by our bond counsel. We will keep you updated.

## METRO GATEWAY ITEP PROJECT

The Village of Hillside has applied for, and received, approval for the construction of a Gateway Streetscape Improvement Project at I-290 and Mannheim Road. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) provides 80% reimbursement funding for Transportation Enhancement Projects to local governments on a competitive basis through what's called the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP). The Village of Bellwood and Westchester have been asked to participate in enhancing the area in our respective jurisdictions.

This project will include the construction of four, 25 foot entry monuments with identifying crests at the top, and a decorative fence panel spanning the entire overpass on the west side of the Mannheim and I-290 bridge. This project will be paid for by the Village of Hillside with contributions from Westchester and Bellwood for their respective monuments, with their crest on them. Westchester's monument, with our Village crest, will be located near the entrance of the eastbound I-290 ramp and Bellwood's monument, with their Village crest, will be located near the entrance of the westbound I-290 ramp. A decorative fence will also be constructed to mirror the west side decorative fencing. The funding for our portion of this project would come from our Hotel Motel Tax Fund: money which can only be used for tourism type expenditures. The Hotel Motel Tax is a tax collected from patrons staying at our Hampton Inn located on Cermak Road just west of the Westbrook Corporate Center.

## NEW SQUAD CAR PURCHASE

Chief Padalik, who as she puts it, "spends money as a single mom on a strict budget," has informed us that she was able to redirect some grant money and purchase three replacement squad cars for a total of \$200.00. That's right ... just two hundred dollars! Chief Padalik will

See **PRESIDENT**, page 5

# PRESIDENT

*Continued from page 4*

be replacing three units which each have over one hundred thousand miles. The entire Board congratulated Chief Padalik on her appropriation and asked whether she could get three more for another two hundred dollars. The cost of the three squads is \$69,705 with the redirected grant paying for \$69,505, leaving us with a net payment of just \$200.00 for three squad cars.

## WESTCHESTER PROMOTIONAL VIDEO

The Village has been contacted by the producers of the "Today in America" program, hosted by Football Great Terry Bradshaw, to produce a promotional video for the Village. The video will be filmed in Westchester at locations throughout the Village, and highlight all the positive reasons we, as residents, live, work, and remain in Westchester. We are presently looking for financial support to augment our Hotel Motel Fund contribution to this project. This will be a great opportunity to showcase Westchester and a bold attempt to attract additional business ventures, residential relocations, as well as stimulate our business community.

## MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION HEARING

As a result of the passage of our Municipal Electrical Aggregation Referendum we will be hosting a Public Hearing on the matter to answer questions residents may have regarding the initiative. The first of the two Public Hearings was held on April 24th. The second will be held on Tuesday May 8th at 7pm. The hearing will be held in the Village Hall Board Room.

## EMERALD ASH BORER

The Emerald Ash Borer tree program was discussed in order to get a plan in place to identify, remove, and replant replacement trees that have been determined to be infected and require removal from public parkways. Green and White Ash trees are the only tree species that the Emerald Ash Borer has attacked. There have been several ash trees throughout the Village that already shown signs of decline. In total, there are approximately 850 ash trees located on Village property. All have been identified by a small green dot painted at the base of the tree. The dot ONLY signifies that it is an

ash tree. It does NOT indicate that the tree has been infected. Presently, the Board has decided NOT to spend any money on a treatment regimen of costly trunk injections because there is no guarantee the affected trees will not decline further. The cost of the injections are upwards of \$5-7 per inch. The Board has decided that we will be removing and replacing infected parkway trees at NO cost to the resident, when possible, depending on the Village's financial ability. The free tree replacement will only be for those trees infected with Emerald Ash Borer.

All ash trees, or 9% of our parkway tree stock, will probably have to be removed over the next several years depending upon the damage the Emerald Ash Borer Insect inflicts on our tree stock. Based on what other communities have been faced with, thus far we are estimating that 200 trees may have to be removed each year.

## BUDGET MEETINGS

On Thursday, April 12th, and again on Tuesday, April 17th, Village Manager Janet Matthys and Finance Director Anne Burkholder presented a draft budget for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2012 and ending April 30, 2013. The anticipated revenue and expenditures in each of the funds were reviewed and discussed.

## GENERAL FUND

The General Fund is the Villages' primary operating fund. On the revenue side, the General Fund receives revenue from Local Taxes (Property Taxes, Utility Taxes, Places for Eating, Amusement Tax, Video Rental Tax, and Cable TV Tax), License and Permits (Vehicle Tags, Business Licenses, Building Permits, Liquor Licenses, Contractors License, etc), Fines and Forfeitures (Court Fines, Vehicle seizures, Photo Enforcement, Alarm Fines, etc), Intergovernmental (Municipal Share of Sales Tax, State Sales Tax, Local Use Tax, State Income Tax, State and Federal Government Grants and reimbursements), and Interest Income. The anticipated revenues are 13.3 million dollars.

The expenditure side of the General Fund is organized by department. The General Fund departments are Administration, Planning and Zoning, Building, Dispatching, Police, Emergency Management, Fire, and Public Works. The anticipated expenditures are 13.9 million. Personnel and Benefit costs are by far the largest cost of the Village, and represent 77% of the total expenditures of the General Fund.

## UTILITY FUND

The Utility Fund is operated as an Enterprise Fund, and seeks to utilize business-type operations to provide water, sanitary sewer, and rubbish collection services to the Village. The Utilities Fund includes water distribution, sewer transmission and garbage collection. Westchester receives its potable drinking water from the Broadview Westchester Water Agency through the City of Chicago. Village wastewater is processed through The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. Refuse collection is contracted through Waste Management Services. The Village presently has 6,872 residential accounts, 240 commercial accounts, and 11 industrial accounts. Residential utility customers are presently billed quarterly. Effective May 2012, commercial accounts will be billed monthly.

## MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND

The primary sources of revenue in the Utility Fund are user fees. The Motor Fuel Tax Fund (MFT) is comprised of monies from the State of Illinois that were derived from the tax on gasoline. The state distributes money to each municipality based on population. The State has placed restrictions on the use of these funds. Predictions of monies sent to Westchester this year is \$24.10 per person. Coupling this with additional revenue from reimbursements and interest we have projected revenues in this fund at \$464,000. Expenditures of \$250,000 to pay for the bonds that were sold to complete the 16 streets we have done over the past 2 years are also paid from this fund.

## E-9-1-1 FUND

The Emergency E9-1-1 Fund operates as a Special Revenue Fund. Legal restrictions are placed upon its use. E9-1-1 Taxes are recorded in this fund for the purpose of operating our Emergency Dispatch Center. These funds are derived from local telephone surcharge on telephone landlines (house phones) and cell phone charges. Presently, homes with landlines are charged \$1.50 per month. Cell Phones are also charged 48 cents per month. However, those dollars are collected by the State of Illinois and redistributed back to our community.

## HOTEL MOTEL TAX FUND

The Hotel Motel Tax is also a Special Revenue Fund that has legal

restrictions on its use. The monies derived from this tax are restricted to tourism related expenses. The expenses related to the Westchester Fest are paid out of this fund. Revenue for this fund is derived from those patrons staying at our Hampton Inn.

(The complete Budget Document is available for viewing at the Westchester Village Hall, Westchester Public Library, and on our web site [www.westchester-il.org](http://www.westchester-il.org) )

## PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

In mid-April we received the delivery of a new Kubota excavator and new paving box. The excavator was baptized when a sanitary sewer collapsed in an easement between houses on south Hawthorne Ave. Public Works employees John Fecarotta, Jr., Bryan Grippo, Vinnie Smith, and Jimmy Suero did a great job completing the repair over a two day period. The sanitary line was located 13 feet underground, and 15 feet of sanitary line was replaced with a new connection to a lateral line to the private residence. The equipment worked very well in this extremely tight environment. Normally this type of dig would have to be performed by an outside contractor at a considerable expense. Great job!!

Parkway repairs, as a result of water main breaks, have kept our crews busy as well. Our Vactor machine has seen double duty removing tree stump grindings and assisting in parkway repairs, as well as cleaning out many of the storm sewers of collected debris. Ted Zimmerman, "The Vactor Master" has the process down to a science.

U-Bee Rodriguez, George Minda, Mike Otters and Dave Dillner have been stretching the Village dollars by doing our own "in-house" concrete apron and curb replacements. In prior years, private contractors were making these repairs at considerable expense to the Village. Thanks guys, for a job well done and working outside the box.

Eric Détente, the proud father of new baby, Cara Mia, has been swamped cutting all of the public grass throughout the Village.

Our Public Works employees assisted Sinnott Tree Service with removing numerous dead trees from the Addison Creek, thus preventing any obstructions to the downstream flow of the creek.

## EARTH DAY PLANTING

Rick Sinnott, our contract tree service, was able to secure a donation of a 30

See **PRESIDENT**, page 8



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Golf Outing: 12:00 PM Lunch & 1:00 PM Shotgun Start  
Dinner, Entertainment & Charity Auction: 6:00 PM



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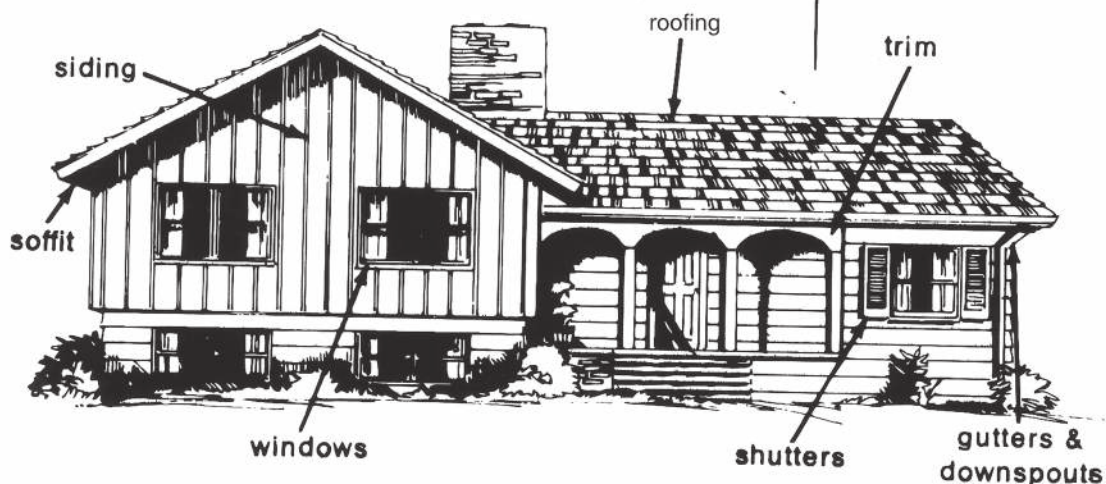


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MEMBER  
CHICAGO &  
NORTHERN ILLINOIS

## PRESIDENT

*Continued from page 5*

foot Blue Spruce tree to enhance our Village. As you pass by the east side of the Crestwood Pumping Station you can view the beautiful evergreen tree donated by the Ludden Family of LaGrange. Thank you both for your contribution.

Speaking of tree donations, the Girl Scouts also donated a beautiful evergreen tree that was planted on the west side of the Crestwood Pump Station near the Westchester Gardens. These plantings were done in conjunction with our Earth Day contribution to our environment. Thank you, Girl Scout Troop # 51823.

### COMED NEWS

Westchester residents may have seen ComEd trucks and service personnel in the area over the past several months. The company has announced significant electric system upgrade projects in the area that began Feb. 14, 2012, in Westchester. The upgrades are designed to provide better reliability for Westchester residents and businesses.

Work that is occurring in the first half of 2012 includes enhancements designed to improve performance and reduce service interruptions, including installing four distribution automation devices in Westchester. Distribution automation devices allow the utility to automatically detect issues on the system and reroute power around the problem, often with no noticeable interruption in service. This technology minimizes the number of customers affected by an outage by isolating the problem area and making automatic, real-time adjustments to the electric grid.

In addition to the above work, ComEd continues to identify work that will improve reliability performance and reduce customer outages throughout its service territory. The work is part of the Illinois Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act that was enacted in October by the Illinois General Assembly.

"Grid modernization is a value promise made by ComEd to Illinois consumers," said Anne Pramaggiore, President and CEO, ComEd. "This work is vitally important to make sure our electric system is able to provide the level of service our customers expect."

Over the 10-year program, ComEd will invest \$2.6 billion to strengthen and modernize its electric system. About half will be spent in reliability-related programs to strengthen



Girl Scout Tree Planting Event held on Earth Day 2012.

the existing power grid serving northern Illinois. This includes replacing underground cable; inspecting, treating and, where necessary, replacing wood poles; and performing storm hardening tasks to further reduce the susceptibility of circuits to storm-related damage.

ComEd will invest another \$1.3 billion in Smart Grid-related programs to upgrade and digitize the electric system, including deployment of distribution automation devices that will automatically detect problems on the system and reroute power to help avoid customer outages; and modernizing 10 of its substations to digital technology with real-time equipment monitoring to identify likely failures, before they create outages. It will also include the installation of digital meters in every home, which will empower customers with new tools and data to better manage their energy usage. The timing of when digital meters will be installed across Westchester hasn't been determined. ComEd's plans for digital meter deployment will be reviewed with a Smart Grid Advisory Council appointed by the Governor and General Assembly, and will be filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission.

### MWRD VIDEO TAPING

On April 11th, Cook County Commissioner Jeffrey Tobolski (Also Mayor of McCook and President of the West Central Municipal Conference), David St. Pierre, the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD), as well as MWRD Engineer Patrick Jensen, and I taped an hour long segment on the cable TV show "Westchester

World." I invited my guests to appear to explain what steps the MWRD, as well as the citizenry of Westchester and the surrounding area can do to reduce flooding issues in the region. MWRD has been in operation since 1889, and serves 885 square miles covering 10 million people in Chicago and 125 suburban communities.

The MWRD treats 1.4 billion gallons of wastewater each day, and since 2004 has been responsible for storm water management as well. The first half hour consisted of questions posed to the MWRD about wastewater treatment and storm water management throughout Cook County. We also discussed the Mission of the MWRD, green infrastructure, and explanation of the Deep Tunnel (Tarp) Project.

The second half hour was a visual slide presentation by Patrick Jensen, MWRD Engineer, who explained how and why the MWRD came to be and the steps taken to manage, monitor, and treat the enormous amounts of waste and storm water in our region. The Tape can be viewed on Channel 6 for our Comcast subscribers beginning Friday May 4th, and subsequent Friday afternoons between noon and 2:00 pm. I certainly recommend watching the program. I want to thank all of my guests and MWRD President Terrence O'Brien for allowing his staff to appear on the program.

Additional information can be found at [www.ready.gov/floods](http://www.ready.gov/floods), [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov), and [www.mwrdd.org](http://www.mwrdd.org).

### WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND

Recently I have been contacted by several residents regarding a host of issues. Maintenance of foreclosed

and abandoned property heads the list. As these properties are identified, our Code Enforcement makes every attempt to locate the responsible parties, whether it is the lending institution and/or the homeowner. A letter is generated for those parties to remedy the issue. A reasonable time is allowed for the parties to get the property up to compliance standards before any private landscape contractor is contacted to maintain the property. It is not easy for the Village to recoup the money it spends hiring a private contractor to clean up the properties even though liens are placed on the property. Mortgage companies have made no effort in ensuring that these properties are properly maintained, despite the fact that they hold the property title. During a recent visit to Springfield, we met and discussed this issue with our State Representative Karen Yarbrough who has been working hard to assist local communities with this issue.

Please contact the Village to report abandoned properties and those violating our property maintenance codes.

Some residents have also contacted me about the early placement of the Waste Management Green Garbage containers, blue recycling totes, and yard waste bags at the curb on the day before pickup. Code, Section 8.04.100b requires that these canisters be placed at the curb no earlier than 7pm the day before your scheduled pick-up date, and be removed no later than 7 pm the day of your pick-up. The cans should not be placed in the street, but left on the Village parkway. Please make every

See **PRESIDENT**, page 9

## PRESIDENT

*Continued from page 8*

effort to adhere to the ordinance. Please note that private landscapers are required to take all of the grass clippings and lawn waste with them upon completion of their services.

It has been reported that there is an increasing amount of inoperative, damaged vehicles without current state registration and vehicle tags parked in driveways and backyards of residents' homes. These unsightly vehicles bring down property values and are an eyesore for our community. Code enforcement has been asked to investigate these reports and to issue citations when appropriate to violators of these Village codes. Please make every attempt to mitigate this increasing problem by either bringing the vehicle into compliance or consider junking, or donating the vehicle to a charitable organization for tax purposes.

Please remember that the Village has passed an ordinance that prohibits street soliciting on all street corners in our jurisdiction. Door-to-Door Soliciting is allowed between the hours of 8:00 AM and 9:00 PM, except where the resident has posted a NO SOLICITOR WARNING sticker in plain view. All Solicitors must go through a registration process at the Village Police Department and are required to have a Village issued BADGE indicating they have complied with our Rules and Regulations. Religious orders are exempt from this requirement.

### ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENTS RESUME

On Saturday April 14th, the Village resumed its Electronic Recycling Program. Volunteers were on hand from 9am to Noon to collect unwanted electronic items. Molly "MaGee" Keane organized the event and was assisted by Trustee Walter Novak and Andy Natanek from the Green Team, Trustee Tom Yurkovich, Maureen Pulia, Reverend Joseph Mills, Vito C., and Lexi Lesniak. The next recycling event will be Saturday May 12th, from 9am until Noon. Recycling events take place behind the Fire Department on Roosevelt Road.

### DRUG RECYCLING EVENT

On Saturday April 28th, the Village participated in the DEA Drug Collection and Disposal Day. Several hundred pounds of unwanted and expired pills which have been collected over the past few months



Trustees Wally Novak and Tom Yurkovich as well as volunteer Lexi Lesniak assist a resident unloading their electronics for recycling

were turned in for proper disposal. Unwanted drugs should NOT be flushed down the toilet where they could enter our waterways. Westchester is fortunate to have a drug collection receptacle available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at our disposal at the Village Hall lobby located on Roosevelt Road.

### BUILDING COMMISSIONER RETIREMENT

Our current Building Commissioner, Dennis Di Pasquale, has retired after over 8 years of faithful service to our community. Dennis had decided to retire as of April 30, 2012. Mr. Di Pasquale brought a level of professional expertise to the Building Department as its' Community Development Director during his tenure. I met Dennis 3 years ago upon being elected to the office of Village President. The Building Commissioner's duties of reviewing plans and comparing the desires of contractors and residents alike to the code maintained by the Village is no easy task. Many a frustrating situation has arisen on both sides of the counter. Balancing what our code requires during these difficult economic times, as well as dealing with the massive flood damage restoration, and making sure contractors were held to the highest standard for YOUR PROTECTION were hallmarks that Dennis adhered to every day. I consider Dennis my friend, but even more a man who has earned the respect as a Department Head of our Village. Dennis, we all wish you Good Health and Happiness in your retirement and the years to come.

### SORROW IN OUR MIDST

It is with sorrow and respect that I am reporting on the passing of

Father John Rosemeyer, the Retired Pastor of Divine Providence Parish. Father Rosemeyer spent over 20 years at Divine Providence and was instrumental in the construction of the present church building and the transformation of the old church into the Father McNerny Center. As a former Parish Council Member and Social Activities Committee President, I will always remember Father Rosemeyer as a priest who was always ready to lend a hand and make your event a success. He made sure all parishioners were informed of church teachings and always made time for you. A testament to his service to the church was certainly his funeral mass, presided by Cardinal Francis George, the Archbishop of Chicago, and the many clergy members and parishioners who attended his wake and funeral. God has a special place for those chosen to spread his word. God's speed, Father Rosemeyer.

### 31st and WOLF ROAD CAR SHOW

Paul Gattuso has announced Monday, May 14th as the opening day of the first car show for 2012. For the past 6 years, the 31st Plaza outside of Dominick's Foods, and of course "Paul's Pizza and Hot Dogs" has been the place to spend Monday nights from 5 to 9pm. Many a live band has performed and we have "rocked the nights away" with the DJ's tunes. The opening night will be a tribute to Dickie Mihel who recently passed away. Dickie was a huge motorcycle enthusiast. He will be honored and remembered. Come join the show and show your support for a man that has been sorely missed.

### MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE

Memorial Day will be celebrated on Monday, May 28th. The Westchester

Park District will sponsor the Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Mayfair Park at 10:00 AM.

Representatives from the Westchester Police and Fire Departments, The Village of Westchester, Westchester Park District, Westchester Library, and Westchester School District 92.5 will be present. All Military veterans, active service members, their families and friends are invited to attend the ceremony honoring those who have served and continue to serve our nation.

### MOTHER'S DAY GREETING

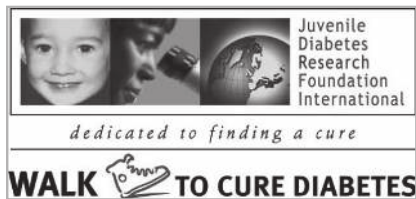
Sunday May 13th is Mother's Day. Through "thick and thin" our mom's are always there for us. Their love is unconditional even though we may have made it a bit challenging at times. A bond between a mother and child is a special, one of a kind bond that lasts forever. For all of you who can share this Mother's Day with your mom, take the time to show her how much you appreciate her and love her. Thank her for all she has done for you. For those of you like me, whose mother is no longer with us, take some time to reflect on all the good times and love you shared. I am sure it will bring a smile to your face, and a few tears to your eyes. If you are like me, I am sure not a day goes by that you do not you're your mom was still here with you.

Although Mother's Day has been designated as mom's special day, we all know that every day should be Mother's Day. I want to thank all you moms, stepmoms, grandmothers, and special women that are like "mothers" to us. Thank you for the gift of life, your nurturing, caring, and compassionate way, your patience, your unconditional love, and always being there for us. Lets each and every one of us make sure we let our moms know how much we love them. I am sure a big hug and a kiss and an "I LOVE YOU" will go a long way in that regards. I am also sure a few flowers and nice meal (that she does not have to cook) would not go unnoticed. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!

### GET WELL WISH

I have been informed that Retired Police Chief Robert J. Smith was hospitalized several weeks ago. Chief Smith retired as Westchester's 5th police chief in 2008. We wish him a speedy recovery so that he can get out and enjoy his recently purchased Ford Mustang this summer. Get well soon.

# CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD



## Recap: Family Walk and Health Quest

The Citizen's Advisory Board recently hosted a Juvenile Diabetes walk and Health Quest. All the members would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire community for their participation in this event. It would not have been such a success if it was not for your participation.

### Thank You!

A special thank you goes out to Minute Man Press for the printing of the fliers, Jewel, and Walgreens for their donations and participation as well. In addition to that, thank you to Proviso Township for their assistance in getting the vendors for this event. This event would have never occurred if it was not for St Joseph High School's continuing participation within this community.

Please stay tuned for future Health Fairs that the CAB is planning on hosting within the village.

## WESTCHESTER BLOOD PROGRAM

Next Blood Drive: Wednesday, May 16-2 pm-7 pm  
at the LifeSource Bloodmobile, in the 31st & Wolf parking lot

### April Blood Drive Is A Big Hit

A grand slam in the ninth inning, a 3-point basket at the buzzer and a hole-in-one at the Masters. They were all rolled up in to one exciting day for the Westchester Blood Program.

On Saturday, April 21, at the Community Center, nearly 150 generous donors turned out for its second drive of the year, and 140 units of whole blood and red cells were collected for Chicago area hospitals, enough to serve the needs of 400 patients. The event also was one of the group's most productive drives in years.

It gave the WBP 253 units for the year so far, with four drives left, putting it on a path to attain its annual 2012 goal: 500 units (pints). The all-volunteer organization extends its deep thanks to the many donors, from across the western suburbs, and drive workers who took part.

It will sponsor a special makeup drive on Wednesday, May 16, when the LifeSource Bloodmobile is parked in front of Paul's Pizza at 31<sup>st</sup> and Wolf from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Anybody who donated April 21 is ineligible to donate May 16.)

**A special note:** On April 17, Westchester's Old Glory Masonic Lodge 141 recognized the WBP's past chairman and current director, Carl J. Panek, with its annual Community Builder Award.



## Westchester Chamber of Commerce

"We Mean Business"

(708) 240-8400 [www.WestchesterChamber.org](http://www.WestchesterChamber.org)

P.O. Box 7309 - Westchester, IL

**Free Networking Breakfast Event with Speaker. Thursday May 17th 7:45 to 9:00 AM**

Hosted at Continental Barbers & Jeannie's Hair Salon. 3 Westbrook Corporate Ctr, Suite 120. Tower 3, 1st floor facing Wolf Road. **Come by and meet someone new today!** RSVP to Chamber number above.

**Networking Luncheon with Speaker, Cost \$17 Tuesday June 26th Noon to 1 PM**

Hosted at The Bistro, 2 Westbrook Corporate Ctr. Tower 2 facing 22nd  
**Great food and great opportunities!** RSVP to Chamber number above.

**MEMBER MILESTONE! WOW!**  
Congratulations to **Bruce Horek!** He and his **State Farm Agency** have been in Westchester for **40 years!** Thank you for your support and service to our Community!

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Athletico, Chiro One Wellnes Ctr, Goodwill Store & Donation Ctr, Masonic Lodge, Medical Business Office Services, Midwest Soaring Foundation, Russo's Hillside Chapels, and Suburban Primary Health Care Council.

### The Chamber Coupon Corner



**Come by and discover what sets us apart from other funeral homes and receive a free gift.**  
4500 W. Roosevelt Rd. Hillside  
(708) 449-5300



New in-house lab! We can get answers faster now! 5% Off Exam + Screening Blood Profiles. Expiration 7/31/12  
3075 S. Wolf Road, Westchester  
(708) 562-CATS (2287)

### **J4 Jumping Beans Party Rentals** **708-531-1001**

New This Year: Racing Fun Moonjump, 4 in 1 Combo, Primary Color Castle AND Ask about our Nascar Racing Simulator Game! \$20 Off any \$100+ Rental. Cannot combine with any other offers.

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*We're more than great pizza!*

We are proud to serve you the finest in fast food and Italian Cuisine. Our food is made with only the freshest vegetables, cheeses, and top quality meats available. Our pasta and sauces are homemade and have been enjoyed by Westchester residents as well as the surrounding suburbs for the past 27 years. Please come and visit us for your next lunch or dinner meal and join our family of satisfied customers. We look forward to serving you soon.

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TELEVISIONING AND VIDEO INSPECTIONS,  
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WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY PRICE!!**

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## Students Learn About Future Career Opportunities at *Westchester Middle School*

The students of WMS participate in a career day every other year. As part of these presentations they hear from different speakers of varying professions. The speakers share with the students a variety of life and learning experiences, which have allowed them to be successful in their careers. They also share with them the skills necessary to work in those careers and the education

needed to begin working in the varying fields. The students are then allowed to ask questions to gain insight into the areas of which they may be interested in. The speakers come from a variety of different employment areas.

Mr. Clark, our school counselor, organizes this wonderful event; helping to schedule the speakers. Mr. Clark is also responsible for

assisting students with high school placements and exams, peer relations, and organizational skills. The WMS faculty and staff greatly appreciate all of the speakers who take time out of their busy schedules to share information about themselves and their careers. The students gain great insight in to their future careers and begin to understand what it takes to get them to where they want to be.

## Grade 2 Celebrates Fine Arts

Westchester Primary School students shined at the Second Grade Fine Arts Nights on March 20th and 21st. This year's theme was "Big, Beautiful Planet". The gym came alive with beautiful student artwork displayed by art teacher Mrs. Hagstrom. Song, movement, poetry, and rhythm instruments were featured in the student performance conducted by music teacher, Mr. Holliday. This was a wonderful celebration of the musical and artistic accomplishments of our students, and a reminder of how valuable the arts are in our children's education and throughout our lives.

# Happy Memorial Day

**WE WOULD LIKE TO  
THANK ALL OF THE  
BRAVE MEN AND  
WOMEN WHO HAVE  
SACRIFICED FOR OUR  
FREEDOM.**

**WE ARE ETERNALLY  
GRATEFUL.**

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY May 13, 2012

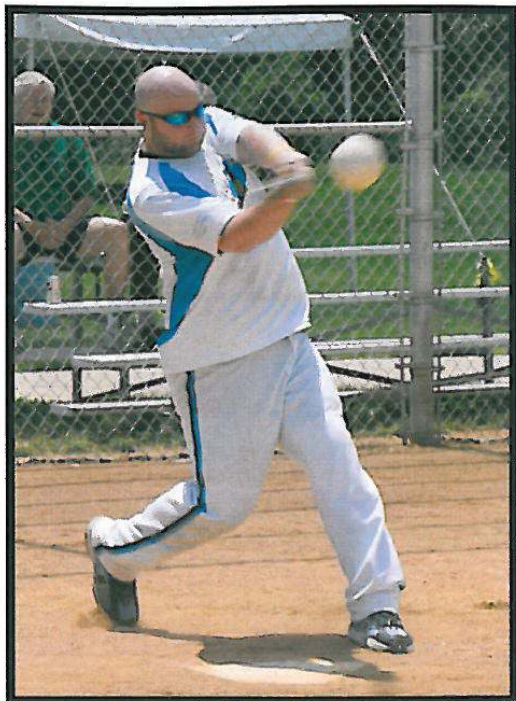


### Did you know?

Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia gets the credit for being the founder of Mother's Day. She labored long and hard to see such a day set apart. In 1908, on the anniversary of her mother's death, Anna had her church hold a celebration to honor all mothers. In 1914, the President was asked by Congress to proclaim a certain day to honor mothers each year,



Anna also started the tradition of having mothers wear flowers on their special day. Mother's Day is celebrated the second Sunday in May.



**7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
16" TOURNAMENT  
OF CHAMPIONS**

Thursday – Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>  
Mayfair Park



**SPRING DANCE RECITAL**

**“They’re Waiting in the Wings”**

Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>

Community Center Gymnasium

10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.



**POOL OPENING DAY &  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Community Swimming Pool

Noon – 3:00 p.m.

Come help celebrate the opening of the pool with an old-fashioned ice cream social. Surround yourself with sun, fun, friends and FREE soft serve ice cream from Hershey! All ages welcome. Must possess current season pool pass or pay daily admission to attend social. Limit one per person. Quantities limited. All pool rules and regulations apply.

**Daily Admission Rates**

Age	Resident	Non-Resident
2 – 59 yrs	\$7.50	\$10.50
Senior Citizen	\$7.50	\$10.50



**AQUACISE**

This non-impact workout is perfect for anyone who is looking to add something new to their workout. Water dumbbells, kickboards, noodles and other equipment are supplied for optimum resistance training.

Walk On Fee: Resident \$5.00 / Non-Resident \$8.00

Age: 18 & Up

Instructor: Janice Karosas

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Code
M-F	6/13-8/12	10:30-11:30am	\$122/\$142	6201
M/W/F	6/13-8/12	10:30-11:30am	\$87/\$97	6201-1
T/TH	6/14-8/11	10:30-11:30am	\$67/\$77	6201-2
M/W	6/13-8/10	5:30-6:30pm	\$67/\$77	6201-3

**SAFETY “U”**

Learn the importance of being safe through this week long experience. Hands on activities and a variety of Community Helpers will inform your youngster on such topics as being safe from strangers, fire safety, first-aid, water safety, poisons and much more. Each child will learn about pedestrian safety through hands on bicycle riding activities. Your children will receive a t-shirt and will bring home many educational learning materials for the whole family.

Age: 5-7 years old

Site: Westchester Public School

Fee: FREE – Advanced Registration is Required  
Limited spaces are available.

Date: June 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 am (code 1711-1)

1:00 – 3:00 pm (code 1711-2)



Westchester Park District

Board of Commissioners and Staff would like to  
congratulate

**Gary Kasanders**

on his recent

Chicago 16" Softball Hall of Fame achievement.



# WESTCHESTER

Your vision... Your community...  
Time for action!

Westchester is moving forward with the creation of its comprehensive plan, which will help guide development and decision-making in the village for years to come. Now it is time to build upon the success of the initial public meeting in February, when participants helped define community values and identified key issues and opportunities in Westchester.

Please join us on **Wednesday, May 30** for the next step in creating Westchester's comprehensive plan, the Visioning Workshop. This workshop is designed to help determine how Westchester will look in 2030. The public meeting is an opportunity for residents, business owners, and community members to leave a legacy for future generations.

*Please join us, and spread the word about the **May 30th** meeting with your family, friends, and neighbors! Light refreshments will be served.*

Visit [www.cmap.illinois.gov/westchester](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/westchester) for more information. RSVP with Ricardo Lopez at [rlopez@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:rlopez@cmap.illinois.gov) or call (312) 386-8766.

Please join us on

**Wednesday, May 30, 2012**  
**6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**  
(Sign-in begins at 6:00 p.m.)

**Westchester**  
**Community Church**  
**1840 Westchester Blvd**  
**Westchester, Illinois 60154**



In partnership with



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program.



# ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL ChargerFEAST 2012

On behalf of the entire St. Joseph High School Family, we would like to sincerely thank the alumni, parents, volunteers, faculty, staff, students, community and friends who supported and worked tirelessly to make the *1st Annual ChargerFEAST 2012* a success!

*A special thank you to our*

## EVENT SPONSORS



## CELEBRITY CHILI COOKERS

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Sales/Marketing



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St. Joseph Class of 1988



Sandy Kasprzak, VP  
Former St. Joseph Parent



Chris Waters, Owner



Chef Jason Korinek,  
Owner  
St. Joseph Class of 1996

Paul Gattuso, Owner  
Former St. Joseph Parent



## PEOPLE'S CHOICE CHILI COOKERS

Joan Biba IHM '72 • Mike Brokenshire '05 • Karen Doss • Jan Grabacki  
Hillside-Berkeley Chamber of Commerce • Matt Lisuzzo '92 • Julie Tortorich • Sean Morton  
Aggie Niemiec • Jennifer Palermo • Jennifer Ryan • Justin White

## CELEBRITY JUDGES

Diane Guido Berner IHM '70, SJHS Board Member • Ronald Hoover, SJHS Principal  
Brother Leo Jones, Former SJHS Faculty Member • David McCreery, SJHS President  
Sam Pulia, Village of Westchester President • Chief April Padalik, Village of Westchester Chief of Police  
Gene Pingatore, SJHS Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events  
Bruce Sirius '69, Owner/CEO of Production Plus and SJHS Board Member

### Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Thomas Sullivan

*Stay tuned...*

The June issue of the newsletter will announce the Celebrity and People's Choice Chili Cooking Champions! Can't wait? Visit the St. Joseph High School Alumni and Friends website for the results - [www.stjoeshsalumni.org](http://www.stjoeshsalumni.org)

**THANK YOU!**



## HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF... at St. Joseph High School

You can never go home again does not ring true for St. Joseph graduates, many of whom return to work at the school. The numerous examples are strongest in the History Department.

*"Gene (Pingatore) opened the school and taught me history and then I taught two of our current history teachers,"* commented Vic Zitzer, History Department Chair and St. Joseph graduate of 1972. *"Mike (Brokenshire) and Dan (Ermitage) are great additions to our school. Now Mike's younger brother, Matt, is a senior. I am so proud to be a product of Lasallian education and if I have any successes in life I attribute it to those who believed in our philosophy. I am still in awe and humbled that life has woven its path so that I educate young America and then of all the rewards, my students have become my colleagues. Really who is as blessed as that?"*

Matt, who will be attending St. Mary's University in Winona, Minnesota, is as proud as Vic Zitzer. *"Having my brother here at St. Joseph High School signifies the importance of tradition and how we cherish our alumni. With Mr. Zitzer being my teacher, it gives me a chance to experience how my brother gained history, which he now uses today."*

Dan Ermitage, Class of 2005, has felt the closeness of the school from both the student and faculty perspectives. *"This just shows the amazing impact St. Joseph High School has on its students that so many come back to be the guiding light to the next generations of Chargers."*

Gene Pingatore has been part of the St. Joseph Family since its establishment in 1960. Gene began his career at St. Joseph as a History Teacher and is now the Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events.

Gene has seen it all and is also proud of the history that has been created over three decade. *"Three generations of teachers at St. Joseph speaks volumes about our stability. We must be doing something right in Chargerland!"*



Pictured from left to right: Gene Pingatore, Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events and Boy's Basketball Head Coach; Victor Zitzer '72, Faculty Member; Dan Ermitage '03, Faculty Member; Mike Brokenshire '05 Faculty Member; Matthew Brokenshire '12, Current Charger.

*"Three generations of teachers at St. Joseph speaks volumes about our stability. We must be doing something right in Chargerland!" - Gene Pingatore*

### St. Joseph High School Student News...

#### More Than Three!

In the April Issue of the Westchester Newsletter we shared the accomplishments of three Chargers that were recognized for leadership in their parishes. It was brought to our attention that there were three more Chargers that were honored at the Vicariate IV Youth Leadership Awards Banquet at Villa Brunetti in Franklin Park on Monday, March 12, 2012.

Please excuse this omission and help us **congratulate the following Chargers for their extended involvement in their parish ministries.**

#### Divine Providence Parish

- Will Collins '13** Evangelization, Catechesis, Justice and Service & Prayer and Worship
- Ashley Grengs '12** Evangelization, Catechesis, Justice and Service & Prayer and Worship
- Sasha Perez '15** Justice and Service

Previously recognized:

- Anthony Mini '13** Evangelization & Justice and Service from Divine Providence Parish
- Rebecca Watson '12** Justice and Service & Prayer and Worship from Divine Providence Parish
- Mark Tomera '12** Community Life from St. Giles Parish

Check out our school newspaper website to read articles written by our very own Chargers...

## The Lance

[www.sjhsnlance.org](http://www.sjhsnlance.org)



[www.stjoeshs.org](http://www.stjoeshs.org)

#### STAY CONNECTED!

Join the **St. Joseph—IHM Alumni & Friends Network** Today! Visit [www.stjoeshsalumni.org](http://www.stjoeshsalumni.org) or [www.ihmalumnae.org](http://www.ihmalumnae.org)  
By signing up you will receive our bi-weekly eNews blasts that announce upcoming events, school and alumni accomplishments and more!

### What's New This Spring

Kids now have new wide-screen monitors on computers in the Youth Department. We are rearranging furniture and computers in the Adult Department to provide better seating near the new teen collection.

When weather is nice, patrons can take a break or eat a snack at our new picnic table located on the grassy area behind the drive-up book returns.

### Teen Journalism Project

Sign up now to get in on the ground floor of this new program just for Westchester high school students (Proviso, St. Joe's, Naz, Timothy, Montini, Walther, Fenwick...)

Bring your creative talents: writing, editing, photography, cartooning, and graphic art.

Work as a team to develop articles & content the Library will publish in the village newsletter.

Brainstorming sessions begin Thursday, May 22

Sign up in the Adult Department.

## Happy Retirement, Miss Roberta!

Join us for a special celebration  
**Thursday, May 31 10 am - 4 pm**

Roberta Conrad, Head of Youth Services, is retiring and you are invited to stop by on her last day and wish her well!

### BIKES, STROLLERS & WAGONS SAFETY ALERT

Please remember to park bikes, strollers and wagons away from sidewalk areas serving the Library's entrance to avoid blocking fire exits, handicapped parking, and access to the book returns.

Kids and adults: remember to carry a bike lock so you can lock your bike at the bike rack.

**Poetry Award Winners** We congratulate all the children who participated in the Library's Poetry Contest. Winners were honored at the Awards Ceremony in April and their winning entries will be added to the Library's collection. For photos of the Ceremony, see our Flickr page: [www.flickr.com/photos/westchesterpl](http://www.flickr.com/photos/westchesterpl)

	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Grade 2	Vincent Burger - DP	Dominic Trelenberg - DP	Riley Hopkins - DP	Joseph Turner - WPS
Grade 3	Ricky Pancotto - DP	Lotus Masek - WIS	Reilly Cantwell - DP	Izzy Kryczka - WIS & Eric Aldas - WIS
Grade 4	C. J. Twomey - DP	Paul Macbeth - DP	Amber Verber - DP	Annunziata Ricchio - DP
Grade 5	Nicole Pechacek - DI	George Lamebsis - DP	Eddie Olewinski - DP	Kaitlyn Scheitler - WIS
Grade 6	Devan Sibley - DI	Anthony Frugoli - DI	Casey Kristie - DP	Maya Kolatorowicz - DP
Grade 7	Giovanni Kasprzak - DI	Cindy Li - DI	Samantha Caruso - DP	Carlos Bedolla - DI
Grade 8	Francesco Ricchio - DP	David Prignano - DI	Claudia Sierra - DP	Amelia Castillo - DI

WPS - Westchester Primary School, WMS - Westchester Middle School, WIS - Westchester Intermediate School, DI - Divine Infant School, DP - Divine Providence School



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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.



## Westchester Civic Theatre's (WCT) FIRST Production: **Barbecuing Hamlet** *A comedy for all ages to attend*

**Opens June 9, 2012**



For ticket information; visit [www.westchesterplays.com](http://www.westchesterplays.com), call: 708-928-5010, or E-mail at [wcttickets@gmail.com](mailto:wcttickets@gmail.com)

### THE STORY

Wouldn't it be great fun to direct William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*?

That was what Margo Daley always thought until she is hired by The Peaceful Glen Memorial Players at The Peaceful Glen Memorial Theatre to do just that. It's called The Peaceful Glen Memorial Theatre because it's in a renovated funeral home.

### THE FUN BEGINS

They DO have a couple of conditions, however. Margo has to make the play a melodrama, so the audience will know when to throw the popcorn. And they can't be too loud because the lady who lives under the theatre bangs her cane on the stage. Oh, and Margo has to insert the sponsor's names into the play and, by the way, it has to take place in the Old West. "And make sure the actors talk real loud because of all the noise the audience makes sucking their fingers", states one of the council members, an occupational hazard brought about by them selling barbecue before the show.

### THE PLAYERS

All the eccentric theatre characters come out of the woodwork in this riotous tribute to life on the community theatre stage. Even the pizza delivery boy is given parts - several since Margo only has 4 actors to portray the five act tragedy. Fast lines and even faster exits punctuate this farce as Margo and her troupe of unwilling actors find out what it's like when they begin Barbecuing Hamlet. And yes, even special guest cameos from known community leaders.

**JOIN WCT FOR OUR FIRST PRODUCTION. SHOW DATES: JUNE 9, 7:30 PM, JUNE 10, 2:00 PM, JUNE 16, 7:30 PM, JUNE 17, 2:00 PM**

**TICKET PRICES: (CREDIT CARD ORDERS ACCEPTED)**

**ADULTS: \$13.00, SENIORS AND STUDENTS: \$11.00, CHILDREN 6 - 12: \$8, CHILDREN UNDER 6 FREE.**

**Group rates available, please contact us for more information.**

**Visit - [www.westchesterplays.com](http://www.westchesterplays.com), call: 708-928-5010, or E-mail at [wcttickets@gmail.com](mailto:wcttickets@gmail.com)**

## ATTENTION VETERANS:

American Legion - The Col. A. L. Brodie, Post 1437 has been reactivated and is reaching out to all veterans to join. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00PM. The location is 3034 Wolf Road, Westchester (between Dominick's and Paul's Pizza). The American Legion is an organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for America's veterans, their families, and their communities. If you have any questions concerning the American Legion please contact Stan Kolodziej, Post Commander 708-790-9640 stantia@att.net

## Wednesday May 2:

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

**Wednesday May 2:** Praying the Rosary - 2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church 1600 Newcastle Avenue For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

**Wednesday May 2:** 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.

**Wednesday May 2:** DIVINE PROVIDENCE OVER 50 CLUB- The Divine Providence Over 50 Club will be meeting on May 2nd at Stimac's in Hillside for our Mother's Day-Father's Day Luncheon. Doors will open at 11:30 AM Meeting at 11:45 AM and Lunch at noon. Members \$16.00 and Guests \$18.00. Our Annual Picnic will be held on June 13th at Noon at the School. Box lunches will be served. Members \$8.00 and Guests \$9.00. You can call Ruth 708-947-9020) to acquire your ticket. New membership is open to all registered parishioners of Divine Providence and Divine Infant until June 30, 2012. Dues are \$12 annually. Guests are welcome at our meetings 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 for double occupancy which includes motor coach transportation, 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners, shows, and touring. Sounds like a lot of fun. You need not be a member of the Club to join us on this trip. If you are interested call Marianne at 708-562-3766 for details on this trip. If you have any questions regarding the Club you can call Betty Noonan 708-562-2765.

## Thursday May 3:

Musical - "Into the Woods" 7:00 PM at WMS

## Friday May 4:

Professional Women Connected (PWC) from 8:45 AM -9:45 AM Develop and grow your business with professional women by joining our industry exclusive, networking group. Contact Kandice Jacobs (708) 236-5902 for more information.

**Friday May 4:** Musical - "Into the Woods" 7:00 PM at WMS

## Saturday May 5:

Musical - "Into the Woods" 2:00 PM at WMS

**Saturday May 5:** 9 AM - 2 PM. Westchester Community Church Flea Market will be held. 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154. You can rent a table with two chairs for \$20, or two tables with four chairs for \$35 or pull in your car and use your trunk or your own table for \$15. For more information, please call the church office 708-865-1282

**Saturday May 5:** First Communion for 2nd graders of Divine Infant Jesus Parish - 1:30 PM Mass at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. Contact Sr. Susan Majcen at 708-865-8086 for more information.

## Monday May 7:

Senior Matinees featuring "Calendar Girls" at 2:00 PM at Library. 10700 Canterbury Street Westchester, Illinois 60154 Phone 708-562-3573

**May 7-11:** WMS - 8th Grade travels to Washington D.C.

## Tuesday, May 8:

Village Board meeting followed by the Committee of the Whole meeting at Village Hall in the Board Room

**Tuesday May 8:** Praying the Rosary -2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

**Tuesday May 8:** "Get Your Dukes Up, Fight Lung Cancer." 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Michael Liptay, M.D will discuss the latest advancements in detecting early stage lung cancer and minimally invasive treatment of early stage lung cancer. Oak Brook Park District in partnership with Adventist Hinsdale Hospital.

## Wednesday May 9:

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.

**Wednesday May 9:** "Set Your Mind at Ease with a Free Skin Cancer Screening" 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Is that mole suspicious? Stop by for a free individual skin cancer screening; learn what doctors look for in a mole that may signal skin cancer. Get tips for screening yourself and family and how to stay safe this summer. Oak Brook Park District in partnership with Adventist Hinsdale Hospital

## Thursday May 10:

Aging Care Connections "Consumer Voices Forum: From Hospital to Home" 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM @ Plymouth Place 315 N. La Grange Road, Lagrange Park, IL Transportation assistance may be available. A response to civic. rsvp@gmail.com or 312-355-1134 is required.

## Friday May 11:

May Crowning at 9:30 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. Ribbon and Award Ceremony for graduating 8th graders following the mass. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

## Saturday May 12:

Village Hall Offices will be open to serve you from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM.

**Saturday May 12:** The Pink 5K Oak Brook Park District. \$5 of every registration will be donated to Hinsdale Hospital Foundation-Open Arms Breast Cancer Fund. Register at: obparks.org/pink5k/

**Saturday May 12:** 8:30 AM until 11:30 AM Youth Group Car Wash. Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154 - all proceeds will be used to fund their Mission Trip to Michigan

**Saturday May 12:** 11:30 AM Pet Blessing- Westchester Community Church 1840 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154

**Saturday May 12:** Market Day pick-up @ WMS, 10:00AM

**Saturday May 12:** GARAGE SALE, Raleigh Street "Block" Garage Sale. 9:00 AM -3:00PM. Come search for house items, furniture, clothes, treasures and more.

## Monday May 14:

Spring Band Concert & Awards at 7:00 PM at Divine Infant Jesus School's Langan Hall, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact Carolyn Rife, 708-865-0122.

## Tuesday May 15:

"Be Skin Cancer Smart: Know What to Look For, How to Protect Your Skin This Summer" 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Erica Rogers, M.D. will discuss the main types of skin cancer and their clinical presentations through descriptions and photos, treatment options, and guidelines for how to prevent skin cancer. Oak Brook Park District in partnership with Adventist Hinsdale Hospital

**Tuesday May 15:** WIS Spring Band Concert, 7:00 PM

**Tuesday May 15:** "Get Your Dukes Up, Fight Lung Cancer." 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Michael Liptay, M.D will discuss the latest advancements in detecting early stage lung cancer and minimally invasive treatment of early stage lung cancer. Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, Dixon Education Center.

## Wednesday May 16:

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.

**Wednesday May 16:** Market Day pick-up from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. Contact Toni Podock at 708-865-8071 for more information.

**Wednesday May 16:** All-School Mass , 9:00 AM Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

**Wednesday May 16:** Wolf Road Prairie bird monitor Linda Padera will be leading a birdwalk through both the Savanna and the Prairie. Join Linda at the south side of the Praire at 8 am. There are three parking bays on the northside of 31st Street west of Wolf Road. Canceled if there is rain. Call 708-354-5512 for more information. Visit savetheprairiesociety.org

## Thursday May 17:

WPS - Half Day In-service (see school calendar for schedule &

See CALENDAR, page 19

## Plant Sale

Saturday May 19 - Westchester Gardens Annual Plant Sale will be held at the Welcome Garden located on the corner of Mannheim and Cermak from 9 AM to 12 Noon. For sale will be perennials grown by our members as well as sun and shade hanging baskets and annuals. We would love to have you visit with us. We will be happy to answer your gardening questions and to help you find that perfect plant. And as always, all profits from the sale are utilized to maintain and plant the Welcome Garden. Westchester Gardens is a group of dedicated people that donate their time and energy to plant and maintain the Welcome Garden and the Peter Rabbit and Courtyard gardens at the Westchester Public Library; thus helping to beautify our Westchester Community. We love "playing in the dirt" and talking gardening, so if your interests are similar, we would be so pleased to have you join us. You can contact us via e-mail at [www.westchestergardens@comcast.net](mailto:www.westchestergardens@comcast.net) and you can also like us on Facebook. Hope to see everyone on the 19th. It promises to be a flowery day!

## Garage Sale

Saturday May 19 - 9AM - 3PM 6TH ANNUAL CANTERBURY STREET AREA GARAGE SALE - The sale area is from Canterbury Street South to Dorchester and Manheim West to Mayfair. This is an extremely successful sale. Last year we had 80 houses participate. Let's make this one even bigger. This sale attracts thousands of bargain hunters from all over the Chicagoland area and suburbs. It is a great opportunity to clean out your house and garage, repurpose items that you no longer need, use or want, make some extra money while allowing others to find their treasures! The cost to participate is \$5.00 per house to help cover the costs of advertising. Each house is responsible for their own sign in their yard. Flyers with a map and the addresses of all participating houses are supplied to each house. Give these to the shoppers so they don't miss a single house! If you live in the area notated above and would like to join in the fun please contact Cheryl Rodriguez at [crodriguez2020@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crodriguez2020@sbcglobal.net) or call 773-704-1484. If you are a treasure hunter, SAVE THIS DATE! We will have everything and anything you are looking for. Furniture, Collectibles, Antiques, Glassware, Toys, Jewelry, Small Appliances and much, much more!!

## CALENDAR

Continued from page 18

dismissal times)

### Friday May 18:

Professional Women Connected (PWC) from 8:45-9:45am. Develop and grow your business with professional women by joining our industry exclusive, networking group. Contact Kandice Jacobs (708) 236-5902 for more information.

**Friday May 18:** Praying the Rosary -2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

**Friday May 18th:** Last Day for PreSchool and PreKindergarten Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Friday May 18:** Taize Prayer, 7:30 PM Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

**Friday May 18:** Miracles in Progress Golf Outing. Join us for golf, prizes, contests, and dinner. A not-for-profit organization supporting programs for individuals with brain injuries, specifically children. You can also help by donating a prize, become a sponsor, a financial donation or volunteer. Contact Susan Watson 708-531-1616 or log on to [www.miraclesinprogress.org](http://www.miraclesinprogress.org) for more information.

### Saturday May 19th:

Market Day Pick-up 8:30 AM-9:30AM Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Saturday May 19:** Spring Bird Walk at Wolf Road Prairie 8:30 AM at the Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve, meet at the 31st Street Kiosk, West of Wolf Rd in Westchester. The presenter will be Phyllis Mertz from the Education Department at the Morton Arboretum. Spring brings bluebirds, warblers and other feathered migrants to Wolf Road Prairie. Some just stop to rest and feed before they continue on their journey northward. Others are here to stay for the season. Take a walk with Phyllis down the Wolf Road Prairie trail. Learn how birds attract mates, what kind of nests they build and now they raise their young. Observe their early morning activities and listen for their distinctive calls. See year-around residents like the red-tailed hawks soaring overhead and enjoy the wild hyacinths and other spring wildflowers blooming in the globally imperiled savanna. Dress for the weather. Wear comfortable foot gear and bring binoculars and field guides if you have them. Beginners are welcome. For more information about this free educational Wolf Road Prairie Nature Trek, email [stpsspale@aol.com](mailto:stpsspale@aol.com) or call 708-865-8736. 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.

### Sunday May 20:

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

### Tuesday May 22:

Westchester Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast 7:45 AM -9:00 AM. Join us for a free, networking event hosted by Continental Barbers and Jeannie's Hair Salon. RSVP to 708-240-8400 or log on to [www.westchesterchamber.org](http://www.westchesterchamber.org) for more

information.

**Tuesday May 22:** "Be Skin Cancer Smart: Know What to Look For, How to Protect Your Skin This Summer" 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Erica Rogers, M.D. will discuss the main types of skin cancer and their clinical presentations through descriptions and photos, treatment options, and guidelines for how to prevent skin cancer. Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, Dixon Education Center

**Tuesday May 22:** Bilingual PAC Meeting at WPS, 7:00PM

### Tuesday May 23:

Village Board meeting followed by the Committee of the Whole meeting at Village Hall in the Board Room.

**Wednesday May 23:** 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.

**Wednesday May 23:** 8th Grade Awards Presentation 1:00PM Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Wednesday May 23:** 8th Grade Awards Ceremony, 1:00 PM Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

### Thursday May 24:

Kindergarten Promotion 9:30AM Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Thursday May 24:** Praying the Rosary -2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122. Friday May 25th - No School Divine Providence

School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Sunday and Monday May 27-28:** Library closed for Memorial Day weekend

### Monday May 28:

Village Hall Offices will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

**Monday May 28th:** Memorial Day - No School Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Monday May 28:** Memorial Day - No School WPS

### Tuesday May 29:

Praying the Rosary -2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

**Tuesday May 29:** "Set Your Mind at Ease with a Free Skin Cancer Screening" 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Is that mole suspicious? Stop by for a free individual skin cancer screening; learn what doctors look for in a mole that may signal skin cancer. Get tips for screening yourself and family and how to stay safe this summer. Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, Dixon Education Center

**Tuesday May 29:** Library begins summer hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM, Friday 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM, Saturday 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM, closed Sundays. Summer hours in effect until Labor Day weekend in September. 10700 Canterbury Street Westchester, Illinois 60154 Phone 708-562-3573

### Wednesday May 30:

See CALENDAR, page 20

## CALENDAR

Continued from page 19

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

**Wednesday May 30:** Pre-Kindergarten Graduation will be at 9:30 AM, at Divine Infant Jesus School's Langan Hall, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

**Wednesday May 30:** 8th Grade Graduation 7:00PM Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

**Wednesday May 30:** 8th Grade Graduation, 7:00 PM Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154

### Thursday May 31:

Kindergarten Graduation will be at 9:30 AM, at Divine Infant Jesus School's Langan

Hall, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

**Thursday May 31:** 8th grade graduation will be at 7:00 PM, at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

### Friday June 1:

Registration begins for Summer Reading Programs for kids at Library. Contact Youth Dept at (708) 562-3573. 10700 Canterbury Street Westchester, Illinois 60154 Phone 708-562-3573

**Friday June 1:** Registration begins for Page Turners Reading Club for adults and high school students at Library. Contact Adult Dept at (708) 562-3573. 10700 Canterbury Street Westchester, Illinois 60154 Phone 708-562-3573

**Friday June 1:** WMS - End of Year Dance, 7:00 PM - 9:45 PM (Grades 6 & 7 dismissed at 9:15 PM)

**Friday June 1:** First Friday Adoration, 8:00 AM-7:00 PM Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair Avenue Westchester, IL 60154



In memory of Artie (2005-2012), a loyal and faithful companion.

### Sunday June 3:

A Baccalaureate Mass for 8th grade graduates of Divine Infant Jesus School, will be held at church @ 9:30 AM 1601 Newcastle Ave. Contact the rectory at 708-865-8071 for more information.

### Tuesday June 5:

Last day of school for students at Divine Infant Jesus, 1640 Newcastle Ave., Dismissal at 11:35.

**Tuesday June 5:** Final School Dismissal 10:30AM Divine Providence School, 2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester, IL 60154 708-562-2258

### Thursday June 7:

Divine Providence 2nd Annual Golf Outing, 12:00PM Oak Brook Golf Club, 2606 York Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523

### 1st Tuesdays of every month

Aging care Connections-(temporary location during construction @ Grace Lutheran Church 200 N. Catherine, La Grange, IL 708-352-0730) "Alzheimer's and Related Dementia Caregivers Support Group" A support group for those who care for someone who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or dementia meeting the first Tuesday of the month from 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM for information, please contact Sue Murphy 708-354-1323, extension 215.

### 3rd Thursday of every month

Aging care Connections-"Caregivers Support Group - The Lunch Bunch" is a group of caregivers who chat over lunch. The group meets at Bakers Square Restaurant @ 942 S. La Grange Road, La Grange, IL 11:30 AM. Each participant pays for his/her own lunch. For information, please contact: Ruth Folkening 708-354-1323, extension 228.

### 2nd Wednesday of each month

Aging care Connections-(temporary location during construction @ Grace Lutheran Church 200 N. Catherine, La Grange, IL 708-352-0730) "Will and Estate Planning" - Attorney Erik Peck is available the second Wednesday of the month for consultation on matters pertaining to estate planning. There is no fee for the consultation. Please contact: Intake Office, 708-354-1323, extension 215 to make an appointment.

### Thursday mornings by appointment

Aging care Connections-(temporary location during construction @ Grace Lutheran Church 200 N. Catherine, La Grange, IL 708-352-0730) "Health Clinic" - Dr. Nyaeme, a geriatric physician with Adventist Midwest Geriatric Specialists, sees patients on selected Thursday mornings by appointment. Please call: 708-245-4073 to make an appointment.

### Did you know? May is National Pet Month!

Don't forget to give your furry loved one some extra time and attention during the month of May!

According to the American Veterinarian Medical Association (AVMA) (<http://www.avma.org/reference/marketstats/sourcebook.asp>):

- "In 2006, nearly half of pet owners, or 49.7%, considered their pets to be family members."
- "There are more than 72 million pet dogs in the U.S. and nearly 82 million pet cats."

• In 2011, the Village of Westchester issued 300 dog and cat licenses; over 90% were for dogs.

Thus far in 2012, the Westchester Police Department has issued 184 dog and cat licenses. If you have not already been issued a license for your cat or dog, please come to the Westchester Police Department with proof of up-to-date rabies vaccination. There is no charge for animal licenses however, tags will not be issued without proper documentation of rabies vaccinations.

In memory of Artie (2005-2012), a loyal and faithful companion.

### Monday May 28 is Memorial Day, Did you know?

This holiday began after the Civil War and was designed to remember soldiers who were killed in wars. Traditionally, graves are decorated to honor not only soldiers, but loved ones as well. Please take a moment on May 28th to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

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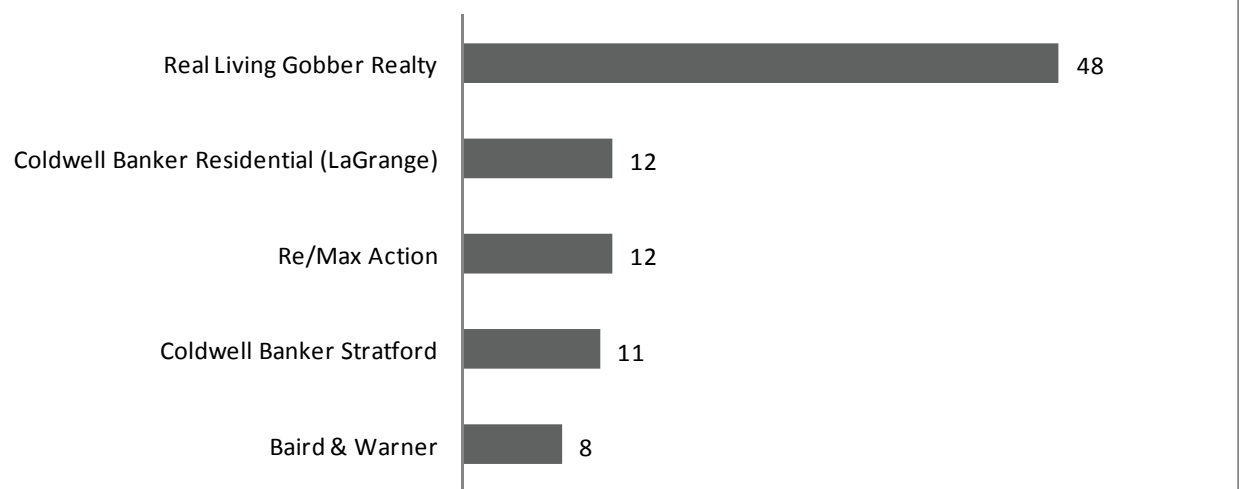
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Homes Sold in Westchester in 2011



*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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# Families Can Get A “World View” from AYA

STAMFORD, CT - What if someone told you there was a way to contribute to world peace, expose your family to a new culture without ever leaving your home and make someone’s dream come true? Does this sound too good to be true?

Each year, Academic Year in America (AYA) offers this opportunity to American families. In 2012, AYA will bring almost 1,000 students age 15 to 18<sup>1/2</sup> to the United States. With AYA’s tailored matching system, families have the unique opportunity to find a student who will be the perfect fit for their household. Students come from more than 30 countries, such as Germany, Brazil, France, Italy and South Africa and have a multitude of diverse talents and interests.

Bringing an international student into your home is an excellent way to give your family a “world view” of a different culture, according to host dad Tim McMahon, whose family has hosted five AYA students.

“The result is that my children have made friends and traveled around the globe,” McMahon said. “My children have visited several of our students on their own and have made extremely close and personal friendships. In fact, our entire family has visited the families of two of our exchange students and developed close friendships between the families.”

There are several key elements to the hosting experience. For five or 10 months, host families must provide their student with two meals a day and a place to sleep and study. Most importantly, they must welcome their student into their home as if they were a son or daughter. To help facilitate the exchange experience, host families will receive assistance from an AYA Local Coordinator.

AYA is a not-for-profit organization designated by the U.S. Department of State to offer J-1 visas to international students. AYA is sponsored by the American Institute For Foreign Study Foundation, which was founded with the assistance of the late Robert F. Kennedy.

To learn more about hosting an exchange student with AYA, call Irena at (708) 355-1833 or e-mail [iantoshk@hotmail.com](mailto:iantoshk@hotmail.com). Visit AYA on the web at [www.academic-year.org](http://www.academic-year.org)

### About AYA:

*AYA is a not-for-profit organization designated by the U.S. Department of State to offer J-1 visas to international students. AYA is sponsored by the American Institute For Foreign Study Foundation, which was founded with the assistance of the late Robert F. Kennedy. For more than 30 years, AYA has offered more than 30,000 students and host families the rewarding experience of learning about another culture and language and making a new lifelong friend.*

**twitter** ... WESTCHESTER, IL

<http://twitter.com/WestchesterIL>

- Twitter is a social media service that allows people from all over the globe to share information. Such information is shared in the form of a “tweet” which is a message 140 characters in length.
- The Village has a twitter account which gives frequent updates and reminders about things happening in Westchester. Either sign up for an account and “follow us”, or check out updates at: <http://twitter.com/WestchesterIL>.
- You can read our “tweets” on our website, or you can “follow us” to get updates delivered right to your phone. For more information about Twitter visit <http://twitter.com/about>

**You're Invited** To join the Westchester Nixle Notification System

**N**ixle is a Westchester notification system, which utilizes email and text messaging to communicate important information to residents. Types of information shared through Nixle include Community Alerts, Advisories, and Messages.

**nixle**

To join the Nixle system follow these instructions:

1. Go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)
2. Click on “Sign up Now!”
3. Enter your email address, create a password and provide your name and mobile telephone number for text message updates
4. Read and Accept the Terms of Service
5. Nixle will send you a text and email confirmation. You will need to reply to the text message in order to activate your account.

 **ELECTRONICS RECYCLING** 

**Saturday, May 12, 2012  
9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**AT VILLAGE HALL BEHIND THE  
WESTCHESTER POST OFFICE**

**ACCEPTED ELECTRONICS INCLUDE;**  
COMPUTERS, MONITORS, & LAPTOPS  
PRINTERS, FAX MACHINES, & SCANNERS  
T.V.s DVD's/VCRs & STEREOS  
PHONES, CELL PHONES, MP3s & IPODS  
PERIPHERALS, MICE, KEYBOARDS  
& ALL OTHER COMPUTER PARTS.

**TO VOLUNTEER AT THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT  
TRUSTEE NOVAK AT [WNOVAK@WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG](mailto:WNOVAK@WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG)**

**RITE WAY**  
*Brick Restoration* 

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Ph: (708) 354-2501 Fax: (708) 749-4448  
[www.ritewaybrick.com](http://www.ritewaybrick.com)

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At A Reasonable Price**

Rite Way Brick Restoration was founded on two basic principles – giving an honest opinion to prospective customers and providing the highest quality workmanship at a reasonable price. Since 1990, we have been doing exactly that for many homes throughout the south and southwest Chicago suburbs. Our portfolio of services include:

**Tuckpointing • Expert chimney rebuilds & repairs  
Masonry work • Stone veneer • Chimney liners  
Building cleaning & graffiti removal  
Waterproofing & caulking**

Free Estimates & Senior Discounts Available

*Celebrating our 24th Year!*

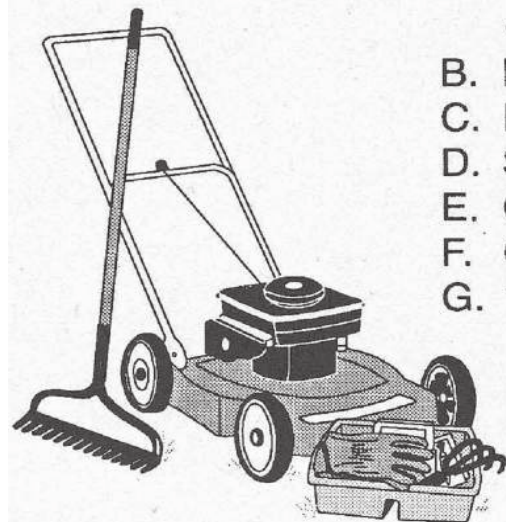
**Mark's Quality Landscaping**

**Lawn Maintenance & Concrete Borders**

**Services Offered**

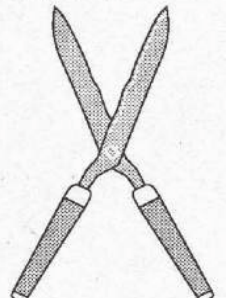
- A. Decorative Landscaping.
  - Shrubs, bushes, evergreens and trees (removal & installation).
  - Landscaping stone, boulders, bark chips and mulch.
  - Sand, pea gravel, top quality pulverized soil and planting mixes.
  - Ground covers, flowers (Perennials and Annuals), Roses and Jumbo Geraniums.
  - Sodding and Seeding.
  - Retaining walls, cobblestone and decorative curbing concrete borders/dividers.
  - Pots, planters, benches, fountains, fixtures and more.
  - Paver brick patios, walkways, driveways, etc.
- B. Lawn maintenance programs.
- C. Fertilization and weed control programs (removal and prevention).
- D. Shrub, hedge and evergreen trimming, shaping and pruning.
- E. Core aeration, rototilling and power raking (lawn dethatching) available.
- F. Gift certificates available! The ideal Christmas gift.
- G. 10% Senior Citizen discounts available.

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# Miracles In Progress fundraiser to support brain-injured youth and their families

Miracles In Progress (MIP) is pleased to announce their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Event will be a Golf Outing & Dinner on Friday, May 18, 2012 at Carriage Greens Country Club at 8700 Carriage Greens Drive in Darien, Illinois. This annual event is MIP's primary fundraising event where friends, family, local business and community leaders come together to support this high impact, volunteer-driven organization. MIP's mission is to assist brain-injured individuals in acquiring the resources necessary for treatment, both conventional and alternative, so that they can achieve their highest potential.

**Golf by day – party by night!** The event is kicked off with an al fresco lunch on the club house patio and is followed by a putting challenge that could land a lucky golfer with a \$1,000 bonus before the outing even begins. By 1:00 p.m., MIP supporters will be off to a shotgun start and are eligible to win prizes such as longest drive, closest to the pin and best team. What's more, a 2012 Ford Fusion has been donated by Joe Rizza Ford of North Riverside, IL for the luck-struck that hits a hole-in-one. After the competition concludes, the festivities begin with music, open bar and hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will be accompanied by raffles and a silent auction. The auction will feature sports items, signed by Blackhawks' great "The Golden Jet" Bobby Hull, tickets to the Chicago White Sox and Chicago Cubs, and autographed sports memorabilia. Other highly coveted items include gift certificates to well-



known Chicago restaurants, relaxing spa and hotel getaway packages, and family entertainment to area staples such as the Morton Arboretum, Brookfield Zoo, and Shedd Aquarium, among many other surprises.

Susan Watson, Executive Director of MIP stated, "We are so excited to have a great group of sponsors and advocates that have consistently supported our organization. Their generosity will assist us in maintaining our most popular programs such as MIP Pool Pals, MIP Yoga Pals, therapeutic horseback riding program

as well as our scholarship endeavors. MIP was grown from an idea and has been supported passionately by my family and friends. We are inspired by the strength of the children and young adults that we serve. Our programming provides an outlet for their willpower. They deserve every opportunity to achieve their full potential."

Additional information on the Miracles In Progress Golf Outing and Dinner can be obtained by calling Susan Watson at 708.531.1616. For more information on supporting

Miracles In Progress, visit [www.miraclesinprogress.org](http://www.miraclesinprogress.org). Follow us on Facebook by searching "Miracles In Progress" and on Twitter at "MIPFRIENDS."

*Miracles In Progress is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to maximizing the lives of individuals living with brain injuries. Since 2002, MIP has served hundreds of individuals in Illinois. MIP continually strives to develop new programs, services and events that help our participants achieve their highest potential.*

## RECYCLE YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

DROP SITE AT WESTCHESTER VILLAGE HALL  
10300 W. ROOSEVLET RD., WESTCHESTER, IL 60154, (708) 345-0020



Westchester residents can now bring unused or unwanted prescription drugs and supplements to Village Hall for disposal. and rivers posing a significant threat to the wildlife and the environment as a whole.

Each year, tens of thousands of pounds of prescription drugs are disposed of incorrectly or flushed down the sink or toilet. Incorrect disposal of prescription drugs can potentially filter into our streams. The Village is committed to doing its part in reducing this threat! The drop box is located in the lobby of Village Hall and accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Village officials collect the prescription drugs and disposed of them in an environmentally friendly manner.

## DISCOUNT CAB COUPON BOOK PROGRAM



This program provides discount taxicab coupons for senior (age 65 and older) and handicapped residents of Westchester. Coupon books are available for a cost of \$10.00 and have a value of \$20.00. Coupon books must be purchased in person, at Village Hall. There is a limit of one book, per person, per month.

## Branch Pick-up:

Village branch pickup will be May 7th -11th.

The branch pickup for June will be June 4th-8th.

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.

Please make every effort to cut oversized limbs/stumps for one employee to lift and to remove the dirt from the root ball to allow for pickup. 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 Bellevue west to Wolf Road, Martindale Drive to 31st Street

## The Village is now repairing parkways that have been damaged by excavations and snow plow damage.

Concrete work and street repairs have started, as weather permits.

As the alleys dry out from the winter weather, the Public Works Department will continue the alley grading process.



Public Works and Sinnott Tree Service, Inc clearing Addison Creek

The Public Works Department continues to fill potholes throughout town. Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 to report potholes.

The vac and jet machine will continue to be out cleaning storm sewer inlets, as weather permits.

Construction season has started, so please drive carefully in all work zones.

## 50/50 Shared Cost Sidewalk Replacement 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 share the cost with you.

Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 for more information or to register.

## 50/50 Shared Cost Parkway Tree Program

Beautify your yard and add to the curb appeal of your home....

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 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!

## As Always.....

Village residents are asked to call Public Works at 708-345-0041 or the Police Non Emergency number



## Waste Management

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

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.

Please 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.

## Sprinkling Ban Reminder

We have water use restrictions in

effect every year, May 15-September 15, from 12pm to 6pm.

This includes:

- Outdoor Watering
- Cleaning Outdoor Surfaces
- Cleaning Buildings
- Pool Filling

Sprinkling during unrestricted hours (before noon, after 6pm) shall be allowed on even numbered days for those even numbered addresses, and on odd numbered days for those residents having odd numbered addresses. If we have a dry summer, further restrictions may be necessary. Look for news on our website.



# WESTCHESTER 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE!



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 2012**  
**WE WANT YOU!**

The Westchester Special Events Committee is looking for participants and sponsors for the annual 4th of July Parade. All businesses, organizations, and individuals are invited to participate in this year's parade.



Email: [specialevents@westchester-il.org](mailto:specialevents@westchester-il.org)



## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

If you would like to participate in the 2012 Parade, please fill out form below, and return by June 15th to: [specialevents@westchester-il.org](mailto:specialevents@westchester-il.org) or Attn: PARADE 10300 Roosevelt, Westchester, IL 60154

OFFICIAL ENTRY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ENTRY (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY): FLOAT    CLOWN    BUS    VAN    TRUCK  
ANTIQUE VEHICLE    MARCHING BAND    POLITICAL/PUBLIC OFFICIAL    OTHER \_\_\_\_\_



## HOW TO BECOME A CORPORATE SPONSOR

For a \$100.00 sponsorship donation you and your business/organization will be listed as an official Parade Sponsor in two issues of the Village Newsletter. Please return by June 15th to: [specialevents@westchester-il.org](mailto:specialevents@westchester-il.org) or Attn: PARADE 10300 Roosevelt, Westchester, IL 60154

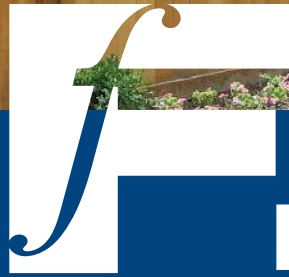
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

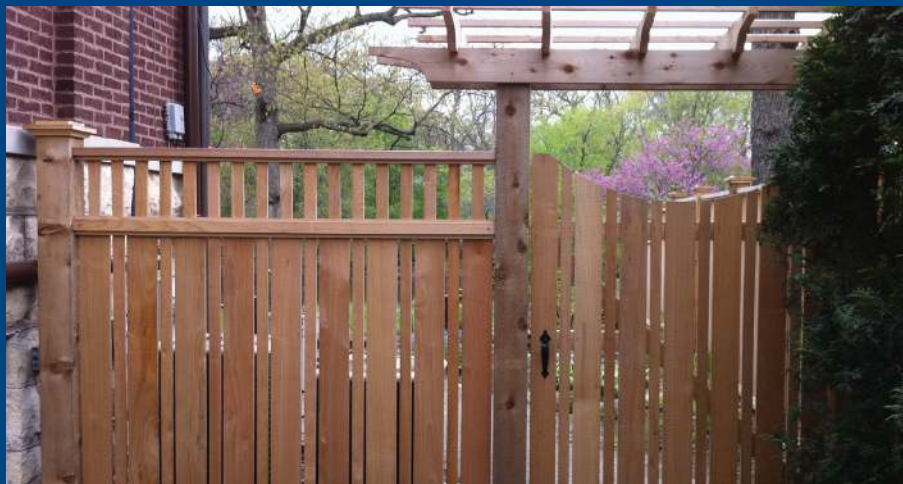
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_





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Roger Freeman has been in the fence industry for over 25 years and is president-elect of the Chicago chapter of the AFA

