

From the President's Desk...



I want to wish everyone a Happy Easter Season and a warm welcome to Spring! We made it through another Winter and appreciate the warmer weather and the bright sunshine.

We want to thank our Street Department for another great year in keeping our streets clean this past winter. Thanks guys for a job well done.

The street repair program for the 2007-2008 budget provides for the Reconstruction of Kensington from Dorchester to Canterbury.

For the Fiscal year 2008-09 the following streets are scheduled for work, you may see some preliminary engineering work done over the next few months.

- ~ Bristol from Cermak and /Frontage to Canterbury
- ~ Bristol from Derby to Roosevelt
- ~ Dover from Westchester Blvd. to Gardner
- ~ Balmoral from Mannheim to Canterbury
- ~ Roosevelt Road Enhancement ITEP Grant (Beautification Project)

On June 10, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. the Village of Westchester will be honoring the United States flag by retiring unserviceable flags in a dignified manner.

The ceremony will take place in the parking lot of the Westchester Community Church, 1840 Westchester Blvd.

Our flag is a representation of our independence and our unity as a nation. It has a proud and glorious history. When a flag becomes old, worn, torn, faded or badly soiled, it should be replaced with a new flag and the old flag should be retired with respect. Village residents can deposit their old flags in collection boxes at the Westchester Community Church, Westchester Village Hall, both Fire Department Stations, Park District Community Center, Mayfair Facility, and the Westchester Public Library.



Westchester Relay for Life

Please come out and join us for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. This event will take place on Friday May 11, 2007 6:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. at Mayfair Park. The Relay for Life is teams of friends, families, co-workers spending the night enjoying activities, honoring cancer survivors & remembering those who lost their battle with cancer. See community calendar for important meeting dates. Contact Stephanie Russell at 708/484-8541 or logon to www.acsevents.org/relay/il/westchester.



Inside this Issue:

-New Brush Pick-Up Schedule

-Police department warnings

-Important State Legislation & Village Board Action

Community Calendar

April 2007

Join the **Westchester Community Image Council** at their weekly meeting at Panera Bread, 22nd & Wolf Road Saturdays: 7-9 am.

Registration: **Summer Volunteers in Library Youth Department.** Students completing 6th grade by June 2007- grade 12 can assist youth librarians during summer reading program & activities while fulfilling community service obligations.

Table Grace lunchtime bible study co-sponsored by Grace and Divine Providence churches. Held every Wednesday from 11:30-1:00, participants bring their own bag lunch. 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesdays at Grace Lutheran; 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Divine Providence.

Continued...



Community Calendar

Tuesday, April 10: Village Board Meeting,
Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 11: An Evening with the Dogs.
Therapy dogs Cody & Cricket will be at the Library and ready to have children read to them. 6-8 pm.

Thursday, April 12: An Evening of Stories with Megan Wells, 7 pm Westchester Library. Special program of storytelling for adults.

Sunday, April 15: Awards Ceremony for Annual Poetry Contest. Winners of the Library's annual poetry contest honored at 1:30 pm, Westchester Library.

Sunday, April 15: Westchester Community Image Council work day. Salt Creek Trail forest preserve at Mannheim & Cermak. 9 am-noon. For more information call Genny: 865-9977 or email: info@westchestercic.org

Wednesday, April 18: Relay for Life Team Captain Meeting. Village Hall Community Room. 6:30 pm. Relay for Life Committee Meeting to follow 7:30 pm

Saturday April 21: CHARGER FEST. St. Joseph High School North Campus Gymnasium; 1840 Mayfair Ave 6:30 pm -12 midnight

Sunday April, 22: "Wings Over Chicagoland" An Earth Day Celebration. Migration Specialist Doug Stotz-Field Museum, Prairie House 2-4 pm.

Tuesday, April 24: Village Board Meeting,
Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25: Aging Well Community Action Team Meeting. Westchester Village Hall Community Room 11 am. More info: www.agingwellpartnership.org

Thursday-Saturday, April 26-28: Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale. Thursday for Friends members. Open to the public: Friday 10-5, Sat.10-Noon & 1-4 pm.

Saturday, April 28: Village Blood Drive. Community Center, Bond & Westchester Blvd. 8:15 am-3 pm. For information contact Carl Panek 865-1782. "Give the gift that will last a lifetime."

Saturday, April 28: Proviso West H.S. PTO-7th Annual Adult Dance. 7 pm to midnight.

Sunday, April 29: Celebremos El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros. Children's Day Book Day is a celebration in the Latin American community. Musician Nelson Sosa will perform songs in this special program to promote the Library's new Spanish-language collection. 2:00 pm. Westchester Library

May 2007

Table Grace lunchtime bible study co-sponsored by Grace and Divine Providence churches. Held every Wednesday from 11:30-1:00, participants bring their own bag lunch. 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesdays at Grace Lutheran; 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Divine Providence.

Join the **Westchester Community Image Council** at their weekly meeting at Panera Bread, 22nd & Wolf Road Every Saturday: 7-9 am

Wednesday, May 2: Chamber of Commerce Springfield Bus Tour. For reservations & complete information, logon www.westchesterchamber.org or call Bill Ernst at 343-4300.

Sunday, May 6: St Joseph High School Mother Son Mass. 10900 West Cermak Road. 10:00 am.

Tuesday, May 8: Village Board Meeting,
Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Friday May 11: American Cancer Society- Relay for Life. Mayfair Park, 6 pm to 6 am. American Cancer Society. To form or join a team call Stephanie Russell, 708/484-8541. www.acsevents.org/relay/il/westchester.

Saturday, May 12: Pancake Breakfast & Car Wash - 8am - noon. Annual Pet Blessing 1pm. Westchester Community Church

Saturday, May 12: "Discovering Organic Foods" Jim Wisser, Sustainable Farmer, Prairie House 2-4 pm.

Thursday, May 17: Village Blood Drive. Special Mobile Blood Drive 1-6 pm. LifeSource will be parked in front of Paul's Pizza and Hot Dogs at 31st & Wolf. For more info: please contact Carl Panek at 865-1782. "Give the gift that will last a lifetime."

Sunday, May 20: Westchester Community Image Council work day at the Salt Creek Trail (in the forest preserves at Mannheim and Cermak) from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Genny at 865-9977 or e-mail info@westchestercic.org.

Tuesday, May 22: Village Board Meeting,
Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23: Aging Well Community Action Team Meeting- Village Hall, Community Room, 11 am. For more info: www.agingwellpartnership.org

Thursday, May 24: St Joseph High School Graduation. Divine Infant Church at 7:00 pm.

Community Calendar



Memorial Day Weekend: Look for work day information on the Westchester Community Image Council website www.westchestercic.org. Projects include planting of Mannheim median, Post Office and other public gardens.

Monday, May 28: Memorial Day Observed Village Hall closed. Monday garbage pickup will be Tuesday, Tuesday Garbage pick up will be Wednesday. Regular schedule resumes Thursday.

June 2007

Westchester Community Image Council weekly meeting at Panera Bread, 22nd & Wolf Road, Saturdays: 7-9 am

Table Grace lunchtime bible study co-sponsored by Grace and Divine Providence churches. Held every Wednesday from 11:30-1:00, participants bring their own bag lunch. 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesdays at Grace Lutheran; 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Divine Providence.

Friday, June 1: Registration begins for the Library Youth Department's Summer Reading Program.

Friday, June 1: Registration begins for Summer Session of Page Turners: a reading club for adults & teens.

Tuesday, June 12: Village Board Meeting, Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 17: Westchester Community Image Council work day. Salt Creek Trail forest preserve at Mannheim & Cermak. 9 am-noon. Details-call Genny: 865-9977 or email: info@westchestercic.org

Tuesday, June 26: Village Board Meeting, Westchester Village Hall, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 24: "Nature through the Microscope". Dr. John Wagner Biology Professor Field Museum, Prairie House 2-4 pm

Wednesday, June 27: Aging Well Community Action Team Meeting Westchester Village Hall Community Room, 11 am. More info: www.agingwellpartnership.org

If you have an event you would like included in the Community Calendar section,
please email information to newsletter@westchester-il.org

Proposed State Legislation of Interest to Westchester Residents.

HB1608: MUNI CODE-ADULT ENTERTAINMENT

Sponsors: Rep. [Harry R. Ramey Jr.](#) - [Bob Biggins](#) and [Karen A. Yarbrough](#)



Synopsis As Introduced: Amends the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that no new adult entertainment facility may be located, constructed, or operated within a municipality, or within one mile of the territorial boundaries of a municipality, within one mile of the property boundaries of any school, day care center, cemetery, public park, forest preserve, public housing, and a place of religious worship in a county with a population of more than 800,000 inhabitants and less than 2,000,000 inhabitants.

Effective immediately.

House Amendment No. 1 adds " located in that area of Cook County outside of the City of Chicago."

This is a significant piece of legislation due to the impact that the proposed Adult Use facility in Broadview would have had on Westchester residents. This legislation would prohibit the use of that site due to the proximity to schools, parks and other uses located within one mile.



Department News

Public Works Department

Branch pickup program begins MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2007.

Branches will be picked up once a month on the first full week of every month from April—November.

- ◆ All brush must be out no later than 7:30 am on the designated pickup day.
 - ◆ All branches will to be picked up on the front parkway.
 - ◆ Branches must be in 7 ft lengths, stacked with butt ends facing in the same direction.
 - ◆ If not stacked properly a “restack” notice will be left.
 - ◆ Crews will only pass through a designated area once due to time schedule. Public Works will complete a section per day, Monday through Thursday, weather permitting.
 - ◆ For a map of the branch pick up schedule logon: www.westchester-il.org.
- Open Load Days: Thursday and/or Friday are Open load days for pickup of large brush such as logs, stumps, evergreens, etc. Be sure to put out all your brush on your designated pickup day so crews can decide what is “open load” material. We have no means of picking up large, oversized stumps or logs. These would be excluded from pickup unless cut for one man to lift. Landscaping contractors are responsible for their own brush/ limb pickup and disposal.

Last chance to register for the shared cost **SIDEWALK PROGRAM** for this year.

Call Public Works 708-345-0041 to sign up.

Waste Management News: YARD WASTE PICKUP Monday, April 2, 2007.

Please call at least one day prior to your regular trash day 708/656-5350 if you have oversized items (i.e. refrigerator, couch) for pick up.

Street Department

As soon as the alleys are dried out from the winter weather the street department will begin the grading process.

All driveways & street restoration due to water leak repairs will be priority projects this Spring.



Police Department warns of seasonal scams

As the warm weather approaches it is important to keep your doors locked while you begin the annual ritual of cleaning up the yard and garden in preparation for planting and so on. Your property is a prime target if you leave your front door open and someone sees you working in the back yard or garage. A common scam is to have a stranger approach you and engage in conversation while another person will enter your home looking for cash, jewelry, or other valuables.

- All solicitors who come to your house **MUST** have a yellow numbered solicitor's badge issued from the police department. If they do not have one in their possession, please call the non-emergency police department number 345-0060, or 911 if they are persistent or you feel threatened in any way.
- Scammers often work in teams in crowded stores or outdoor venues. Be aware of your valuables especially if someone is trying to distract you. If you carry a purse, make it more difficult for thieves by carrying a purse with a short, substantial strap and keeping it in your hand or tucked tightly against your body. A short strap will make it hard for them to handle your purse without your being aware of it. A purse with a thick strap is difficult to cut, making it hard for them to cut the strap and run.
- Village of Westchester employees will never ask to come into your house unless an appointment or request has been made by you. Village Employees as well as employees of utility companies should all have some sort of identification, and either a uniform or a vehicle clearly marked with the Village or utility logo.
- Never let a private contractor into your home that you have not specifically called for service.
- **Any contractor MUST be licensed within the Village. Call the Building Department at 345-0199 to verify their registration or for a list of approved contractors.** This will avoid unnecessary delays for your projects.

Village of Westchester

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Village Board Action

The following is a summary of ordinances that were recently passed by the Westchester Village Board:

Ordinance 07-1717: "The Westchester Smoke Free Air Ordinance"

The purpose of the Ordinance is to protect the public health, comfort and environment by prohibiting smoking in all enclosed public places and places of employment; within 25 feet of all public entrances to such places; in open air public dining areas and within 25 feet of such areas; and within certain unenclosed public places including school grounds, parks and recreation areas and outdoor venues in order to ensure that nonsmokers may breathe air free from the hazardous effects of secondhand smoke. This ordinance is in effect May 1, 2007. The following exemptions were included:

- Retailer whose primary business is a tobacco dealer who does not serve or sell alcohol
- The bar area of a restaurant when the owner or operator can demonstrate it has been equipped with separate air filtration or purification devices and the bar area be situated within the restaurant so that customers of the dining areas of the restaurant do not have to move through the Bar Area to be seated
- Private Residences; except when used as a child care facility, adult day care facility or health care facility.
- Stage plays and productions where a cast member must smoke.
- Nursing homes and long term facilities
- Hotel and motel sleeping rooms that are rented to guests and are designated as smoking rooms provided, however, that not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the rooms rented to guests in a hotel or motel may be so designated.
- Private clubs, with no employees, except in those areas being used for a function to which the general public is invited.
- Outdoor golf courses.

Ordinance 07-1719: "Water Penalties"

Changes the time span for sending warning letters for shut off of water along with increasing the shut off/turn on fees. Warning letters will now be sent 15 days after the due date, rather than 30 days. This was changed to speed up the collection of past due bills. Shut off/turn on fees have now been increased to \$75.00 each transaction for a first time occurrence, (total \$150). The second time a shut-off occurs the fee is \$100.00 each transaction (total \$200); after three or more times, a \$125.00 fee is assessed per transaction (total \$250). The next time shut off letters will be sent will be March 30 for sections 3 & 4. This Ordinance does not affect the water rate or cost for service to residents and businesses that pay their water, sewer and refuse bill in a timely manner.

To view the complete ordinances listed here please logon to www.westchester-il.org