



APRIL, 2024

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# Village of Westchester

*From the desk of Village President Greg Hribal*



**Maywood Mayor Nathaniel Booker, Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson, Top Flight Defense Founder Cassandra Taylor and Village President Greg Hribal.**

Welcome Spring!!!

The Bellwood, Broadview, Hillside, Maywood and Westchester Fire Departments recently took part in the West Suburban Chili Cook-Off, a fundraising event for female veterans sponsored by Top Flight Defense. I was honored to be a judge alongside Mayor Thompson of Broadview and Mayor Booker of Maywood and thank our fire department for their participation. Unfortunately, the Westchester Fire Department, having won the top honors the past two years, was dethroned by the Village of Bellwood Fire Department this time around. A big thank you to them for their efforts this year.

I cannot emphasize enough to our residents how detrimental telephone and email scams have been in our community. Please know that the IRS, Village, police and others will never demand bank account information or immediate payment regardless of the claims that are being made on the phone or through your email. We ask that if you are called or emailed by someone asking for information you would not be comfortable giving, please immediately contact the police department for further information on determining the validity of the caller.

Callers that are stating that your income or property taxes were underpaid and that you might face arrest, loss of your home or worse are ALL false. Police officers can assist in determining the validity of who is attempting to contact you. We are here to help and assure you that your call is confidential.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District has partnered with Westchester to continue providing funding for green alleys. These projects are important for those who currently have gravel alleys and cause an increased potential for flooding. This year, 4 alleys will be reconstructed with their funding partnership, leaving only a few remaining that we expect to have completed in the next two years.

Finally, after several years of being pushed back, the Balmoral Ave reconstruction project started in March. Due to the extensive project scope such as replacement of water mains and sewers, along with the curbs, streets and ADA sidewalk improvements, the overall cost of the project is \$3,250,000, with \$1,700,000 being funded by a federal

grant that is distributed by the West Central Municipal Conference. Having spoken with several residents in the affected area over the past 4 years I know that this was a long overdue project and would like to thank everyone for their patience during the periodic road closures in the area.

Village vehicle stickers went on sale March 1st. The sticker chosen as the contest winner was Westchester Intermediate School 3rd grader, Sebastian De Guzman. Congratulations to him for being selected and seeking to kick off the celebration of Westchester's upcoming 100-year anniversary. As a reminder, vehicle stickers must be purchased and displayed by May 1, 2024.

The Village of Westchester will once again host its spring shredding event at 2305 Enterprise Drive on Saturday April 20th from 10am to 12pm. It is a great opportunity to safely dispose of private documents and paperwork you may have at home and avoid those documents getting into the wrong hands. Additionally, the Cook County Sheriff's police will be disposing of unwanted and expired prescription drugs as well as safely disposing of household electronics (limit one television per household).

Our public works branch pickup resumed April 1st. Visit the Village of Westchester website ([www.westchester-il.org](http://www.westchester-il.org)) to view the weekly schedule for pickup on your block. Public works have also resumed street sweeping and ask that you please observe your street's parking restrictions for maintenance. In addition to street sweeping, other spring and summer road maintenance activities will be occurring throughout town such as crack filling, permanent pothole repairs and more.

I expect that if you are reading this far along in this newsletter you have an interest in what is occurring in Westchester. Due to review and publication deadlines, all items that are printed in this newsletter were submitted in early March. If you want weekly updates on activities in Westchester, please sign up for our weekly email briefing of projects, activities and upcoming calendar of events. You can visit the website to sign up or email Annie Canavan at [acanavan@westchester-il.gov](mailto:acanavan@westchester-il.gov) or reach her by phone at 708-345-0020.





MEMBERSHIP TYPES	APRIL 2ND - SEPTEMBER 15TH MEMBERSHIP RATES <small>AGE 2yr &amp; Up - membership required</small>
must reside in same household	RESIDENT / NON-RESIDENT
INDIVIDUAL	\$124 / \$236
FAMILY OF 2	\$193 / \$365
FAMILY OF 3	\$227 / \$446
FAMILY OF 4	\$263 / \$491
FAMILY OF 5	\$290 / \$614
FAMILY OF 6	\$329 / \$698
FAMILY OF 7	\$365 / \$781
FAMILY OF 8	\$401 / \$866
FAMILY OF 9	\$435 / \$950
FAMILY OF 10	\$470 / \$1033
SENIOR INDIVIDUAL	\$113 / \$215
SENIOR COUPLE	\$176 / \$329

**HOURS OF OPERATION**

SUNDAY	8:45am-10:45am 11:00am-11:30am 11:30am-6:00pm 6:15pm-8:15pm	RENTAL MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM RENTAL
MONDAY-THURSDAY	7:50am-8:50am 8:00am-11:15am 12:30pm-1:00pm 1:00pm-7:30pm	LAP SWIM LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM
FRIDAY	7:50am-8:50am 8:00am-11:15am 12:30pm-1:00pm 1:00pm-6:00pm 6:15pm-8:15pm	LAP SWIM LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM RENTAL
SATURDAY	7:50am-8:50am 8:00am-11:00am 11:00am-11:30am 11:30am-6:00pm 6:15pm-8:15pm	LAP SWIM LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM RENTAL

\*Westchester Park District reserves the right to cancel, modify or restrict its schedule, or certain areas of the pool/facility due to mechanical complications, low attendance, staffing, undesirable weather, etc.

**DAILY ADMISSION RATES**

AGE	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
2yr & Up	\$8.00	\$11.00

**POOL RENTALS**

The sun is hot and the water is cool; a perfect time for a party at the pool! Are you looking for the best summer party place? Look to the Westchester Community Pool! Private rentals include the exclusive use of the swimming facility for you and your guests. Rentals are staffed with lifeguards and a Pool Manager. Pool amenities are available and the renter may bring in food to be served.

If you are interested in a pool rental, please call the Community Center Administrative Office for pricing and availability at 708.865.8200.

Rental Availability:  
Friday: 6:15pm - 8:15pm  
Saturday: 6:15pm - 8:15pm  
Sunday: 8:45am-10:45am or 6:15pm-8:15pm

2024 Season

**JUNE 1ST - SEPTEMBER 2ND**



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE [WWW.WDPARKS.ORG](http://WWW.WDPARKS.ORG)

**DON'T MISS OUT - STAY CONNECTED**



@WDPARKS



@WDPARKS



[WWW.WDPARKS.ORG](http://WWW.WDPARKS.ORG)



@WDPARKS













THE ONLINE VILLAGE CALENDAR IS CONSTANTLY UPDATED AND INCLUDES MANY MORE LIBRARY & PARK DISTRICT ACTIVITIES. PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE TO SEE ALL DETAILS!

# APRIL 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	01	02 VILLAGE BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - BUDGET WORKSHOP 6PM VILLAGE HALL	03 VILLAGE HALL DELAYED OPENING DUE TO SOFTWARE UPGRADES - WILL OPEN AT 10AM	04 GROW ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION MEETING 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	05	06 WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY DROPOFF DAY 9AM-11AM
07 NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 7-13 	08 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE 	09 D209 BOARD OF ED MEETING 5:30PM PROVISIO SCIENCE & MATH ACADEMY VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING 6PM VILLAGE HALL	10 WESTCHESTER SENIOR BINGO 11:15AM MAYFAIR REC CENTER	11	12 CELEBRATE WESTCHESTER 6PM ALPINE BANQUET HAUS	13 COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE 8AM-3PM WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY CENTER
14	15	16	17 VEHICLE STICKER SALE EXTENDED HOURS - VILLAGE HALL OPEN UNTIL 7PM	18	19 ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION 9:30AM WESTCHESTER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 	20 VEHICLE STICKER SALE SPECIAL HOURS - VILLAGE HALL OPEN 9AM TO 1PM SPRING SHRED EVENT 10AM-12PM 2305 ENTERPRISE DR WESTCHESTER BASEBALL PARADE 10AM
21 SPRING FLING ARTISAN MARKET 11AM WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY	22 EARTH DAY 	23 D209 BOARD OF ED MEETING 5:30PM PROVISIO WEST HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING, VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING 6PM VILLAGE HALL	24 VEHICLE STICKER SALE EXTENDED HOURS - VILLAGE HALL OPEN UNTIL 7PM ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY 	25 BROADVIEW-WESTCHESTER JOINT WATER AGENCY MEETING 10AM BROADVIEW VILLAGE HALL D92.5 BOARD OF ED MEETING 6PM WESTCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	26 ARBOR DAY	27 VEHICLE STICKER SALE SPECIAL HOURS - VILLAGE HALL OPEN 9AM TO 1PM
28	29	30 VEHICLE STICKER RATES INCREASE TOMORROW!				



Driveways | Garage Floors | Sidewalks | Steps  
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**ROCCO MARTINO**  
708-878-8547  
FinishingTouchCement2@gmail.com

**FOR ALL YOUR CONCRETE NEEDS!**

## VILLAGE HALL

### 2024/2025 Vehicle Sticker

Purchase Extended Hours of Operation:

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> until 7:00 pm.

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> until 7:00 pm.

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm





- Specialists with insurance claims
- Free storm damage inspections
- Licensed, Bonded, & Insured
- Roofing, Siding, & Gutters
- Westchester resident
- Divine Providence Parishioner



Scott Hopman  
773-655-8529



Giordano Manfredini  
708-363-6789

# The Importance of Smoke Alarms



**FIRE CHIEF MIKE MAVROGEORGE**

Smoke alarms save lives. Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. Here's what you need to know!

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home.

- Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.

- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.

- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.

- Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.

- When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.

- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.

Facts and figures about Smoke Alarms

- In 2014-2018, smoke alarms sounded in more than half (54%) of the home fires reported to U.S. fire departments.

- Almost three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms (41%) or no working smoke alarms (16%).

- The death rate per 1,000 reported home fires was more than twice as high in homes that did not have any working smoke alarms compared to the rate in homes with working smoke alarms (13.0 deaths vs. 5.8 deaths per 1,000 fires).

- In fires in which the smoke alarms were present but did not operate, two of every five (41%) of the smoke alarms had missing or disconnected batteries.

- Dead batteries caused one-quarter (26%) of the smoke alarm failures.

New Smoke Alarm Law in Illinois

Effective January 1, 2023, the updated law requires Illinois residents to replace their old smoke alarms with the type that has a long-term, 10-year sealed battery. This would

apply to residents that are still using alarms with removable batteries or alarms that are not hardwired.

What is the Updated Illinois Smoke Alarm Law?

- Since 1988, all dwellings in Illinois have been required to have smoke alarms

- In 2017, Public Act 100-0200 was passed to update the Illinois Smoke Detector Act to reflect advances in alarm technology

- As of January 1, 2023, any new smoke alarm being installed within a single or multi-family home are required to be featured with a 10-year sealed battery

- Smoke alarms in single or multi-family homes prior to January 1, 2023 may remain in place until they exceed 10 years from their manufactured date, fails to respond to operability tests, or otherwise malfunctions

Exemptions:

- Homes built after 1988 that already have hardwired smoke alarms

- Home with wireless integrated alarms that use low-power radio frequency communications, Wi-Fi, or other Wireless Local Area Networking capabilities

**Smoke Alarm Installation Program**

The Westchester Fire Department is proud to participate in the "Be Alarmed" program. "Be Alarmed!" is a fire safety education and smoke alarm installation program administered cooperatively between Camp I Am Me (CIAM) and the Office of the Illinois

State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The program distributes fire safety education materials and 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms to fire departments in the state of Illinois. The fire departments then deliver the education while installing smoke alarms in at-risk homes within their communities. Both the educational materials and smoke alarms are provided at no cost as a result of funding from both the CIAM and OSFM.

The program was developed to educate Illinois residents on the dangers of fire in the home and how to prevent fires from occurring in the home, as well as to ensure there are working smoke alarms properly installed in homes. By providing 10-year concealed battery smoke alarms, it ensures that the power source cannot be removed from the unit and, if properly maintained, will last the life of the device.

The program seeks to:

- Educate residents, young and old, on home fire safety and prevention methods,
- Reduce the number of fire-related injuries,
- Reduce the number of fire-related deaths, and

- Identify the reason for non-functioning smoke alarms in homes across the state.

If you are a Westchester resident and you do not have working smoke alarms in your home, please call Firefighter/Paramedic Brandon Basek at (708) 345-0433 or email [bbasek@westchester-il.gov](mailto:bbasek@westchester-il.gov).



## DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY? THE CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD (CAB) INVITES YOU TO BE PART OF OUR MISSION!

### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Citizens Advisory Board is to identify and address the needs, concerns, and aspirations of our residents by advocating on their behalf to the Village Board as well as promoting volunteerism to enhance the quality of life in our community.

### **Your Role:**

As a CAB member, you will collaborate with fellow residents to understand their priorities in enhancing the community. Your insights will shape our initiatives and advocacy efforts.

### **Time Commitment:**

Volunteer commitment includes regular monthly meetings along with additional occasional subcommittee meetings and volunteer activity assignments. Between meetings, you'll also need to research ideas and make plans related to our efforts.

### **Why Join?**

Make a tangible difference in your community.  
Collaborate with like-minded individuals.  
Amplify residents' voices and concerns.

**TO APPLY FOR THIS VOLUNTEER POSITION, PLEASE SEND LETTER OF INTEREST AND CURRENT RESUME TO [CAB@WESTCHESTER-IL.GOV](mailto:CAB@WESTCHESTER-IL.GOV)**



## LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

Interfaith Career Network offers **FREE** assistance  
Open to all!

**Thursday, April 18th from 7-9 pm**  
**ENERGIZE YOUR JOB SEARCH**  
**USING YOUR NEW LinkedIn PROFILE**  
**Denis Curtin, Presenter**

Your LinkedIn profile is the second most important job-hunting tool, next to your resume. Denis Curtin, LinkedIn Trainer & Coach, will focus on different ways to use this free tool to improve your job search. Denis will present methods you can apply to attract internal and external recruiters to your LinkedIn profile. Specific Do's and Don'ts will be discussed so you can quickly improve your LinkedIn profile. Techniques to hold the recruiter's attention on your profile will also be covered.

Denis Curtin is a LinkedIn Trainer and Coach who helps jobseekers and companies optimize their LinkedIn profiles. He has been assisting jobseekers at the Holy Family Job Support Group in Inverness for the past 26 years. As the former Director of Integration Services, he managed more than 100 computer technicians who configured 380,000 computers annually. He is the holder of his three U.S. Patents and nine foreign patents.

We look forward to seeing you at St. John of the Cross Parish Center,  
5005 Wolf Road in Western Springs. Everyone is welcome!

*Visit [www.interfaithcareernetwork.com](http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.com) for additional resources*





WESTCHESTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# NEWSLETTER

April 2024

## Solar Eclipse

April 8th | 1-3 PM

Join us to view the Eclipse or stop by to pick up your own viewing glasses! The peak will occur around 2:07pm. Glasses are available while supplies last, **limit 4 per family**.

## April Book Discussion

April 16th | 6:30 PM

Join us this month to read **Evil Eye** by **Etan Rum**. Books are available now at the front desk.

## April Adult Take-and-Make Craft

Spring is in the air! Stop by and pick up a beautiful cherry blossom craft while supplies last. One kit per person, available starting **April 15th**.

## Friday Movie Matinee

Fridays | 2 PM | Community Room

Must be 18+ to attend.

### April 5: Knives Out (2019)

A detective investigates the death of the patriarch of an eccentric, combative family. Starring Daniel Craig, Ana de Armas, Chris Evans, Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Shannon, Don Johnson, Toni Collette, LaKeith Stanfield, Katherine Langford, and Christopher Plummer.

### April 12: His Girl Friday (1940)

A newspaper editor uses every trick in the book to keep his ace reporter ex-wife from remarrying. Starring Cary Grant, Rosalind Russell, and Ralph Bellamy.

### April 19: WarGames (1983)

A young man finds a back door into a military central computer in which reality is confused with game-playing, possibly starting World War III. Starring Matthew Broderick, Ally Sheedy, and John Wood.

### April 26: O Brother, Where Art Thou? (2000)

In the deep south during the 1930s, three escaped convicts search for hidden treasure while a relentless lawman pursues them. Starring George Clooney, John Turturro, and Tim Blake Nelson.

### May 3: Harold and Maude (1971)

Young, rich, and obsessed with death, Harold finds himself changed forever when he meets lively septuagenarian Maude at a funeral. Starring Ruth Gordon, Bud Cort and Vivian Pickles.

## Drop-in Crochet Club

Biweekly Mondays, April 15 & 29 | 6 PM | Conference Room

Never crocheted before or want to work on a project in a friendly environment? Crafters of all levels can join our drop in crochet club! No registration is required, and materials are provided if you don't have your own. **Registration is not required, must be 18+.**

## Drop-in Knitting Club

Biweekly Wednesdays, April 10 & 24 | 6 PM | Conference Room

Calling all adult beginners! Join us as we unravel the world of knitting, one stitch at a time, and create cozy, handcrafted creations. No experience necessary and all materials will be provided! **Registration is not required, must be 18+.**

## Cicada-pocalypse NOW!

Thursday, April 18th | 6 PM | Community Room

Join Allen Lawrance, Associate Curator of Entomology from the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, to learn all you need to know about the rare double brood emergence this spring and summer! **Registration is required, this program is for all ages.**

## National Library Week 2024

Sunday, April 7th through Saturday, April 13th

Ready, Set, Library! Race to discover the possibilities we have to offer. Libraries give us a green light to something truly special: a place to connect with others, learn new skills, and focus on what matters most. Be sure to visit us on **Wednesday, April 10th** to enjoy a special treat!



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY • 10700 Canterbury Street • Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 • askus@westchesterpl.org • www.westchesterpl.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-8:00 pm; Friday-Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm; Sunday: Closed.

Library Director Fidencio Marbella • Board of Trustees John Lamberti-president, Elizabeth Hunter, Greg Christoff, Shannon Flint, Christine Kuffel, Darla Woods & Stephanie Pedersen • Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month 7 PM.

If special accommodations are required to attend a library program, please contact us at least seven days in advance.



## STORYTIME AT THE LIBRARY

### Magic Carpet Club with Miss Julie

Tuesdays | 4 PM | until April 23

Storytime and crafts for ages **kindergarten through second grade!** Sign up online at our website's calendar.

### Mother Goose on the Loose

Wed. & Th. | 10:15 AM | until April 25

Storytime and crafts for children **up to 5 years** of age! Registration is required. Sign up online at our website's calendar.

### Playdate Time!

Directly After Mother Goose on the Loose

Play dates aren't just for kids to socialize, but are also for caregivers to get together, chat, and share. Playdate Time at the library gives you the space and place to meet other families. Soft kid's music will be played along with a passive activity will be out for the week.

## Stop by the Prom Pop-Up Shop!

April, 6th | 2pm-4pm | Maywood Public Library

Find the perfect prom dress for FREE! Shop our Prom Pop-Up at the Maywood Public Library and complete your look with styling tips and tricks. This event will take place at the Maywood Public Library, located at 121 S. 5th Avenue, Maywood, Illinois.

## April Take-Home Craft

April 15 | Youth Department

Looking for something fun to do? Stop by the library and pick up everything you need to create a garden paper pot! While supplies last.

## Teen Volunteer Hours

Youth Department

Need volunteer hours? Don't wait until it's too late! Stop by the Youth Department to inquire about our limited number of Teen Volunteer positions, or call **708-652-3573 ext. 3** to find out more!

## YOUTH EVENTS

### Mario Mondays

Mondays | 4 PM | Youth Department

Zoom through the colorful world of

Mario Kart and show off your racing skills! This event is intended for patrons in 2nd grade+. **Registration is required.**

### Teen Print Lab

Tuesdays | 4 PM | Youth Department

Come learn how to use our 3D printers and create a project of your own!

**Registration required, limit 5 participants.**

### Smart Art with Miss Julie

Thursdays | 4 - 4:45 PM | until April 25th

Make new friends, learn new techniques, and take home your masterpieces as each week we'll be crafting something new. **Registration is required.**

### Open Sewing

April 20th | 10:30 - 12 PM | Youth Department

Do you need to finish a project for a special day? Do you have sewing machine experience but may need a bit of advice on how to proceed with your project? Sign up for Open Sewing. We provide the machines and the guidance if needed. These sessions are open to both kids 2nd grade+ and adults. **Everyone must have attended a class or has sewing machine experience.**



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## ENRICHMENT

### Aging Well In Westchester

The Westchester Aging Well Team invites you to join us for **FREE** monthly events to assist you in aging well!

#### WESTCHESTER Aging Well Team

The Westchester Aging Well Team is a group of volunteers working to make Westchester a great place to age well. Through a series of free informational programs, we help to promote lifelong wellness, support aging at home, raise awareness of available resources, provide a sense of community, and support healthy, informed, and safe aging.

##### DEI STATEMENT

Aging Care Connections is committed to building a diverse, equitable, inclusive, accessible, and supportive work environment that fosters a sense of belonging. We believe that individuals with a variety of lived experiences, backgrounds, and strengths who share a passion for helping older adults and those that support them, are essential to successfully serving our diverse communities.

##### ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Aging Care Connections does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in compliance with appropriate state and federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call (708) 354-1323.



aging care  
connections  
Because Aging Well Matters

### AGING WELL PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAYS ~ 11:15am-1:00pm

#### March 13 – Let's Plan Today for Peace of Mind Tomorrow

A panel discussion on Trusts, Wills, Estate Planning, Funeral Planning, and what you need to know for your 2023 tax filing

#### May 8 – Let's Get Growing! Spring Gardening Seminar

Future Programs: July 10, September 11, and November 13

Registration Preferred ~ Spaces are Limited

Contact Gia Marie Benline via email:  
giabenline@gmail.com

or call Alyson Scanlon at ACC: 708-603-2259

Seminars will be followed by a light lunch

### BINGO!

WEDNESDAYS ~ 11:15am-1:00pm

February 14, April 10, June 12,  
August 14, and October 9

Free snacks

**Where:** Mayfair Recreation Center  
10835 Wakefield St., Westchester, IL 60154

111 W. Harris Avenue | La Grange, IL 60525  
t: 708-354-1323 | f: 708-354-0282

e: info@agingcareconnections.org | AgingCareConnections.org

## BLOOD DRIVE

Hope springs  
eternal

DONATE  
BLOOD

Saturday  
April

13

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Helpful tip:  
Make sure to eat a healthy  
meal and drink plenty of  
water before donating.



\*NO PURCH. NEC. MI, OH, IL, IN, and WI residents only; 18+. Ends 4/21/24. Two separate weekly drawings. Enter by blood donation or online. See Official Rules at versiti.org/winboat for details. Sponsor: Versiti, Inc., 638 N. 18th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233.

### Westchester Community Blood Drive Westchester Park District

GYM - 10201 Bond St, Westchester, IL  
Appointments Preferred; Walk-in's Welcome!  
Please make your appointment @ 1-800-786-4483,  
online @ <http://tinyurl.com/y4fhwk83>  
or scan the QR Code



Donate and help local patients @ 85 Chicagoland & NW Indiana hospitals.

Donate blood and be entered for a chance to win a pontoon boat!\*



versiti  
Blood Center of IL & NW IN

### Attention teens to active seniors:

Dates: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month starting May through November. Meet at 11 AM.  
2024 Dates are: 5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/20 and 11/17/24 weather permitting.

Please join us as we explore the woodland trail to observe both the flora and fauna of the woodlands surrounding Salt Creek. Meet at Bemis Woods North. Park by bridge and meet by the Trail Map.

Sponsored by:



Visit <https://fotfp.org/events> for more information and to sign up. Will take groups up to 20 individuals. Note: Friends of the Forest Preserves is a non-profit group working with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. Your guide is a lifelong amateur naturalist and volunteer at the FPDCC and with Friends.

12

Westchester Aging Well Team Presents

# WESTCHESTER SENIOR BINGO

2

COME AND ENJOY FREE BINGO, LIGHT SNACKS, & GREAT COMPANY!

GAME! PRIZES! FUN!

14

3

WEDNESDAYS

APRIL 10, JUNE 12, AUG.14, OCT.9

11:15-1:00PM

6

MAYFAIR RECREATION CENTER

10835 WAKEFIELD

WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

9

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gia Marie Benline

312-646-8887

7



# Let's Talk About the War on Drugs

It is expected that Fentanyl will remain the leading cause of narcotics-related deaths in the U.S. in 2024, according to the documented reports received from Law Enforcement agencies across the United States. The reports also note that illegal drugs impact American communities by "supporting violent criminal enterprises, money laundering and corruption and numerous other crimes that undermine the rule of law."

In 2023 the overdose death rate topped 12,000 in a 12-month period for the first time, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Most of these deaths were young adults who had a close friend that led them down the road of addiction.

In 2023, the DEA seized more than 78.4 million Fentanyl-laced fake pills and nearly 12,000 pounds of Fentanyl powder. The 2023 seizures are equivalent to more than 388.8 million lethal doses of fentanyl.

With new drugs entering our country in various forms, it's critical that we stay vigilant and educate our children about the dangers they face. Even legal medications, when abused, can be as dangerous as street drugs. If there's ever a moment to have a heart-to-heart with our kids about the dangers of taking drugs or any kind of medicine from friends, it's now! They need to understand the real risks involved—one small, toxic pill could tragically end their life, leaving their family in anguish, trying to piece together what went wrong and how it could have been prevented. As parents, our job is tougher than ever with the prevalence of peer pressure, social media, and a wide array of drugs readily available



on the streets, on the internet, and in medicine cabinets. It's our responsibility to educate ourselves and our children about these dangers.

Heroin is particularly difficult to quit, even more so when it's mixed with substances like cocaine, methamphetamines, and Fentanyl. Methamphetamine is a drug many turn

to for its ability to keep you awake and alert for extended periods. However, it's produced using highly flammable chemicals and leads to severe side effects such as tooth decay, weight loss, and an intense craving for more. These drugs are immensely dangerous.

In closing, we must all do our best to shield our children from those who

see them as nothing more than an opportunity for profit. Learning about different drugs and the signs of drug use is crucial in protecting our loved ones.

Stay Safe,  
Chief Daniel Babich

## WESTCHESTER POLICE BLOTTER

24-00588

02/23/2024 8:56 PM

**AGGRAVATED**

**DOMESTIC BATTERY WESTCHESTER, IL**

45 year old man from Westchester finds himself charged in Cook County Circuit Court with one count of Aggravated Assault following an incident. Elvis A Pena, 45, was taken into custody, processed and then transported to the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood for a bond hearing.

24-00614

02/25/2024 6:54 PM

**AGGRAVATED UNLAWFUL  
USE OF WEAPON**

**10300 BLK ROOSEVELT RD**

WPD units were dispatched to 10345 Roosevelt Road in reference to a subject sleeping in the back seat of a ride share.

Officers attempted to wake the individual and discovered a firearm on him. The subject was also discovered to be wearing an electronic monitoring device. Jarail Walker, 18, Chicago, was charged with one count of Felony Aggravated Unlawful use of Weapon. Walker was taken into custody, processed and then transported to the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood for a bond hearing.

24-00622

02/26/2024 5:04 PM

**TRAFFIC STOP**

**1400 BLK BALMORAL AVE**

30 year old man from Westchester finds himself charged in Cook County Circuit Court with one count of Aggravated Assault following an incident. Michael Doyle, 30, Westchester, was taken into custody, processed and then transported to the

4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood for a bond hearing.

24-00634

02/27/2024 4:12 PM

**TRAFFIC STOP**

**MANNHEIM RD & GLADSTONE ST**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. Manuel Mejorado, 32, Chicago was cited for Expired Registration and Driving with No Valid Drivers License. Mejorado was issued a citation and Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

24-00655

02/28/2024 4:31 PM

**TRAFFIC STOP**

**CERMAK RD & NORFOLK AVE**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction.

Jhuan Rodriguez, 34, Schaumburg, was cited for No Valid Registration, and No Valid Proof of Insurance.

Rodriguez was issued a citation and Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

24-00658

02/28/2024 4:38 PM

**TRAFFIC STOP 3**

**1ST ST & WOLF RD**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. Juanniel Cantillo, 22, Cicero, was cited for No Valid Drivers License, and Speeding. Cantillo was issued a citation and Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.



## POLISH DAVE'S LOCAL LAWN

30 years in business, owner does work & lives in Westchester  
offering free estimates & senior discounts

WEEKLY LAWN SERVICE, SOD, MULCH, PAVER PATIOS & SIDEWALKS,  
SPRING/FALL CLEAN-UPS, BUSH TRIMMING, GUTTER CLEANING

MENTION THIS AD & RECEIVE 10% OFF ANY SERVICE

Contact Dave at 708-256-8712



## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Westchester on April 23, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at Village of Westchester Village Hall, located at 10300 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, Illinois, 60154, to consider the Village's annual appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024 and ending April 30, 2025.

**YOU ARE HEREBY** invited to attend said public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard or to submit written testimony in respect to an issue pertaining to the annual appropriation ordinance, or any line item therein contained. A copy of the annual appropriation ordinance will be available for examination or copying during normal business hours in the office of the Village Clerk, Village of Westchester Village Hall, 10300 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, Illinois 60154, no later than ten days before the public hearing. After the public hearing and before final action is taken on the annual appropriation ordinance, the Board of Trustees may revise, alter, increase or decrease any line item contained in the annual appropriation ordinance. The annual appropriation ordinance may be adopted at any time after the public hearing.

In the event of questions, please contact Sophia Collins, Village Clerk, Village of Westchester, 10300 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, Illinois 60154 or at (708) 345-0020.

# Your rehab journey awaits at our newly remodeled facility.

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WESTCHESTER





# Proviso Handyman department

## April 2024

Spring is just around the corner! Do you need to replace your drapes?

Do you need blinds repaired or new ones installed? Repair or install hand rails

Give our Handyman office a call to schedule an appointment or to register for our program

**Call 708-547-4001**

The Proviso Township Handyman Program serves homeowners over the age of 60 and disabled homeowners who are residents of Proviso Township



**Bellwood · Berkeley · Broadview · Brookfield · Forest Park · Hillside ·  
LaGrange Park · Maywood · Melrose Park · North Riverside · Northlake  
· Stone Park · Westchester · Western Springs**

**+ Only Homeowners within the boundaries of the Proviso Township+**

**Michael A. Corrigan**  
Supervisor

**Anthony “Tony” Williams**

Clerk

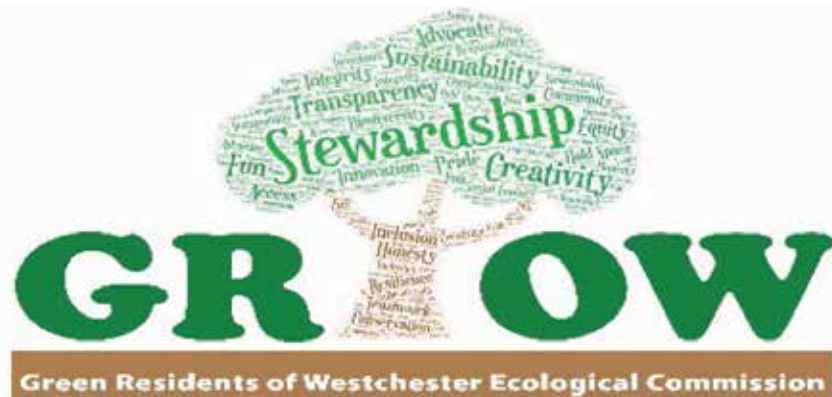
**Steven J. Zawaski**

Assessor

**Evelyn Chavez · Joseph Christopher · Gay F. Chase · Clarence E Thomas**

Trustees





## Electric Lawn Equipment is Up to the Task

Gas-powered lawn care equipment is commonly used but comes with an array of issues such as air and noise pollution. Now imagine instead that on a warm Sunday afternoon, you are napping in your hammock when your neighbor decides to mow & trim their lawn, with their Electric Lawn Equipment. As you doze you notice a soft whirring hum that blends tunefully with birdsong & the buzzing of insects. You notice the pleasant smell of fresh mowed grass, sweet and earthy with a slight hint of peat, as your dreams drift along with the cool breeze.

maintenance is considerably less with electric equipment.

Electric lawn equipment is far quieter than gasoline powered versions and produces less vibration making it healthier and safer to use. Pushing around a loud and smelly mower turns a lovely day into an ecological disaster.



**My 20 plus year-old Black & Decker Electric Mower still runs like a champ. Also yes, the yellow slide is attached to the deck.**



**Time to switch to a new generation of clean, quiet electric lawn equipment.**

Electric lawn equipment is easy to find at major hardware retailers. Retailers offer dozens of options for electric mowers, trimmers, leaf blowers, chainsaws, and other types of equipment. I recommend that you choose one brand, so that batteries will be interchangeable with different devices, including drills, circular saws, flashlights, etc.

Electric lawn equipment is comparable in quality and performance to gasoline-powered equipment, with typical equipment performing better on some metrics and worse on others in product testing. Certainly,

Personally, my family has been using an electric mower for over 20 years. We have replaced the battery once. The device has NO rust, with the only issue being a wheel that falls off, because of bad design. As you can see above it is rather modern in appearance. It is quiet and has ZERO emissions. We keep our grass somewhat long and thick where it is not heavily shaded, which makes it more durable & healthier. Mulching also helps to keep the lawn strong & saves a great deal of time. Our String Trimmer or “Weed Wacker,” is part of a family of tools that includes a hedge trimmer,

drill, circular saw & a second mower that weighs about ¼ the weight of the Black & Decker. Many other power tools are available & all use the same batteries. This simplifies my life.

I like to read the headlines and found the following headlines in a document entitled “Lawn Care Goes Electric” published by: Environment America Research & Policy Center

- “Gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment is noisy and dirty.”
- “Pollution from gasoline-powered lawn equipment threatens our health and the climate.”
- “Noise and vibration from gasoline-powered lawn equipment are irritating and unhealthy.”
- “Lawn and garden equipment produces as much pollution as tens of millions of cars.”
- “Electric lawn equipment is effective and affordable”

Our home gardens & yards are places that we can develop far beyond having a nice lawn. The GROW committee encourages homeowners to consider removing areas of grass & replacing them with wildflowers

or vegetable gardens, as well as fruit trees & berry plants. This not only makes your lawn less work & more interesting, but helps with water infiltration, as well as producing food that is fresh and healthful.

Electric lawn equipment is up to the task & good for our environment, our health, and our neighbors. I encourage you to consider your choices and how these can effect change for the better.

### Easy tips to reduce Air Pollution:

- Take short trips on foot or by bicycle.
- Carpool whenever possible, this makes the commute more fun, and functional.
- Use Public Transit. Do you know we can get to either airport using the #330 Mannheim Road PACE bus from Westchester?
- Use less power, turn off the lights, setback thermostats both winter & summer.
- Think about your consumption habits...

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss Electric Lawn Care Equipment or any of the topics in this or any other of my articles via email: LKaufman@westchester-il.gov.







WESTCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*"We mean business."*



*You are all invited to attend the Westchester Chamber's 2024 Celebrate Westchester event!*

## *"Good Ole Rock 'n' Roll"*

*When: Friday, April 12, 2024*

*Time: Cocktails at 6pm*

*Where: Alpine Banquet Haus*

*Dinner at 7pm*

*11141 Roosevelt Road*

*Price: \$75 / person*

*Westchester, IL*

**Please register online!**

To register, scan the QR code or go to

<https://bit.ly/CelebrateWC24>

You can also pay online or at the door with cash or by check.



SCAN ME



*"Great things in business  
are never done by one person  
They're done by a team of people"*



Managing Broker  
Laura  
Catrambone-Gerace



Marta  
Besson



Amanda  
Herhold



Marie Iacono



Lester  
Panek



Nicholas  
Sotiropoulos



Dawn  
Hamous



Efren  
Loera



Anna  
Caira



Theresa  
Gerace



Stephanie  
Frailey



Gina  
Knight



Nancy  
Murillo



Nick Pontarelli

**COLDWELL BANKER  
STRATFORD PLACE**

10555 Cermak Rd  
Westchester, IL 60154  
708-562-4900





**BEST**

# HAPPY HOUR

**IN TOWN**

**WESTCHESTER**  
10261 W. ROOSEVELT RD  
708-397-5100

**WESTMONT**  
15 W. OGDEN AVE  
331-903-5342

**AnnasPlaceCafe.com**



## FOOD SPECIALS • DINE-IN ONLY



## WEEKEND SPECIALS!

**FRIDAY • 4PM - 7PM**  
DRINKS & APPETIZERS 1/2 PRICE  
All Well Drinks | All Beer | All Wines  
  
\$1.90 DOMESTIC BEERS

**SATURDAY • 4PM - 7PM**  
DRINKS & APPETIZERS 1/2 PRICE  
All Well Drinks | All Beer | All Wines  
  
TITO'S: \$5 | KETEL ONE: \$5 | GREY GOOSE: \$5.75  
  
\$1.90 DOMESTIC BEERS



**PLAY SLOTS HERE!**  
**WIN BIG!**  
**WIN CASH!**

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UNIVERSAL GAMING GROUP

We're a proud  
My Player Perks  
location!

**my  
PLAYER  
PERKS**



Scan with your phone's  
camera to join for free

1

Check in at the kiosk  
or on the mobile app

2

Earn reward points  
every hour you play

3

Redeem points for  
valuable prizes

**FAMILY-OWNED  
AND  
OPERATED**



# FIELDS®

## WESTCHESTER REAL ESTATE



### GET READY, SET, **SOLD!**

Whether you're looking to sell now or this summer, it's never too early to prep your home for sale.

Let's **get ready** first by sprucing things up. Next, we'll **set the stage** by decluttering and depersonalizing which will make today's buyer feel right at home. Finally, our creative gurus will put together compelling marketing collateral to get your home **sold for top dollar**.

LET'S **PLAN YOUR MOVE** TODAY.

### MARKET UPDATE

WESTCHESTER | LAST 30 DAYS

<b>19</b> Homes for Sale	<b>20</b> Homes Under Contract
<b>\$505,000</b> High Sale Price	<b>\$260,000</b> Low Sale Price
<b>\$366,506</b> Average Sales Price	<b>\$355,000</b> Median Sales Price
<b>21</b> Closed Sales	<b>68 Days</b> Average Market Time

Data provided by MRED LLC. for Single Family Homes on 03/10/2024 for 30 day period.

WESTCHESTER | LA GRANGE | WESTERN SPRINGS | HINSDALE | OAK BROOK | DOWNERS GROVE



GET MOVING WITH **STEVEN** TODAY.

**STEVEN MAAS**

REAL ESTATE BROKER

630.202.9570

stevenmaas@fieldsre.com

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SCAN



**WESTCHESTER**  
HOMES / MARKET

**FIELDSRE.COM**

FIELDS REAL ESTATE 700 COMMERCE DR SUITE 500 OAK BROOK IL 60523 630 468 0750 FIELDSRE.COM



# SPRING SHRED & RECYCLE EVENT

**APRIL 20 - 10 A.M. TO NOON**  
**2305 ENTERPRISE DR., WESTCHESTER**

## PAPER SHREDDING

All unwanted paperwork will be accepted. Remove paper clips, binder clips, and rubber bands.

## ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Most household electronics will be accepted. Limit one television per household. Visit [www.westchester-il.org](http://www.westchester-il.org) for full list of accepted items.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKEBACK

Pills only - liquid meds and sharps will not be accepted. Collection is anonymous, bottles with identifying information will be destroyed.



**NO COST TO PARTICIPATE.**

**WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY  
WILL BE ON-SITE COLLECTING  
MONETARY & NON-PERISHABLE  
FOOD DONATIONS!**





# PUBLIC WORKS

Village branch collection for April will be the week of the 1st - 5th

May's collection will be the week of May 6th – 10th

June's collection will be the week of June 3rd – 7th

The Public Works Department will collect branches the first full working week of every month (April-November)

- All brush must be put out on the front parkway by 7:00 a.m. on the designated pickup day. Branches can be up to 7 feet 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.
  - Again, please put ALL brush out on your designated pickup day and Public Works crews will determine what constitutes an open load, which will be picked up later in the week.
  - An open load would include any brush that will not fit through the chipper such as logs, stumps, and large limbs. These must be cut for one man to lift. Dirt must be removed from any root balls for pickup.
  - Public Works Crews will only pass through a designated pickup area once due to time, scheduling, and other workload responsibilities.
- Landscapers & tree services are responsible for their own brush disposal.

**Please note the following schedule for branch pickup:**

MONDAY: From Mannheim Rd west to Wolf Rd and from Canterbury St south to Windsor Dr-including both sides of Windsor Dr. Also Waterford, Waverly, Camelot and Concord.

TUESDAY: Roosevelt Rd south to Cermak Rd-from Gardner Rd west to Mannheim Rd.

WEDNESDAY: From Roosevelt Rd north to the expressway and from Gardner Rd west to Mannheim Rd. Also, Roosevelt Rd south to Canterbury St from Haase Ave west to Heidorn Ave.

THURSDAY: From Bellevue Ave west to Wolf Rd, Martindale Dr south to 31st Street.

Weekly yard waste collection by Waste Management will begin on your first regular collection day in April.

- Waste Management – 1-800-796-9696
- If your garbage or recycling was not

picked up on your regular day, please call Waste Management directly to report a missed collection.

- If you would like to request a new garbage or recycling receptacle, please call Waste Management directly.
- If you have large items that will not fit in your receptacle (couch, chair, table, etc.,) please call Waste Management directly to schedule a large item collection.

The Waste Management’s “At Your Door Special Collection” service will pick up unwanted-potentially hazardous and hard-to-recycle items from your home.

That phone number is 1-800-449-7587.

The full list of items may be found at [www.wmatyourdoor.com/residential](http://www.wmatyourdoor.com/residential).

**Street Parking Restrictions**  
As of April 1st snow parking restrictions are lifted and street maintenance parking restrictions go into effect. Please check the signs at the ends of your block or check the Village website so you don't receive a ticket!

**Westchester's Tree Replacement Program**

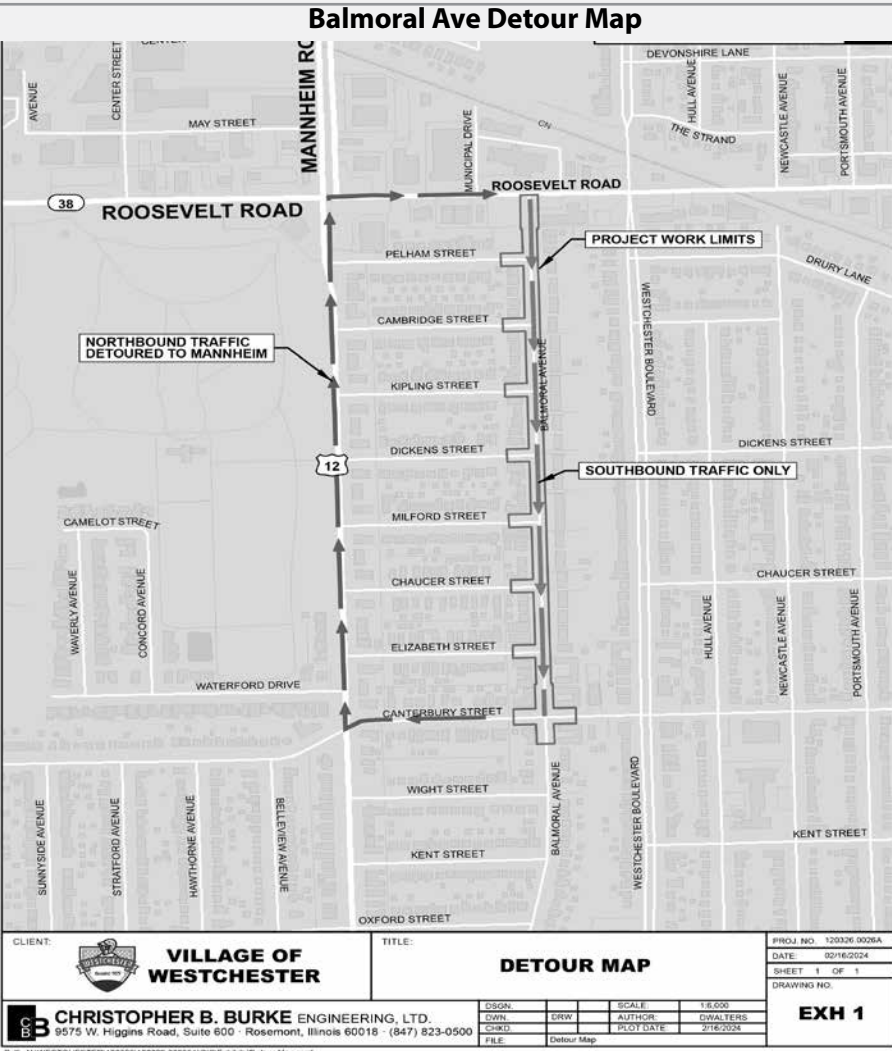
The Village has been planting trees on eligible parkways at no cost to the resident. This replacement program does not allow for residents to choose the species of tree planted, the location, the number of trees planted, nor are residents able to opt-out of having a tree planted in the Village parkway in front and/or side of their residence. Please call Public Works if you would like to request a tree be planted sooner rather than later in a parkway.

If you would prefer to choose the species of the tree to be planted, this can be achieved through the 50/50 program. The resident can choose the tree from a list provided by the Village, and shares half of the cost of the tree and planting with the Village. To request a 50/50 tree, please call the Public Works Department at 708.345.0041.

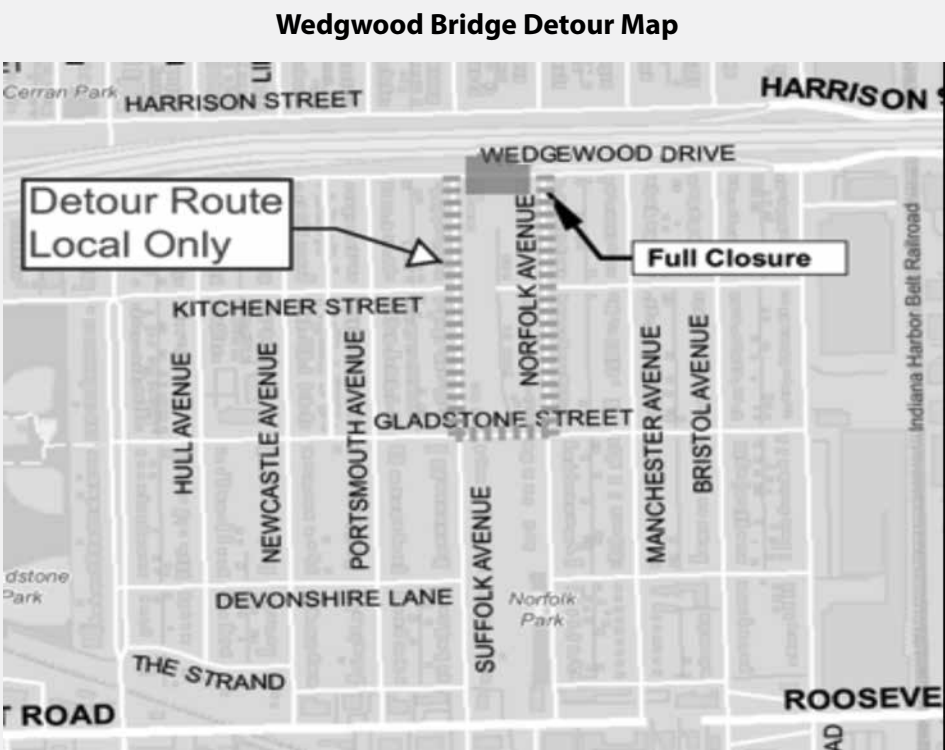
Reminder: As always, residents are asked to call Public Works at 708.345.0041 if an unusual amount of water is visible in the street or parkway. This could be a main break or water leak that requires our immediate attention. If after 3:30pm M-F & on weekends and holidays, please call police non-emergency at 708.345.0060.

**Construction News**

- Balmoral Ave. from Canterbury St. to Roosevelt Rd. is currently under construction for water main replacement with street reconstruction to follow.



- Wedgwood Dr. Bridge will be closed between Suffolk Ave and Norfolk Ave. for replacement. The anticipated construction dates are May 15th 2024 through September 15th 2024.





# PUBLIC WORKS

- In-House Street Paving Phase I will occur in June on Manchester Ave between Canterbury St and Drury Lane, and on Suffolk Ave between Drury Lane and Dickens St
- In-House Street Paving Phase II will occur in September on Bellevue Ave between Windsor Dr and Preston St, and on Carlisle St between Sunnyside Ave and Mayfair Ave
- 2024 Street Resurfacing Program

Street	From	To
Boeger Ave.	Cermak Rd.	Wakefield St.
Martindale Dr.	Windsor Dr.	Windsor Dr.
Sherwood Ave.	Boeger Ave.	Cermak Rd.
Kensington Ave.	Windsor Dr.	Cermak Rd.
Fairfield St.	Sunnyside Ave.	Kensington Ave.
Newbury St.	Sunnyside Ave.	Fairfield St.
Kensington Ave.	Fleet St.	Wakefield St.

- Alley Reconstruction

ALLEY BETWEEN	FROM	TO
Suffolk Ave.	Portsmouth Ave.	N. Roosevelt Alley
Portsmouth Ave.	Newcastle Ave.	N. Roosevelt Alley
Hull Ave.	Westchester Blvd.	Devonshire St.
Hull Ave.	Westchester Blvd.	The Strand
Cromwell Ave	Balmoral Ave.	Kitchener St.
Portsmouth Ave.	Newcastle Ave.	Gladstone St.
Newcastle Ave.	Portsmouth Ave.	Devonshire St.
Portsmouth Ave.	Suffolk Ave.	Devonshire St.
Westchester Blvd.	Railroad	Roosevelt Rd.
Pelham St.	Dead End	Roosevelt Rd.
Westchester Blvd.	Hull Ave.	Chaucer St.
Just North of 31 <sup>st</sup> St.	Buckingham Ave.	Sunnyside Ave.
Just North of 31 <sup>st</sup> St.	Kensington Ave.	Downing Ave.
Just North of 31 <sup>st</sup> St.	Mayfair Ave.	Kensington Ave.
Just North of 31 <sup>st</sup> St.	Bedford St.	Dead End



WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



WET NOSE PANTRY



# Spring Fling Artisan Market

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

FREE ADMISSION

11AM - 4PM

FUN RAFFLES

1938 S. MANNHEIM RD, WESTCHESTER IL

*Featuring all women-owned businesses:*

LUXE LYTE VIBE LLC  
DESIGN WITH MILLIE  
GRETA'S CARAMELS\*  
GRASSROOTS GARDEN GROUP  
XOTICA BOUTIQUE LLC\*  
MARCIA'S MARVELOUS MATERIALS  
YOUR BIRTH WRIGHT\*  
MARBELLA BOWTIQUE\*

SEW BEARY NICE  
KRISPIES  
NANNY LOVE  
LANAY MAY  
IFE TETE  
MAS CAKES  
PLANT BABIES\*  
CRAFTED BY SHEILA\*  
AND MORE!

\* NEW THIS YEAR TO  
THE ARTISAN MARKET!





# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT!

## Sha-Poppin' Gourmet Popcorn

Her dream started with a bowl of popcorn and the iconic Julia Child. At just 9 years old, Stacy H. Armstrong found herself mesmerized by Julia Child on the television in her living room, crafting brandy-flavored popcorn right on the stove. Inspired, Stacy thought, "If Julia can do it, why can't I?" And just like that, she did. Her brothers' enthusiasm for her delectable creations steered her towards her passion for crafting gourmet popcorn.

Cooking always intrigued Stacy, yet it was popcorn that truly captured her heart. Starting modestly with a few corporate events and some online orders, she soon found her niche. Stacy's flavor repertoire expanded, and so did her business, attracting attention for baby showers, birthdays, weddings, and even from customers across state lines and abroad. Stacy attributes the growth of her business to the powerful word-of-mouth endorsements, but it was her relentless drive and dedication that led her to operate out of a small commercial kitchen in Chicago. Her ambition didn't stop there; Stacy's popcorn reached people across the U.S., Spain, Germany, and several other countries, even garnering purchases from giants like Sony and Cartoon Network. Despite her success, Stacy dreamt of opening a brick-and-mortar store where customers could immerse themselves in the enchanting aroma of freshly popped popcorn. As a proud resident of Westchester, she was determined to contribute to and be supported by her local community.

In 2018, Stacy opened her first storefront at the

northeast corner of Mannheim and Roosevelt, overcoming numerous challenges including the difficult task of securing a business loan. The gourmet popcorn venture was funded through personal savings and sheer perseverance. However, the COVID-19 pandemic posed a significant threat shortly after opening. Undeterred, Stacy continued to adapt and grow. By 2023, Stacy found a new home for her business at 1917 S Mannheim Road, thanks to the support of local leaders.

Sha-Poppin' began with 15 popcorn flavors and has since exploded to over 130, ranging from the classic movie theater butter to the inventive peach cobbler. Stacy's creativity knows no bounds, often experimenting with new seasonings in the middle of the night. With such a vast array of flavors, Sha-Poppin' ensures there's something for everyone. Beyond popcorn, the shop offers ice cream and recently introduced Coca-Cola products. Customers can also support the Sha-Poppin' brand by purchasing merchandise like branded mugs, t-shirts, and water bottles. The shop's annual "El Diablo Challenge" dares customers to consume a bowl of Stacy's spiciest popcorn in 10 minutes, a task so intense that gloves are required! Among the myriad of flavors, the 24-karat gold popcorn stands out, boasting real gold flakes, vanilla bourbon caramel, and aged imported salt. As real gold is used, this flavor can be more costly than others, but those who buy it say the specialty packaging and the uniqueness of the flavor make it well worth it!



Stacy's passion extends beyond popcorn; she is deeply committed to her community, shopping locally and engaging with fellow business owners. She mentors young employees, teaching them valuable life and work skills through initiatives like "Motivating Mondays" and "Skills for Life." Inspired by her mother's lifelong dedication to community service, volunteering and feeding the homeless, Stacy feels a profound duty to give back. In Stacy's words, "It takes a village to make it happen." We are so glad Stacy and Sha-Poppin' have chosen Westchester to be that

Village, all thanks to Julia Child and a batch of brandy popcorn.

### Business Information:

Sha-Poppin Gourmet Popcorn  
Stacy Hawkins Armstrong, Owner  
1917 S. Mannheim Road,  
Westchester, IL 60154  
Phone: 877-SHAPOP1 (877-742-7671)  
Email: Sha-poppin@outlook.com  
Web: [www.sha-poppinggourmetpopcorn.com](http://www.sha-poppinggourmetpopcorn.com)  
Facebook: ShapoppinGourmetPopcorn

# WPTC news and notes

March sure flew by! We are all enjoying the warmer temperatures and longer days. April is sure to be another fun-filled month as we round out the school year.

Last month we had our WPTC meeting in the WIS cafeteria, it is a wonderful opportunity to hear about what exciting things our students have been doing and what they will be doing in the future. All are welcome to attend. Our last and final meeting for the school year will be May 1st at 6pm in the WIS cafeteria.

March's restaurant fundraisers at Wendy's and Giordano's were a success. Thank you to all who ditched the pots and pans for the night, and supported our schools.

Students at WPS and WMS enjoyed a popcorn day in March, and WIS will have their popcorn day in April!

April kicked off with our POP

fundraiser! Students will have an opportunity to win some amazing prizes while they are raising money for their schools!

The spring book fair is back this month, students at WIS will be able to purchase books April 3rd and 4th, WPS will have theirs April 23rd and 24th.

Parents and Pastries will be held at WPS April 25th during their open house from 5:00-7:00 pm.

We will also be having two restaurant fundraisers this month. One at Mattone's restaurant and another at Jimmy John's. Come on out and support our schools.

Our last WMS School Store will be in April. Dates will be announced on our Facebook page and announcements are made during school to remind the students.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!



### **Important Dates:**

WIS Book Fair: April 3 and 4  
WPS Book Fair: April 23 and 24  
April 11- Mattone's Restaurant  
April 22- Jimmy John's  
Please continue to check our Facebook page and website for any

updates!

[www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com](http://www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/WPTC92.5>

You can also reach the WPTC via email at [wptc925@gmail.com](mailto:wptc925@gmail.com).



WHERE YOUR  
DAILY JOURNEY  
BEGINS & ENDS

NOW OPEN!

# AVIATOR

COFFEE & COCKTAILS

## HOURS

SUNDAY-THURSDAY

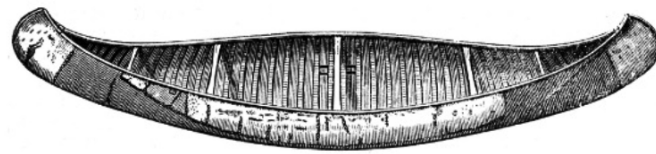
6:30AM-9PM

FRIDAY-SATURDAY

6:30AM-10PM







*Louis Jolliet*  
A SOLID PATH THROUGH WATER

A One-Act Play

Presenter and Author: Jim Healy

**Sunday – April 14, 2024**

**1-3 pm**

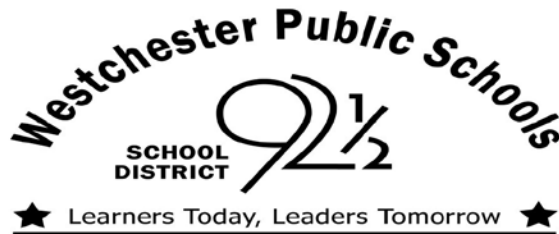
**Wolf Road Prairie House**

**11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester**



2023 was the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the expedition of Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette down the Mississippi, which dramatically affected the lives of both those coming to America and those already here. It's an exciting story of exploration, but also of encounter. **Louis Jolliet: A Solid Path Through Water** will offer a connection both to our past and to some of the questions which still confront us.





## A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we transition from the winter season into the beginning of Spring, we are reminded of the importance of renewal and embracing change. With this in mind, I would like to highlight some events taking place throughout the month:

### Academic Focus:

- Our teachers continue to dedicate themselves to providing enriching and engaging learning experiences for all students. I encourage parents to communicate openly with teachers to support their child's academic progress.

### Standardized Testing:

- In accordance with Illinois state guidelines, standardized testing will be conducted during March for students in applicable grades (3rd through 8th). These assessments provide valuable insights into student growth and help us tailor our educational approaches to meet the diverse needs of our learners.

### Spring Break:

- Spring Break is from March 18th through March 22nd. This is the perfect time for a brief break to re-energize for the last part of the year. No matter your plans, I hope you get to spend time together as a family.

Parents and guardians in District 92.5 who have not yet completed the Illinois 5Essentials Survey still have an opportunity to complete the survey. This survey allows current parents/guardians to share thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness.

The Board of Education recently approved the 2024-2025 school year calendar. You can find a copy in the Principal's weekly messages or on our District website.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email at [psalemi@sd925.org](mailto:psalemi@sd925.org) or by cell at 708-670-1927. Don't forget to check out our YouTube channel for recordings of our monthly Board meetings. Have a great April!

Sincerely,  
Philip Salemi, Ed.D.



## Westchester Primary School

Westchester Primary Students were challenged to earn "Shamrock for Safety" in March by following Dolphin Pride Expectations: Be Ready, Be Caring, Be Safe. Students read and listened to books that encouraged safety and received paper shamrocks to hang in our entryway. One or two students in every homeroom were chosen to wear a shamrock medal each day and be the class role model for the day. In addition to promoting safety, good attendance has been a focus at WPS. Research shows that students with 97% attendance have great success in college, and those with attendance below 95% (9 or more days of absence in a year) may not be prepared for future learning. To promote good attendance, WPS will use incentives for individual students, classrooms, and the whole school each month.

WPS is proud to announce that Mia L., a first grader, was the Illinois State Board of Education Art Contest first place winner! The theme this year was "I Wonder." Mia's artwork will be displayed at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield until August. Congratulations, Mia!



WPS celebrated Read Across America from March 1st through March 7th. During this week, we moved the focus from Dr. Seuss Week to its intended purpose – encouraging students to **celebrate reading**. Rather than focusing on one author, we explored diverse texts from multiple writers. Each day at WPS, students participated in fun activities to celebrate Read Across America. We kicked off the week with Mystery Readers from our Westchester and School District Community. The Westchester Parents and Teachers for Children (WPTC) provided popcorn to celebrate reading and the end of the second trimester. The week ended with a Read In Classroom Event for all students.

**Attention all families with children that will be five years old on or before September 1, 2024!** Kindergarten Registration begins on April 8, 2024! Westchester Primary School will hold Kindergarten Pre-Registration online for the 2024-2025 school year. Please visit our school district website at <https://www.sd925.org/> and follow the following menu path:

1. Click on the "Registration" tab
2. Click on the "Kindergarten" tab

This is the first step in enrolling your child for kindergarten starting this fall. After reviewing your form, you will receive a notice to sign up for the kindergarten screening held this year on May 25th. In early July, you will receive information in the mail to complete the online registration/residency verification process and pay fees. Here is the Checklist for Pre-Registration:

1. Complete the Kindergarten Enrollment Form
2. Email both of the following items to [gchayka@sd925.org](mailto:gchayka@sd925.org)
  - A. Email a copy of your child's official birth certificate. A child must be five (5) years old on or before September 1, 2024.
  - B. Email a state or government-issued photo ID with your name and current address.

Please note that all items (completed enrollment form, ID, and birth certificate) must be received to process pre-registration.

**Kindergarten Screenings** and parent tours will be held at WPS by appointment on Thursday, May 16, 2023, from 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM for pre-registered students. Both a parent and pre-registered child must attend the screening. Please check our website for more information or contact the School Office at 708-562-1509.



## Westchester Intermediate School

April was a busy month at WIS. We were able to bring back Science Night where we had presentations from students, parents demonstrating their careers, and special presentation from Mr. Freeze. We hosted our Talent Show as well. It was great to see our students show off their talents to a packed house of parents and family. We had martial artists, dancers, singers, and musicians demonstrating their skills for all of us. It takes courage to stand up in front of everyone like that. I'm very proud of our kiddos.

We have completed our state mandated testing for the year. We took the Illinois Assessment for Readiness just before spring break and our 5th Graders took the Illinois Science Assessment as well. Later this spring we will finish up with our third round of benchmarking to assess how our students achieved through this school year. We are looking forward to seeing our results after a great year of instruction.

We will have a Chorus Concert and Fourth Grade Fine Arts Fest soon. Then finish up in May with our spring Band Concert. This time of year is always busy for our students as outside activities pick up as well. We will continue to focus on keeping our students focused on their learning and continuous growth.

We are looking forward to finishing out the school year with great learning experiences and success.

Go Huskies!

We want to give a big congratulations to our Black History Month art and essay contest winners. Each student was tasked with writing an essay or creating an art project highlighting the theme, "Celebrating the Achievements of African American Illinoisans." Students were encouraged to write or create artwork about an African American Illinoisan who has had an impactful and inspiring effect on our state and whose story should be shared. The goal was to celebrate the contributions of African Americans from Illinois and those making a difference in the state today. We are very proud of this year's winner and runner-up award winner. I have included a picture of our winners below.

### **This year's grand prize winner is:**

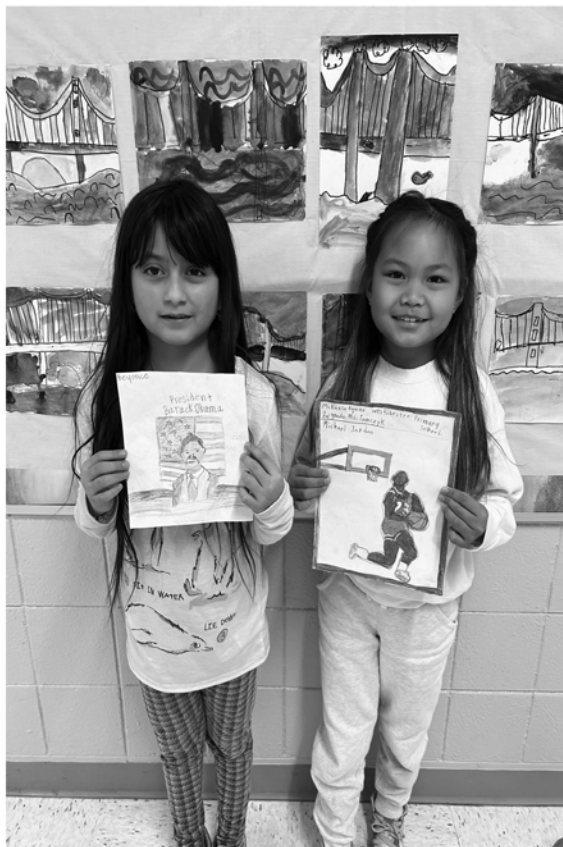
2nd grader Beyonce Gonzaga for her President Obama artwork

### **Our runner-up winner is:**

2nd grader Mikayla Aquino for her Michael Jordan artwork

The grand prize winner won a gift card to a family restaurant and a student gift card. The runner-up won a student gift card. We are very proud of the work that our students submitted.

Thank you to all who submitted an entry, and congratulations to our winners!



## Westchester Middle School

As a school we will continue to reinforce our Warrior Expectations for everyone in the WMS learning community. Students and staff should:

- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Safe
- Be There, Be Ready

The WMS Bands will hold their final concerts of the school year on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 PM in the WMS gymnasium. Please join us for a wonderful evening of music as they complete their concert performances for the year.

Join the Westchester Middle School as they perform Beauty and the Beast Jr this spring! Performances will be May 9 (7 p.m.), May 10 (7 p.m.), and May 11 (2 p.m.). If you are interested in purchasing an ad for the musical's program, please contact director Kierstin Durst at her email [kdurst@sd925.org](mailto:kdurst@sd925.org). We look forward to seeing you there!

WMS is tentatively set to hold their graduation on Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 7:00 PM. The graduation ceremony will take place in the WMS gymnasium.

Congratulations to our February Warriors of the Month! 6th Grade: Audrey Garvida and Belisa Vences, 7th Grade: Jaelyne Gonzalez and Chloe Washington, 8th Grade: Abigail Lehmann and Kostia Oliynyk.. Warriors of the Month are selected by their teachers for setting a strong example and exceeding the expectations of the 4 Bs: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be There/Be Ready.





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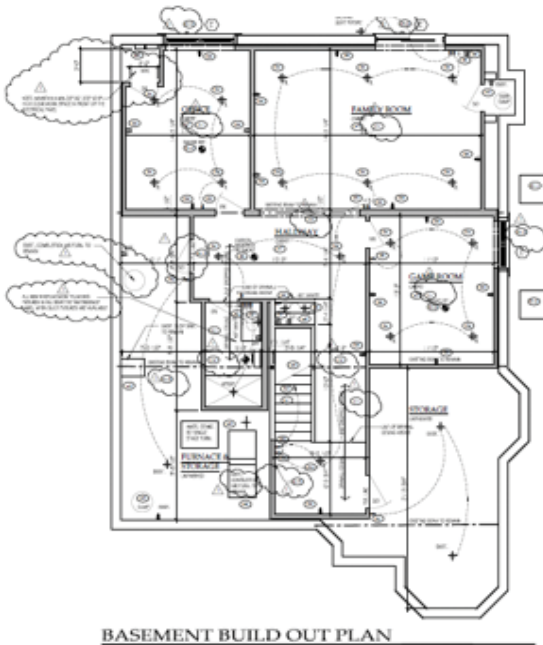
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# Spring!

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Here are 10 helpful tips to *freshen up* your home for Spring:

- Clean Gutters and Check Roof
- Scrub Walls, Baseboards and Outlets
- Replace Filters
- Clean Faucets and Showerheads
- Clean Out the Dryer Vent
- Wash Exterior Windows
- Clean the Grill
- Prep Your Garden
- Test Smoke Alarms
- Clean Outdoor Furniture

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