



**FEBRUARY, 2025**

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# Village of Westchester

*From the desk of Village President Greg Hribal*



**Village President Greg Hribal honors Westchester native and NCAA volleyball champion, Gillian Grimes, with an official Proclamation.**

### Westchester: Home of Winners

I was extremely humbled to attend an event honoring Westchester resident Gillian Grimes after she led her Penn State volleyball team to clinch the national championship, beating Louisville 3 to 1. Gillian is a resident of Westchester and after graduating from Divine Infant, Gillian attended Nazareth Academy where she led the team to a state championship her senior year. The Village surprised her with a proclamation read aloud honoring her for her achievements both athletically and academically.

The Village of Westchester's administrative staff has completed the 2024 annual report. This comprehensive report highlights the village's projects and initiatives that have shaped our community over the past year. The report is available online at [www.westchester-il.gov/2024annualreport](http://www.westchester-il.gov/2024annualreport) and will be included in our weekly E-newsletter. Portions of the report will also be published in our March newsletter and full printed copies will be available in our front office. If you are not a part of our weekly E-Newsletter, please register your email on our website or contact Annie Canavan at (708) 223-3073.

Please help me welcome two newly opened restaurants to Westchester. Wing Snob, which opened in January, is located at Mannheim and Roosevelt and is a chicken wing franchise expanding its presence in Illinois. Tastefull, located at 1929 Mannheim Road, was also recently approved for a liquor license and is scheduled to open in February. Westchester resident and now business owner Damien McIntosh will be serving chicken, burgers, and pizza with a casual interior atmosphere.

As of this writing, snowfall in our area has been minimal, however, we have experienced some extremely cold days with negative temperatures. With the low temperatures, we begin to experience more water main breaks due to the freezing grounds. Our

public works department repaired 11 water main breaks in January. Our staff does an incredible job as they seek to minimize the time water is required to be off for the repairs. If you have not yet done so, sign up for CodeRed and be notified anytime water main work is performed in your immediate area. Visit our website or email [info@westchester-il.gov](mailto:info@westchester-il.gov) to sign up. If you do experience a water shutoff, we ask that you be patient as most outages are restored within 2 hours.

Having changed waste contractors to SBC in 2024, the village wishes to promote all of the added services that are offered in addition to regular weekly garbage pickup. One such service is a town-wide clean-up day. On Saturday, April 12, 2025, SBC is hosting a clean-up day allowing residents to dispose of both large quantities of items as well as bulk items all on a single special weekend pickup. Appliances, rolled-up old carpet, construction debris, and furniture in addition to regular bagging of unwanted items are just some of the things residents may not have yet had an opportunity to schedule for a private pickup. A flyer for the collection event is included within this newsletter.

Lastly, I am frequently reminded of the extensive list of services provided by Proviso Township and encourage residents of Westchester to utilize and learn what the Township offers. Proviso Township offices in Hillside offer youth assistance services connecting our younger residents with educational and employment opportunities. The township also has a general assistance program that helps single residents with basic maintenance needs for those not eligible for other programs. One of the most utilized programs is the handyman services which provides those over 60 years of age or disabled minor home repair services for a cost of \$5 (not including any parts needed). If you need assistance installing or repairing blinds, door locks, electrical outlets or even need assistance moving furniture around the house you can schedule an appointment with Proviso Township at 708-547-4001.



# Village of Westchester

10300 W Roosevelt Rd, Westchester, IL 60154  
www.westchester-il.org • (708) 345-0020



## Village Officials

**President**

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ghribal@westchester-il.gov

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scollins@westchester-il.gov

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bbrandt@westchester-il.gov

## Trustees

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## Staff

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**Police Department - (708) 345-0060**

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dbabich@westchester-il.gov

**Fire Department - (708) 345-0433**

Daniel Manning, Fire Chief  
dmanning@westchester-il.gov

**General Questions/Information**

info@westchester-il.gov





THE ONLINE VILLAGE CALENDAR IS CONTINUALLY UPDATED AND INCLUDES MANY MORE LIBRARY & PARK DISTRICT ACTIVITIES. SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/CALENDAR FOR ALL THE DETAILS!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY SOUPER BOWL 4:30-8PM COMMUNITY CENTER
2	3 100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	4	5 VILLAGE HALL CLOSED DUE TO IN-SERVICE TRAINING	6 GROW ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION MEETING 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	7	8
9 HISTORY OF ILLINOIS 1PM PRAIRIE HOUSE	10	11 VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETINGS 6PM VILLAGE HALL	12 SENIOR BINGO 11:15AM MAYFAIR REC CENTER	13	14 	15 FAMILY VALENTINES DANCE - 4PM WESTCHESTER COMM. CHURCH LIONS CLUB WINTERFEST FUNDRAISER - 8PM JOE'S SALOON
16	17  VILLAGE HALL CLOSED	18 	19 COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE --2-6PM SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 73	20	21	22 BAND SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST - WESTCHESTER INTER. SCHOOL
23	24	25 VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETINGS 6PM VILLAGE HALL	26 MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT 6:30PM WESTCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	27 BROADVIEW- WESTCHESTER JOINT WATER AGENCY MEETING 10AM BROADVIEW VILLAGE HALL	28	

• VILLAGE MEETINGS • VILLAGE EVENTS • OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

Doing The Job Right The First Time

**SABECKIS SERVICES LLC**

Call Us- We Answer  
STEVE SABECKIS  
708-975-0948

General Home Services

# SNOW REMOVAL

STANDARD PRICING  
**\*SENIOR PRICING**

Sabeckis Services is local and based in LaGrange Park. We strive to provide on time and quality service to our clients. Insured. 22 Years Exp.

	1.5 - 3 Inches	3-5 Inches	5-7 Inches	7-9 Inches	9-12 Inches
Driveway Front Walkways Public Sidewalk Porch & Stairs NO SALTING	Standard 75.00  *Senior 60.00	Standard 85.00  *Senior 70.00	Standard 95.00  *Senior 80.00	Standard 105.00  *Senior 90.00	Standard 115.00  *Senior 100.00
Front Walkway Front Porch Public Sidewalk NO DRIVEWAY NO SALTING	Standard 45.00  *Senior 35.00	Standard 55.00  *Senior 45.00	Standard 65.00  *Senior 55.00	Standard 75.00  *Senior 65.00	Standard 85.00  *Senior 75.00

REGISTERED WITH THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER



# Tips from the Westchester Fire Department

The Westchester Fire Department administration and staff hope you had a nice holiday season! As we head into the cold and short days of winter, we would like to let you know about some great resources for our community regarding mental health and other services that may be needed locally. Part of our Fire Department mission is to provide emergency medical services to all our residents and visitors. Often, we are called upon to help in emergencies that involve mental health crises, senior services, substance abuse, and other non-medical issues that require assistance from a wide range of agencies. Our response as a fire department to some of these scenarios is limited. While you can always call 911 for help, there are also agencies and professionals who are ready to help you in different ways.

The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission (PTMHC) in Hillside serves all of Proviso Township. The PTMHC offers services for many mental health and other human needs as well as providing direction for township residents who need other services. Anyone who wants assistance can simply call one phone number and be directed to the agency or service that they may need. Callers can remain anonymous if they choose. We have also attached a resource guide that can help you quickly find everything for yourself or friends and neighbors from housing assistance to senior services. Proviso Township can be a one-stop-shop for you to find the right person to help in many situations. As our township states, "the Proviso Township Mental Health Commission ensures that you have treatment services in your community. Services include Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Senior Services, Youth Prevention, and Crisis Hotline." You can visit their website to learn more at <https://ptmhc.org/> or by calling (708) 234-8255.

We hope you find these resources helpful. As always, you can call us with any questions or needs that may arise. Have a great month and stay warm!

Daniel Manning  
Fire Chief

Fire Chief Daniel Manning



PROVISO | MENTAL HEALTH  
TOWNSHIP | COMMISSION

Take the first step to  
a better tomorrow.

To learn more visit [ptmhc.org](https://ptmhc.org) or  
call [\(708\) 234-TALK \(8255\)](tel:(708)234-8255)



ProvisoMentalHealth



PTMHC



provisomhc





WESTCHESTER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# NEWSLETTER

February 2025

## Sweet Treats Youth Scavenger Hunt

All Month | Youth Department

Complete the scavenger hunt in the Youth Services department. When you finish, come to the YS desk for a prize!

## February Book Discussion

February 18th | 6:30 PM

This month we're reading *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Copies are available now at the circulation desk.

## Late Opening Feb 7th

The library will be opening at **12 PM on Friday, February 7th** due to staff training. Thank you for your understanding

## Illinois Libraries Presents: An Evening with James McBride Online February 4th | 7 PM | Zoom

Join us for an evening with James McBride, award-winning author of *The Color of Water* and *The Good Lord Bird*. His latest novel, *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*, is a 2023 New York Times Notable Book.

Register at [bit.ly/ILP\\_JamesMcBride](https://bit.ly/ILP_JamesMcBride)

## Illinois Libraries Presents: Slowing Down with Amy Tan Online

February 19th | 7 PM | Zoom

Join us for an evening with Amy Tan, National Humanities Medal winner and bestselling author of *The Joy Luck Club*. She'll share insights on her work and the beauty of slowing down. Don't miss her latest, *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*, a #1 New York Times and Indie bestseller!

Register at [bit.ly/ILP\\_AmyTan](https://bit.ly/ILP_AmyTan)

## Illinois Libraries Presents: Exploring Space with Coralie Adam Online

March 4th | 7 PM | Zoom

Coralie Adam, leader of the Optical Navigation team at KinetX Aerospace, has spent 13 years guiding groundbreaking NASA missions like New Horizons, OSIRIS-REx, Lucy, and OSIRIS-APEX. Her work has enabled the first exploration of Pluto and the historic sample collection from asteroid Bennu.

Register at [bit.ly/ILP\\_CoralieAdam](https://bit.ly/ILP_CoralieAdam)

## Live Irish Music with Gavin Coyle!

March 8th | 2 PM | Community Room

You won't want to miss this special opportunity to hear All-Ireland Singing Champion, Derry-born Gavin Coyle!

## Adult Winter Reading Program Until February 10th

There's still time to grab a bingo card for our Winter Reading Bingo competition! All completed cards are due back by February 10th to be eligible for prizes.

## Valentines Scented Sachet

Wednesday, February 5th | 2 PM & 6 PM | Community Room

come join us to make a handsewn scented sachet, perfect for a Valentine's Day gift! You'll not only be given all of the materials to sew your own beginner-friendly heart pouch, but also be able to craft your own scent blend. Register for either the **2 PM** or **6 PM** session!

## Movie Matinee: Conclave (2024)

Wednesday, February 12th | 1 PM | Community Room

When Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) is tasked with leading one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, selecting a new Pope, he finds himself at the center of a conspiracy that could shake the very foundation of the Catholic Church.

## Adult Take-and-Make: Paper Bird Garland

Monday, February 17th | While Supplies last

Stop by the adult department starting Monday, February 17th to grab a kit to craft a paper bird garland!

## Chicago Blues with Anne Harris and Dave Herrero

Wednesday, February 26th | 6 PM | Community Room

Anne Harris and Dave Herrero are Chicago-based Blues and American Roots artists that have been collaborating as a powerful duo for over six years. Their sound is culled from deep Chicago Blues and is steeped in Americana, Rock, Soul, Folk and Funk. This unique blend of influences, executed with incredible emotion and top notch musicianship, makes this pairing a truly captivating experience. **Registration is required.**



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

708-562-3573 • [askus@westchesterpl.org](mailto:askus@westchesterpl.org) • [www.westchesterpl.org](http://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.



## STORYTIMES

### Once Upon a Time

Tuesdays | 4 PM | Until February 11th

Don't miss this storytime especially for kids in Kindergarten to 2nd grade! We'll read some stories, have fun activities, and maybe a craft or two!

### Mother Goose on the Loose

Wednesdays | 10:15 AM | Until February 12th

Get ready to sing, hear stories, and make a craft based on the theme of the day! Best for babies – PreK.

### PreK Family Read Night

Thursday, February 6th | 5 PM | Community Room

The library and District 92.5 will team up to offer fun and interactive Pre-K storytimes! Listen to some great stories and grab a snack afterwards.

### Mo Willems Pigeon Party!

Saturday, February 15th | 10:30 AM | Community Room

Did you finish your winter reading? Then join us for a Mo Willems-themed party! We'll have games, activities, and treats! Best for PreK -2nd grade. **Registration is required.**

## Teen Programs

### Teen Winter Reading Club

Until February 10th

Don't forget to turn in your winter reading bookmarks by February 10th! Each completed prompt counts as one raffle entry Grand Prize Drawing!

### Decorate a Cupcake

February 4th | 6 PM | Community Room

Join us to decorate a Valentines Day themed cupcake! **For grades 6 - 12.**

### Teen Crochet

Thursdays | 4 PM | Starting February 6th

Teens, want to learn how to crochet? We'll teach you step by step! All skill levels welcome, materials will be provided. For grades 6 - 12.

### Teen Craft & Chill

February 10th | 4 PM | Teen Room

Join us in the Teen Room for this low-key craft program. Can't stay? Take one to go! **For grades 6-12.** While supplies last.

### Teen Game Night

February 17th | 6 PM | Community Room

Don't miss this special gaming event just for teens! Play Mario Kart, Smashbros and more! Pizza will be served. Feel free to bring your own controller. **For grades 6-12, no exceptions. Registration is required.**

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### Kids Craft Corner

February 4th | All Day | While Supplies Last

Drop in once a month for our craft corner.

Take a craft to go or put it together in the library! Best for grades K- 5th grade.

While supplies last.

### Kids' Crochet Club

Wednesdays | 4 PM | Until February 12th

Come learn basic crochet!. All skill levels are welcome. Materials will be supplied!

For grades 3 – 5.

### Art Explorers

Thursdays | 4 PM | Until February 13th

Learn about different types of art and make a fun creation! For grades 2 - 5th.

### Lego Club

Friday | February 7th & 21st | 3:30 PM

Don't miss this fun club where you can show off your building skills and get to put your creations on display! Best for grades K-5.

## Read Mo' Books With Our Winter Reading Club!

Until February 10th | Youth Department

Don't let the pigeon join the reading club! Our 6-week reading club wraps up on February 10th. Meet specific reading goals, and win *fabulous* prizes! Don't forget to join us on **February 15th** for the Mo Willem's Pigeon Party!



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We hope that Westchester School district's students, families, and friends were able to come out for the WPTC Family Day with the Chicago Wolves. It was a wonderful opportunity to see some hockey with friends and family.

February is upon us, and we have some exciting events coming up this month for our students.

WIS and WPS will be having their Mid-Year celebration, along with their

Valentine's Day parties this month.

WMS will be enjoying their February After school Hangout, and School store..

We are in need of volunteers to help to make these special events happen, we cannot have these events for the students without the help of our amazing volunteers.

We are also looking forward to Trivia Night on February 28. It is a wonderful opportunity to support our schools, and test your knowledge. Make sure you reserve a table for your team or sign up individually to show off your trivia skills! As an added bonus our very own 5th Grade teacher, Mr. Pinkleman will be our Trivia Master! It is going to be a lot of fun!

**Please see our Facebook Page or Website for more information.**

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

WIS/WPS Mid-Year Celebration February 5

WMS After School Hangout February 7

WPS/WIS Valentine's Day Parties February 14

WMS School Store February 27 (Cash only)

Trivia Night February 28

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).

# WESTCHESTER BASEBALL REGISTRATION

Join us for an exciting 2025 baseball season!

- Tee Ball ..... \$175 (coed ages 4-6)
- Explorer ..... \$190 (coed ages 6-7)
- Pioneer ..... \$200 (coed ages 7-8)
- Minors ..... \$210 (coed ages 9-10)
- Majors ..... \$220 (coed ages 11-12)
- Pony ..... \$230 (coed ages 13-14)
- Colts - Registration Spring 2025 (coed ages 15-16)
- Palomino – Registration Spring 2025 (coed ages 17-18)



Register at [www.WestchesterBaseballInc.com](http://www.WestchesterBaseballInc.com)

FINAL Registration Ends Feb. 28, 2025

\$10 in Discount Cards and \$75 in Raffle Tickets included in fees(Cards and Raffle Tickets can be sold to recoup some of your costs! Tickets are turned in at the Season Ending Picnic)



# Don't Be a Victim of Scams

It's heartbreaking to see that almost every month, one of our seniors or residents falls victim to a scam, often losing their hard-earned money or, in some cases, their entire life savings. Despite efforts from our Village Manager, Village officials, and myself to raise awareness about scams and how to avoid them, our officers continue to take reports involving these fraudulent schemes. Scams are being orchestrated not only across the United States but also internationally.

Criminals are becoming more sophisticated, using advanced tools like artificial intelligence (AI) to mimic voices, create convincing emails, and even generate fake videos. These scammers can draft false legal documents to steal your money—or even your home.

Here are some of the most common scams targeting people, especially those aged 60 and older, in 2025:

**1. Phony Recruiters Claiming to Represent Large Companies**

Scammers purchase phone numbers that mask their true identity, making it almost impossible to trace their calls. They may pose as legitimate recruiters, asking for personal information under the guise of a job offer.

**2. Cryptocurrency Scams**

Fraudulent businesses claim they can make you rich overnight by investing in their so-called “expert services.” Be wary of any offer that seems too good to be true.

**3. Bank and Credit Card Alerts**

You might receive a message stating your credit card has been declined or a call claiming to be from your bank, urging you to call back immediately. Never trust these unsolicited messages. Instead, contact your bank directly using a verified phone number and ask for a supervisor to confirm the claim.

**4. Pop-Up Scams**

Pop-ups on your phone or computer might warn you of a virus or urge you to upgrade software by contacting a specific company. Always delete unknown messages or emails—especially those claiming a package can't be delivered unless you provide more information.

**5. Fake Celebrity Requests**

Scammers can now use AI to mimic the voices of well-known celebrities, asking for donations to their “favorite charities.” For example, I recently received a call from someone claiming to be Elvis Presley, but when he couldn't sing “Hound Dog,” I knew it was a scam!

We need to be more cautious than ever with our phones, computers, and private information. Many of us underestimate the power of these devices. They don't just store our personal information; they can also track our locations—an important reminder to stay vigilant, especially in today's world.

Protect yourself and your loved ones by staying informed and skeptical of unsolicited requests. When in doubt, take a moment to verify the source and think twice before sharing any personal information.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Chief Daniel Babich



## WESTCHESTER POLICE BLOTTER

**All defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**

**24-05382**  
**12/24/2024 11:44PM**  
**TRAFFIC STOP 2200**  
**BLK SUNNYSIDE AVE**  
WPD Officers were dispatched to the area of Cermak and Sunnyside reporting a Hit & Run accident that just occurred. A 32-year-old female from Hillside, IL was cited for Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident, Expired Registration, No Valid Insurance, and Driving while Under the Influence of Alcohol. The 32-year-old was released with a Citation

& Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**24-05390**  
**12/25/2024**  
**5:05PM**  
**DOMESTIC BATTERY WESTCHESTER, IL**  
A 44 year old male finds himself charged in Cook County Circuit Court with one count of Domestic Battery following an incident. The 44 year old was taken into custody, and transported to the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL for a bond hearing.

**24-05406**  
**12/26/2024**  
**7:31PM**  
**TRAFFIC STOP**  
**1500 BLK GARDNER RD WPD**  
Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 19 year old male from Chicago, IL was cited for No Valid Driver's License. The 19 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**25-00027**  
**01/02/2025**  
**11:49PM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**10200 BLK ROOSEVELT RD**  
WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 48 year old female from Chicago, IL was cited for Improper Lane Usage, Suspended Registration, No Valid Insurance, and Driving while License Suspended. The 48 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

# PUBLIC WORKS

## 2025 President's Day Holiday Garbage Schedule

There will be no change to the garbage collection schedule.

SBC yard waste collection will resume your first collection day in April

Village branch collection will resume the week of April 7th - 11th

S.B.C. Waste Solutions, Inc. – 312-522-1115

• If your garbage, recycling, and/or yard waste was at the curb by 6am but was not collected by 6pm on your regular day, please call S.B.C. directly to report a missed collection.

• You may place two (2) large items that will not fit in your receptacle (couch, chair, table, etc.,) at the curb every week for collection. Please call S.B.C. directly to inform them of large items.

• S.B.C. will collect household hazardous waste and electronic waste (e-waste), at no additional charge, including household chemicals, automotive products, paint products, garden chemicals, universal materials, batteries, long fluorescent lightbulbs, and swimming pool chemicals. This separate collection must be pre-scheduled by calling 312-522-1115.

### Village Snow Restrictions

Public Works crews keep our streets free of snow and ice during the winter months. Please assist us by observing the following:

- Place garbage cans 3 feet behind the curb line- do not place them in the street.

- Do not shovel or blow snow back into the cleared streets.

- Please observe the “NO PARKING SNOW ROUTE” signs.

-The snow portion of the signs will be enforced after 2 inches of snowfall between December 1st and March 31st.

If you reside on a Primary designated SNOW ROUTE, after 2 inches of snowfall you must remove all vehicles from the snow route. Vehicles must stay off the street until the streets are cleared thoroughly by the plows by Public Works. If the snowfall is continuing, the restriction is in place until Public Works completes the plowing for the day. Please check the signs at the corners of your block.

If you reside on a Secondary route, there is no parking Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday on the even numbered house

side and no parking Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday on the odd numbered house side after 2 inches of snowfall. Please check the signs at the corners and center of your block for guidance. (This includes ALL side streets not designated a Primary snow route.)

If you have a Fire Hydrant on your parkway, please help keep the hydrant clear of snow so that the Fire Department may easily access the hydrant in case of an emergency, and so that the snow plows may quickly identify the hydrants while plowing.

### Westchester Tree Replacement Program

1. 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, on any parkway.

2. 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 may choose the tree(s) from a list provided by the Village, and shares half of the cost of the tree(s) and planting with the Village. To request the list of 50/50 trees, please call the Public Works Department at 708-345-0041.

### 2025 Construction News

- Water Main/ Service Line Replacements, Sewer Lining, and Street Program
- Norfolk Ave from Wedgwood Dr to Roosevelt Rd
- Pelham St from Westchester Blvd to Newcastle Ave
- Drury Ln from Newcastle Ave to Gardner Rd
- Canterbury St from Mannheim Rd to Westchester Blvd
- Balmoral Ave from Canterbury St to Wight St- WM & SL Replacements only

### Street Program

- Waterford St from Mannheim Rd to cul-de-sac
- Kitchner St from Westchester Blvd to Worcester Ave
- Canterbury St from Suffolk Ave to Gardner Rd

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 or on weekends and holidays, please call the non-emergency number at 708-345-0060.

# PROVISO TOWNSHIP HANDYMAN PROGRAM



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

\*Only Homeowners within the boundaries of Proviso Township.

Handyman Program for homeowners over the age of 60 and/or disabled residents of Proviso Township

- Minor repairs only
- \$5.00 per visit plus the cost of parts, if needed
- Provide referrals on a variety of home maintenance issues
- Appointments are 45 minutes or less

Please call us if you have any questions and schedule your appointment at 708-547-4001

WE DO.....	WE DO .....
Blinds/Curtain Rods - Install/Repair	Mailboxes - Install/Repair/Replace
Boxes Stored (50 lbs. limit)	Outdoor Furniture - Put Away/Take Out (small items)
Carpentry-Minor repairs i.e.: Replace loose/rotten boards	Outdoor Lighting - Repair or Replace (Height Limit of 6 feet)
Caulking - Minor interior only - No removal of existing caulk	Outdoor Water Spigot - Shut Off/Turn On
Ceiling Fans - Repair Switches Only	Picture - Hang Only
Decks - Minor Repairs Only	Referrals for Tradesperson - Referrals Only Not Recommendations
Doorbells - Repair/Replace Buttons	Screens - Put In/Take Out (Limit 6 feet)
Door Locks - Repair/Replace	Shower Heads - Repair/Replace/Install
Door Sweeps - Repair/Replace/Install	Shower Wands - Repair/Replace/Install
Doors - Repair/Replace Hinges	Sink Drains Pipes & Stoppers - Repair or Replace
Electrical Outlets & Switches - Replace	Smoke Detectors/CO Detectors - Install or Replace Batteries
Electrical GFCI Outlets - Replace & Install	Storm Doors - Repair (No Installations)
Kitchen and Bathroom Faucets - Repair or Replace No Tub faucets	Storm Windows - Put In/Take Out (Limit 6 feet)
Furniture Assembly (Small pieces only) (no IKEA)	Supply Valves - Replace, Kitchen & Bath Only
Furniture Moving - 50 lbs. limit	Threshold - Repairs & Replacement
Furniture Repair - Minor Only	Toilets - Minor Repairs - No Rodding
Grab Bars - Install or Replace	TV/TV Converter Box - Install & Program (NO Comcast)
Handrails - Install or Replace	Weather Stripping - Doors & Windows
Light Bulbs - Change	
Light Fixtures - Repair or Replace	



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Scott Hopman  
773-655-8529

Giordano Manfredini  
708-363-6789



# Have a GREEN Valentine’s Day

by GROW Commissioners

Valentine’s Day is a great time to share your love and appreciation for those whom are special to you. But did you know that Valentine’s cards, plastic wrapping and packaging, and consumer mentality, Valentine’s Day actually contributes massive amounts of waste and carbon emissions? Rather, show your love by making choices that are waste-free, ethical, and good for the Earth. Consider the following to help you and the planet have a Happy GREEN Valentine’s Day:

- **Buy Fair Trade chocolates.** Fair Trade chocolate comes from cacao beans harvested by farmers and workers who are paid a fair price, a livable wage and have a safe working environment. Fair trade standards ban forced labor and child labor practices which are common in the cocoa trade. This labeling also encourages environmentally-sustainable farming practices. Look for this symbol on the packaging.



- Examples of Fair Trade Brands:**
- i. Moser Roth Chocolatiers (Aldi) \$
  - ii. alter eco chocolates (Whole Foods) \$\$\$ (organic, gluten free, and cacao bean trees are grown using “regenerative agricultural” practices. Trees are grown alongside other trees/plants imitating a natural forest ecosystem.)
  - iii. Equal Exchange chocolates (on line) \$\$\$
  - iv. Endangered Species chocolates

(on line) \$\$\$ (10% of profits donated to organizations that support endangered species)

v. Lake Champlain chocolates (on line) \$\$\$

\*NOTE: We are aware of criticisms that some fair trade practices do not improve the living standards of their workers. Most businesses abide by moral and ethical practices.

- **Buy a living plant in place of cut flowers to give your sweetheart.** For example, one can buy an orchid that stays in bloom and looks beautiful for at least one month.
- **Go out to a local restaurant for dinner.** Using your browser, you can search “restaurants in 60154” zip code on your phone or computer. Also, one can consider eating a plant-based meal that is healthy for you and has a lower carbon footprint. Search on your browser “small business vegetarian restaurant near me”
- **Buy a gift that was made locally, by small start-up business, and made with materials that are sustainable,** that is, where the manufacturing process did not cause great harm to workers (not made in a “sweat shop”) and materials used are recyclable (natural materials like cotton and wool over synthetic blends that are forms of plastic made from oil/fossil fuels). For example, Serrv sells items made sustainably and by artisans whose work provides a living wage for their family through fair trade.
- **Give an Experience.** Build memories that will last a lifetime by gifting tickets to the theater or sporting event, visit a museum, or explore nature by foot or



- bike.
  - **Do It Yourself gift.** Bake their favorite treat, cook a meal, and make a card.
  - **Green wrap your gift.** Consider wrapping a gift with an old map, newspaper/comics, or a scarf or towel and use reusable ribbons.
- When you love your sweetheart in a GREEN way, you show that you also promote good healthy practices that benefit all of humanity and this earth**

<b>Green Fact of the Month</b>	cleaning products and biofuel....To reduce its impacts on biodiversity, palm oil needs to be produced more sustainably by avoiding deforestation and cutting non-food palm oil	use.” <a href="https://iucn.org/resources/issues-brief/palm-oil-and-biodiversity">https://iucn.org/resources/issues-brief/palm-oil-and-biodiversity</a>
“Palm oil is used in food (like chocolates), cosmetics,		

<b>Recipe of the Month</b>	1/2 cup neutral oil, such as sunflower or grapeseed 1/2 cup honey or maple syrup 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1/2 teaspoon salt 3 cups old-fashioned rolled oats 1 cup sliced almonds 1 cup raisins or other dried, chopped fruit	(it will still feel wet coming out of the oven but will dry as it cools). - Place the baking sheet on a wire rack and sprinkle on the raisins or fruit. If you want clumps of granola, press and tamp down the granola before it cools, which will help it stick together. Cool completely before storing. - Transfer the cooled granola to an airtight container and store at room temperature for up to 1 month.
Warm your Valentine’s heart with a homemade gift. This granola recipe is quick to prepare. It’s also easy to customize to preferences and dietary choices by making it vegan (use maple syrup instead of honey), nut-free (use seeds like pumpkin or sunflower instead of almonds), gluten-free (choose gluten-free oats), dairy-free (serve with dairy-free milk/yogurt), etc. Makes for a great breakfast or snack. Surprise your Valentine with breakfast in bed or place in a mason jar and tie a ribbon around it for a delicious homemade gift.	<b>Instructions</b> - Heat the oven to 300°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. - Place the oil, honey, cinnamon, and salt in a large bowl and whisk to combine. - Add the oats and almonds and stir to coat well. - Transfer the mixture to the prepared baking sheet and spread into an even layer. - Bake for 20 minutes, stirring halfway through. The granola is ready when golden-brown and the almonds have toasted	<b>Source:</b> <a href="http://www.thekitchn.com">www.thekitchn.com</a>
<b>Homemade Granola</b> makes 5 cups		<b>Submitted by</b> Kari Roberg, GROW Commissioner
<b>Ingredients</b>		Have a plant-based recipe you’d like to share with the community? Send it to <a href="mailto:GROW@westchester-il.gov">GROW@westchester-il.gov</a> for consideration for future newsletters.





# SPRING CLEAN-UP COLLECTION

**SATURDAY  
APRIL 12, 2025**

## Collection Details

The **Village of Westchester** and **SBC Waste Solutions** are excited to announce our first annual **Spring Clean-Up!** Please read all of the **details** below:

- Items must be placed at the curb by **6:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 12.**
- Do not set items out until the **day before** the event.
- Regular **refuse** and **small items** must be contained in **bags, cans, or boxes** (maximum 50 lbs each).
- There will **not** be a separate recycling collection truck. Any **recyclables** set out would be collected with regular refuse.
- **Yard waste** is **not** included but is collected on your regular service day April-December.
- **Hazardous and electronic waste** are **not** included, but a separate pickup can be arranged by contacting SBC.

## ACCEPTABLE Items

- Appliances (refrigerator, dishwasher, etc.)
- Bulk items (mattress, piano, etc.)
- Carpet (must be rolled, maximum 5' long, 2' diameter)
- Construction and demolition debris from DIY home improvements
- Furniture
- Fixtures
- Landscape timbers (cut to 3' lengths)
- Regular refuse (properly contained)

## Items NOT Accepted

- Car batteries, tires, and automobile parts
- Concrete, bricks, cement, and asphalt
- **Electronics**
- Explosives and ammunition
- Paint, fluids, radioactive materials, and hazardous or medical waste
- Riding lawnmowers, boats, snowmobiles, and snow blowers

**QUESTIONS? CALL SBC**  
**(312) 522-1115**

**EMAIL SBC**  
**WESTCHESTER@SBCWASTESOLUTIONS.COM**



# Westchester: Dreams of a Model Community

In 1924 the “Proviso Mystery” had people talking and newspapers writing articles with the key question: Who is buying up the farmland in Proviso? Most of the local farmers were descendants of German immigrants who had settled the area in the 1840s and 1850s. They were offered great deals on their farmland that they just could not pass up, even if they had never dreamt of selling. An acre, which was worth around \$300 at that time, was suddenly worth from \$600 to \$1,500. One by one they sold everything, including farm equipment, tools, wagons and animals. There were rumors about what was planned—perhaps a golf course, industrial plants, a Ford car factory, cemeteries, and to the chagrin of neighboring communities, maybe even the stockyards. Brokers and lawyers worked out the fine points of the deals and paid at least a third of the money in cash. No one knew the actual buyer until Chicago’s best kept secret was finally revealed when Westchester was officially incorporated on October 30, 1925. A group of real estate developers had completed the purchase of 2,200 acres in Proviso Township in order to create what was billed as Chicago’s first totally planned model community. Dream town USA would be created 12 miles to the west, with direct public access to Chicago by train and regular, efficient service.

Transportation was the key, and that involved Samuel Insull, who served as head developer, already having had interests in and around Chicago in trains, electricity and gas since the late 19th century. His company Commonwealth Edison was indeed the main supplier of Chicago electricity. He was on the board of 65 companies that ran many of Chicago’s largest enterprises involved with electric power.

Insull is credited with the creation and integration of the electric grid in and around Chicago, extending into several other states.

Samuel Insull was born in London in 1859 and attended private school in Oxford. As a young man he got interested in Thomas Edison’s inventions while working in London. With a lot of study and drive, he impressed Edison with his knowledge of Edison’s own business affairs. When Samuel arrived in America in 1881, Edison hired him as his personal secretary. Insull worked to improve Edison’s business management and became vice president of Edison’s General Electric Company in Schenectady, New York. When J.P. Morgan forced a merger of Edison’s power companies, Insull left to come to Chicago in 1892, on the eve of the Columbian Exposition. He became president of the Chicago Edison Company and worked to create the electrical infrastructure in the city and surroundings by acquiring railroads and utilities. He worked with others to unify the elevated (“L”) train system. His holdings included Chicago Rapid Transit Company and the Chicago Aurora and Elgin Railroad (also called “The Great Third Rail”). To those overseeing the unification



and extension of electric power to rural areas around Chicago and bringing interurban transit to the suburbs, Proviso Township seemed ideal for modern development. Insull is credited with conceiving Westchester as an English-style town, reflected today in its street names of British origin (noteworthy exceptions, in homage to Franzosenbusch families, include Heidorn, Boeger, Mandel, Evers and Haase, all connected to Roosevelt Road).

Polish-born William Zelosky was a leading real estate developer who imagined an ideal community

that he could not realize in Chicago, due to its building density. The open space available in Westchester changed all that. Zelosky wanted to create a city free of the grime and noise of factories, where nothing offensive would obstruct the beauty of the town. Careful zoning and tight building restrictions would create more uniformity, allocating separate spaces for single residences and apartments, and allowing for some businesses along the main arteries. Ten percent of the town was to be dedicated to public use, with green space and parks, some even having small streams.

Convenient transportation would link the village to the Loop. The planned streets would be at least 100 feet wide, with a parkway in the middle (e.g. Westchester Boulevard). Having only gentle curves in streets would minimize confusion. The blocks would run north and south, and the houses would be lined up east to west to maximize sunlight. Along Roosevelt Road, Zelosky built an English-style office that was to be presented to Westchester as a civic center, which later became the village hall. The money invested in the project was astounding, running into the millions. Nevertheless, profits on the venture were not expected immediately. In 1926, Zelosky and other developers and real estate agents created a slew of fancy ads in The Chicago Tribune advertising lots in this new “dream town.” Weekend excursions for prospective buyers to this new town were organized through abundant promotion. The first Westchester development under Zelosky began in the northeastern part of the village. Working out of La Grange, The Westchester Tribune, founded in 1925, reported on the progress.

The beginning of Westchester is also

associated with the Britten Camp, where Grant N. Britten acted as superintendent, overseeing the extension of the train line. The command center was located on the former Pflug farm. Over 175 workers lived in a large barn next to the main house while working on the railroad tracks and leveling the streets, initially in secrecy. Their families lived in small huts and barracks around the farm, which also became part of the Britten Camp. This was east of Mannheim Road north of the Illinois Central tracks. The plan was to build a branch off the Chicago Aurora and Elgin Line from the Bellwood station. The four Westchester stations were to be at Harrison, Roosevelt, Canterbury and Mannheim at 22nd. (The last two stops at Roosevelt were added later, by December 1930.) On October 1, 1926 train service began with the promise of twenty-four hour service. But unfortunately service was to be discontinued in 1951.

The first family to move into Westchester was the Reiche family, followed by the Jesse Wilburns.

Then came the Charles Gardaphes, whose son, the first baby born in Westchester, was supposedly named William after William



Zeloski. While the 1920s were “roaring,” so was the hectic activity in early Westchester. A dual sewer and storm system was built, 41 miles of water mains were laid, Roosevelt received the first concrete paved

street in Chicago, and underground cables were laid. In 1926 Charles Weigel, with the aid of his son Frank, laid 80,000 feet of concrete sidewalks. (Remnants of these are found today in the middle of Wolf Road Prairie!) The first apartments were built, and 15,000 American Elm trees were planted. A police department was organized. In 1926, people voted for the first time in a Westchester election, making Otto Taeterow the first village president. On October 15, 1929, streetlights were lit. Some even referred to it as “the white city in the prairie.”

Nobody could anticipate the sudden collapse and the Great Depression that ensued. The promoters had sold lots, but money was now too scarce for widespread building projects. Nor could they anticipate that another world war would follow. Properties were tied up by contract and tax delinquencies, a key reason Wolf Road Prairie was not built upon. Once these delinquencies were cleared, the village grew rapidly from 1950 on to eventually surpass 18,000 residents. Lot sizes were reduced, and the modern ranch houses, bungalows and split-levels being built varied from the original Old English town concept.

The village was eventually divided into four areas, Britten, Nixon, High Ridge and Kennedy, corresponding to the names of its four schools. The Britten School (September 1930) was named after Grant Britten. The Nixon School (January 1931) was named after the other principal developer south of Roosevelt, George F. Nixon. The High Ridge School (October 1954) was built on the highest point in Westchester. The Mary Jane Kennedy School was built in 1959.

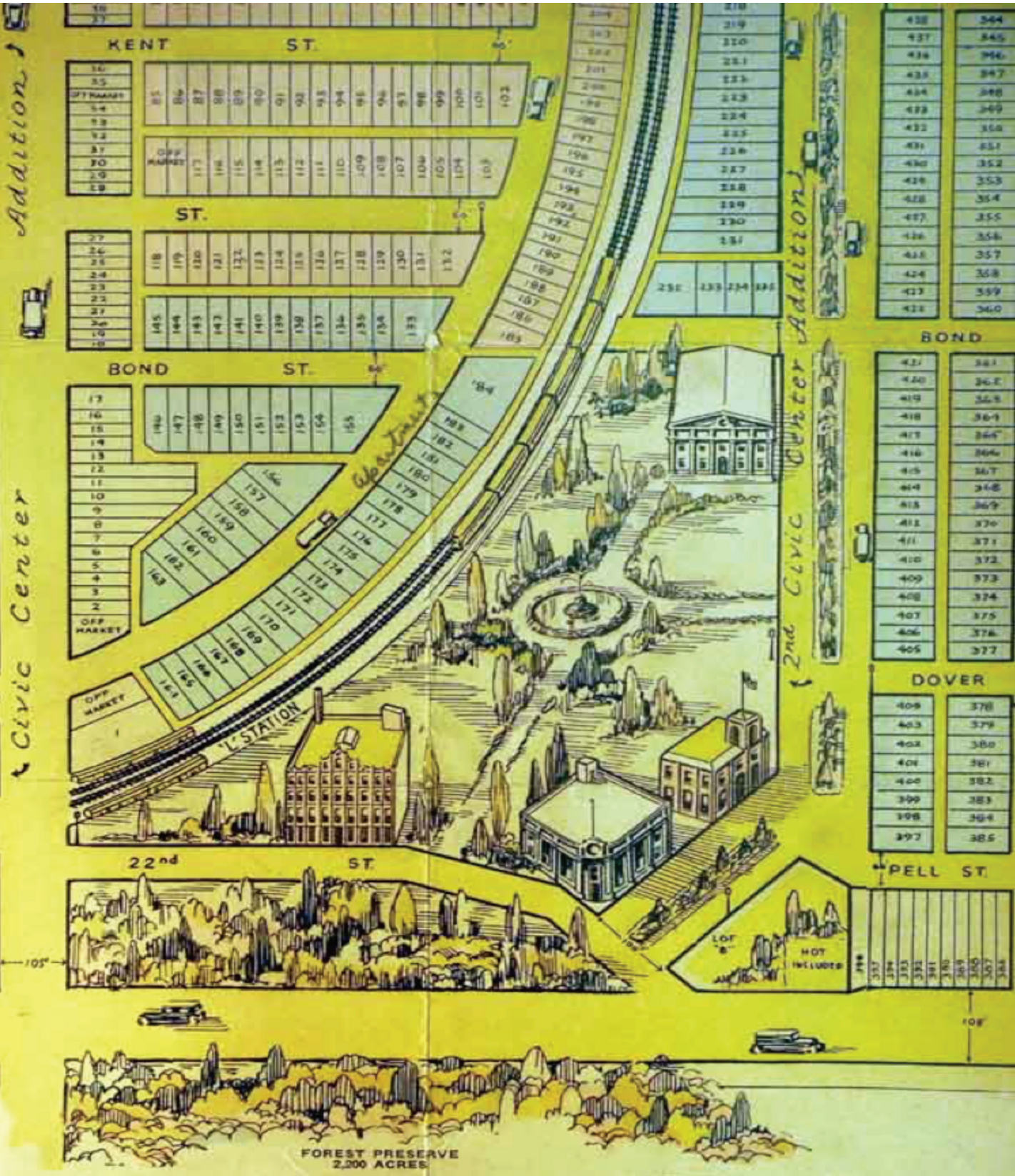
Even when construction ground to a halt in the 1930s, the village foundations were laid in other ways. In that decade, a community club, a women’s club, the first PTO, the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts were all founded. In 1931, The Westchester News began operation.

Of the three village halls, the first was on Westchester Boulevard. The second was off Mannheim Road north of the IC tracks where the Britten Camp had been. The third was William Zeloski’s old office on Roosevelt Road.

In 1958 Proviso West High School was built on the former Bohlander and Evers farmland. That same year the library moved into a wing of the village hall. Soon churches, parochial schools and businesses all arrived.

In 1985 the towers of the Westbrook Corporate Center were built, displacing the Prairie House containing the first school of the Immanuel Lutheran congregation. The forty acres dedicated to the church on the eastern side of Wolf Road stayed as unincorporated property until 1958, when it was added to the Village of Hillside. Prior to that, the Prairie House had been moved to the southwest side of the intersection of Cermak and Wolf. The

Dieckhoffs who lived there sold eighty acres of that prairie remains. After the Treaty of thrived for almost a century, until all but a few



Map of Westchester showing the imagined downtown area with a civic and cultural center, library and fountain - September 1, 1930 by George F. Nixon & Company

to the developers in 1924. By 1926 Reuben Nelson had rented the Prairie House with his wife Stella and their two daughters, where they lived for about four years. Mr. Nelson served as Office Manager and Time Keeper for Nixon’s Westchester development. Later he became a trustee and fourth president of Westchester. His wife became a lay historian, as some of the information in this article was relayed by her in a written record from 1943. Perhaps taking a step back to consider some historical background would be useful to establish perspective. Before European settlement of the “Prairie State,” 21 of the 36 million acres of Illinois wilderness consisted of tallgrass prairie. Today, less than 0.01%

Chicago in 1833 brought the resettlement of the native Potawatomi westward, new US public lands were made available for sale. Aaron Parsell is said to have resided in what was to become Proviso Township as early as 1832. A document signed by Martin van Buren in 1839 shows part of section 29 (which is located near Salt Creek bordering 31st Street) being sold to Parsell. Records show he would eventually own over 300 acres, joining other early investors who would acquire large holdings. It was mainly German farmers who settled the area, which they called Franzosenbusch (named for Nicholas Torode, of French origin, who lived further northeast). The resulting farming community

traces of the old farmsteads were demolished and cleared to make way for the new concept of an ideal modern town called Westchester. Keeping all this in mind gives us more reason than ever to feel fortunate that Wolf Road Prairie and the Prairie House containing the 1853 schoolhouse museum have survived. They give us rare opportunities to not only become familiar with little-known aspects of times past, but also with the beauty and thriving wildlife of our natural heritage, for the people of Westchester and beyond to appreciate throughout the changing seasons. Patricia Reaves Director and Historian Save the Prairie Society February 2025





..... CELEBRATING .....

# BLACK

## HISTORY MONTH



February is Black History Month! The Village of Westchester encourages you to honor and uplift the contributions of Black individuals by exploring local Black-owned businesses in our community, including but not limited to:

### ASHANTI SIGNS & GRAPHICS

Specializing in graphic design and printing services, Ashanti Graphics brings creativity and quality to every project.

9825 Roosevelt Rd  
Westchester, IL 60154  
(708) 203-5329

### BENEVOLENCE HOME SERVICES

Providing compassionate, high-quality non-medical care that empowers individuals to live with dignity and independence.

1 Westbrook Corp Ctr, Suite 300  
Westchester, IL 60154  
[www.benevolencehomeservices.com](http://www.benevolencehomeservices.com)

### DIVINELY INSPIRED ELEGANT EVENTS

Transforming any venue or space into the elegant ambiance that's sure to wow all your guests!

Westchester, IL 60154  
(708) 543-7433

### THE JUNGLE PLATE

Serving up bold, flavorful dishes inspired by Caribbean and soul food traditions to bring a taste of culture and community to every meal.

9916 Roosevelt Rd  
Westchester, IL 60154  
[www.thejungleplate.com](http://www.thejungleplate.com)

### KRAZY GRAPES

Specializing in candy-coated grapes, Krazy Grapes offers a one-of-a-kind treat that's perfect for any occasion.

9838 Roosevelt Rd  
Westchester, IL 60154  
[www.krazy-grapes.com](http://www.krazy-grapes.com)

### PERFECT IMAGE TRANSFERS

Offering high-quality custom printing and heat transfers for all your apparel needs - fun fact, they also designed our beautiful centennial logo that you see above!

Westchester, IL 60154  
[www.perfectimagertransfers.com](http://www.perfectimagertransfers.com)

### SHA-POPPIN

Serving up over 130 flavors of handcrafted popcorn, from classic favorites to bold, unique creations, making every bite a flavorful experience.

1917 S Mannheim Rd  
Westchester, IL 60154  
[www.sha-poppingourmetpopcorn.com](http://www.sha-poppingourmetpopcorn.com)

### WRIST WORK CUTS

Skilled barbers offering professional grooming services with a focus on precision and customer satisfaction.

1905 S Mannheim Rd  
Westchester, IL 60154  
(708) 397-4089

Our weekly e-newsletter will highlight more Black-owned businesses throughout February.  
If you'd like to recommend a Black-owned business for us to feature, please email  
[info@westchester-il.gov](mailto:info@westchester-il.gov).



# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Wrist Work Cuts: A Community-Focused Barber in Westchester

Wrist Work Cuts, located in the heart of Westchester at 1905 S Mannheim Road, is looking to redefine the barbershop experience led by owner Teonelle Binion. Teonelle, who everyone calls “T”, moved to Westchester in 2021 after relocating from Forest Park. T was attracted to Westchester as he found a vibrant community that mirrors his values of diversity and inclusion. He wanted a space where he could treat his customers not just as clients but as family—a principle that has become the cornerstone of his business philosophy.

At Wrist Work Cut, T goes beyond the traditional barbershop setting. With an unwavering commitment to constant learning and adaptation, he keeps himself updated with the latest trends and techniques—from classic haircuts to modern male hair units. T’s dedication to mastering new skills allows him to offer a wide variety of services tailored to the unique needs of his clientele. He is always striving to perfect his craft and welcomes any new challenge thrown his way.

T strives to be more than just another neighborhood barbershop and is always looking for ways to set himself apart from other businesses. T has been able to blend his passion for business and community engagement in various ways. Understanding the challenges that some students face when heading back to school, T has made it a mission to provide free haircuts to students, ensuring that they can start the new academic year feeling confident and fresh. This has been a very popular initiative and is something that T looks to continue.

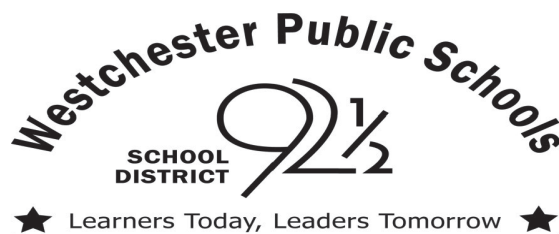
T’s love for his new location in Westchester is palpable. The supportive atmosphere and diverse clientele fuel his commitment to excellence. At Wrist Work Cuts, it’s not just about haircuts; it’s about creating a welcoming space for everyone who walks through the door.

If you’re looking to stay fresh and clean, T and his team at Wrist Work Cuts are ready to welcome you with open arms. Experience the difference of a barbershop that feels like family, and leave not just looking good, but feeling great!

**Wrist Work Cuts**  
1905 S. Mannheim Road  
Westchester, IL. 60154  
Phone: (708) 397-4089







## A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

Happy New Year! As we kick off 2025, we're excited to look back at the fantastic first half of the school year. Thanks to the hard work of our teachers, staff, and your support, our schools have been a place where kids can learn, grow, and feel supported every day.

We're dedicated to helping your kids learn and grow in school and life. Our goal is to give every student the tools they need to succeed, whether through classroom activities, extracurricular activities, or events that bring everyone together.

I encourage you to stay in touch with your child's teachers and school staff so you don't miss important updates, events, or opportunities to get involved. We value your support and know that working together can create the best possible environment for our students to thrive.

As we move into the colder months, please make sure your child dresses warmly for school. It's also very important for us to have your most up-to-date phone number and email. This way, we can contact you if we need to make changes to the school schedule, especially during bad weather. We use a phone and text system to send out these notifications. To make sure you receive our messages, please let the school know if you've changed your phone number or email recently or [click here](#) to learn how to update your information in PowerSchool's Parent Portal.

If we need to close schools because of bad weather, we will hold an E-Learning Day. Students in kindergarten through eighth grade will attend classes online using Google Meet and other materials. Preschool families will receive specific instructions from their teachers through email.

Thank you for being such a valuable part of our school community. Your partnership makes a big difference in your child's success. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at [psalemi@sd925.org](mailto:psalemi@sd925.org) or call me at 708-670-1927. Don't forget to check out our Community Link on the school website for more updates and resources.

Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,  
Philip Salemi, Ed.D  
Superintendent

## Westchester Primary School

To start the new year on January 6th, Westchester Primary School revisited our Dolphin Pride Expectations (Be Ready. Be Caring. Be safe.) and participated in activities to build our school culture, climate, and community of learning after the winter break. We know that when students are explicitly taught and held to high expectations, they are prepared and empowered to be successful. When our students showed exemplary behavior in January for showing self-control, they were awarded a lanyard to wear displaying their use of the Zones of Regulation.

Last month, Westchester Primary School's first and second-grade students were assessed to determine their progress with our benchmark assessments, including the NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress). This state-aligned computerized adaptive assessment program provides educators with the information they need to improve teaching and learning and make student-focused and data-driven decisions. Students are tested on MAP three times each year (fall, winter, and spring) in the areas of reading and math. The teachers use this growth and achievement data from MAP and other benchmark assessments to develop targeted instructional strategies and to plan school improvement for the remainder of the year.

Additionally, students identified as English Language Learners participate in ACCESS each January. ACCESS is the state assessment designed to measure a student's English proficiency and growth in all four language domains- reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This test is also designed to measure student performance with the social language used daily and more complex academic language. Students will participate in whole group reading, writing, and listening tests and individual speaking assessments. Information gathered from this assessment assists teachers with designing effective instruction. All students participating in ACCESS testing kicked off the testing period with an assembly highlighting the testing areas and explaining why it is essential to try your best!

With winter benchmark data collection completed, WPS continues learning and celebrating this month. WPS excitedly honors Black History Month through daily activities. Also, we will celebrate Valentine's Day with activities planned and organized by the Westchester Parents and Teachers for Children (WPTC), and students will participate in activities to commemorate the 100th day of school and the mid-year mark.

**Attention all families with five-year-old children on or before September 1, 2025!** Kindergarten Registration begins in April! Westchester Primary School will hold Kindergarten Pre-Registration online for the 2025-2026 school year starting the second week of April. Please check the district website [sd925.org](http://sd925.org) for more information beginning in March.



## Westchester Intermediate School

Our first few weeks back have been very busy. We completed our Winter Assessments. These help us as educators to identify areas in which we need to both support and enrich the learning opportunities for our students. We are able to establish individualized goals for students and guide them towards reaching those new goals. We also refocused on social emotional learning by getting back to the basics with our students. We review expectations regularly, consistently encouraging them to grow each day.

We are excited to have our Beginner and Cadet Bands performing this month for the Solo and Ensemble contest. This contest is a great opportunity for our students to showcase their growth as musicians and how their hard work and practice pays off. Mr. Collins, our Band Director, does amazing work with them and we are very proud of them.

We are thankful to the WPTC for their continued support throughout the year. In February we celebrate Valentine's Day with classroom activities and crafts. Our parent volunteers continue to be wonderful with our students. It is good to have our students relax and enjoy some time together as we do focus so much on their academic work each day.

We are very pleased with our growth this year but know we still have opportunities to continue to grow and improve our WIS learning community. We will continue throughout the rest of the year to build on our successes and stress that hard work and sustained effort will bring us amazing growth.

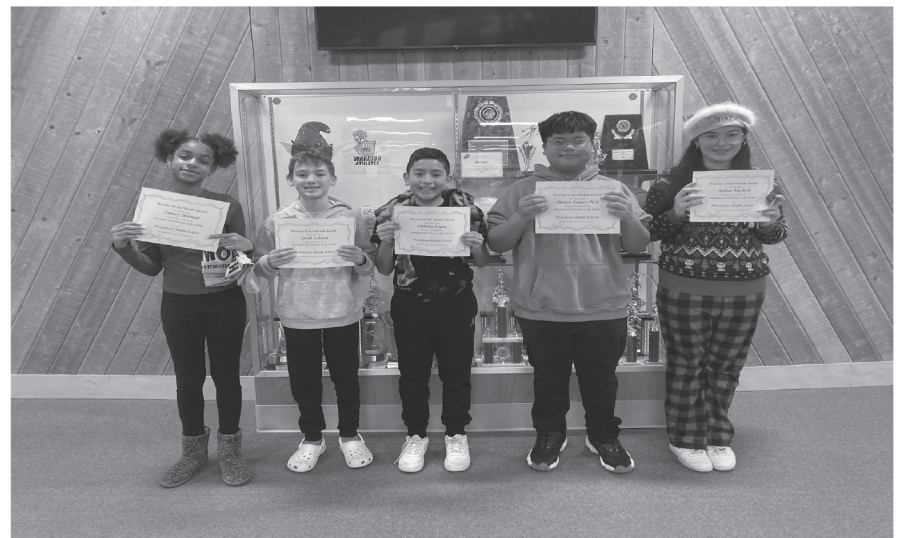
Go Huskies!

## 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


Congratulations to our December Warriors of the Month! 6th Grade: Jacob Leisten and Anthony Lopez, 7th Grade: Edward Garcia Delgado and Aubrey Holman, 8th Grade: Alfonso Juarez-Pich and Amber Meshek. 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.



The WMS Fine Arts Festival will be returning to WMS on Saturday, March 22, 2025. Be on the lookout for information regarding this event in the upcoming month. We look forward to sharing the talents and abilities of our staff, students, graduates, and community partners.


We are pleased to announce that High School Musical Jr. will be our musical this year. Auditions will take place in March and performances will take place on May 8th (7:00 pm), 9th (7:00 pm), and 10th (2:00 pm), 2024. Information regarding purchasing tickets will be released closer to the show dates.

We send our weekly updates each Friday afternoon at 4:00 PM. Please review them for important information about WMS.




**American Red Cross Blood Drive**


**Save a Life, Give Blood**



Andre F. Harvey  
Mayor  
Village of Bellwood



Joseph T. Tamburino  
Mayor  
Village of Hillside




Nathaniel G. Booker  
Mayor  
Village of Maywood


Join the communities of Hillside, Bellwood, Broadview, Berkeley, Maywood, and Westchester and sign up to save lives this February! The American Red Cross has teamed up with these six-communities to host a special blood drive.

**Wednesday,**  
**FEBRUARY 19, 2025**  
**Between 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM**


**Sheet Metal Workers Local 73**  
**4550 Roosevelt Road**  
**Hillside, Illinois 60162**



Greg Hribal  
President  
Village of Westchester




Katrina Thompson  
Mayor  
Village of Broadview





Robert E. Lee  
Mayor  
Village of Berkeley

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org). Appointments preferred. You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) for more information.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER









## WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



WET NOSE PANTRY

# Donation Drop-Off Days!

**Saturday, March 1 9-11am**

**Saturday, April 5 9-11am**

**Saturday, May 3 9-11am**

**Westchester Community Church,  
1840 Westchester Blvd., Westchester**

The Westchester Food Pantry is gearing up for its annual Yard Sale Extravaganza! High-quality unwanted household goods will be turned into food for our neighbors in need. Clean out your closets, cabinets, garages and basements...your donations can make a difference in our communities.

**Please bag or box all donations.** All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### **We CAN accept the following items in high-quality, good used condition:**

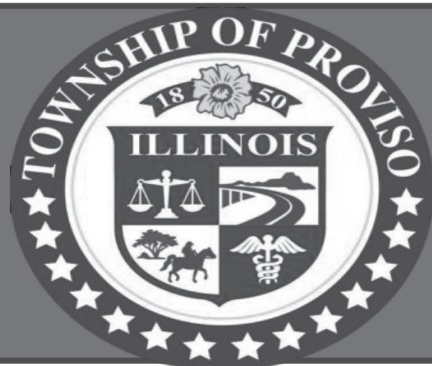
Children's books only  
Purses and wallets  
Backpacks and luggage  
Toys, games and puzzles  
Baby items (small items)  
Tools (manual and power)  
Newer small electronics (radios, CD players, DVD players, mp3 players, tablets)  
CDs, DVDs, records  
Home decor and artwork  
Kitchen items and utensils  
Gardening supplies  
Craft/hobby items  
Pet items/equipment  
Antiques/memorabilia  
Sporting goods  
Party supplies  
Jewelry  
Compact exercise equipment  
Picture frames  
Vases and candles  
Video consoles and games

***Please ensure all donations are  
clean and in working order.***

### **We CANNOT accept:**

Large furniture (couches, mattresses, etc.)  
Hazardous materials  
Televisions  
Computers and related equipment  
Automobile parts  
Construction materials  
Car seats, cribs or baby swings  
Large appliances (refrigerators, furnaces, etc.)  
Clothing or shoes  
Camping equipment and golf clubs/bags  
Stuffed animals  
Adult books  
Reference books, encyclopedias or magazines  
Lamps and mirrors  
China/Dishes and vintage collectibles  
Christmas trees  
VHS or cassette tapes  
Skis and related equipment

**The 2025 Yard Sale  
Extravaganza will be  
May 29, 30 and 31**



# Proviso Handyman Department

## February 2025

Do you know that ceiling fans help distribute heat evenly to your rooms.

Are yours in good working order? When was the last time you changed the filters in your furnace?

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 Chase · Clarence E Thomas**  
Trustees





Westchester Aging Well Team Presents

# WESTCHESTER SENIOR BINGO

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

**GAME! PRIZES! FUN!**

**WEDNESDAYS**

**FEB. 12, APR. 9, JUN. 11, AUG. 13, OCT. 8**

**11:15-1:00PM**

**MAYFAIR RECREATION CENTER**  
**10835 WAKEFIELD**  
**WESTCHESTER, IL 60154**

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
**Gia Marie Benline**  
**312-646-8887**



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Jim: 630.215.8202  
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Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181



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## Family Valentine's Dance Including Dinner and Raffles

Saturday, February 15, 2025  
**Live Band: Weed Wackers**  
Doors open at 4:00pm  
Dancing: 4:30pm – 6:15pm

Dinner 6:30pm – 7:30pm: Sloppy Joes, Mostaccioli, Vegetable Soup, Assorted Salads, Cookies, Brownies, Ice Cream and Punch.  
Split the Pot and Raffle Tickets sold from 4:30pm to 6:15pm

Tickets: \$20 per person  
Children ages 6 – 15: \$10, Children 5 and under - Free  
Please purchase tickets at the church office or from a Music Board Member or at door

**Westchester Community Church**  
Field Fellowship Hall  
1840 Westchester Blvd  
Westchester, IL  
708.865.1282

Enter by the canopy on the north side of the church

Sponsored by the Music Board





## LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

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

**Thursday, February 13, 2025, 7-9 pm**

*Converting Self-Doubts to Self Confidence*

**Nicole Magats, Presenter**

Do you ever feel like you do not deserve the career opportunities you are pursuing, even when you are well-qualified? Impostor syndrome can undermine your confidence, especially during interviews. This presentation will explore the roots of Impostor syndrome, how it affects job seekers, and practical strategies to silence self-doubt. You will learn how to recognize and celebrate your achievements, confidently present your skills, and communicate with authenticity and self-assurance. Join us to discover how to turn your mindset into a powerful tool for interview success and career growth.

Our speaker, Nicole Magats, is the Talent Acquisition Partner at TransChicago Truck Group with 9 years of in-house recruiter and consultant experience in startups to Fortune 500 organizations, interviewing countless candidates. Nicole also works as a Career Coach, providing clients with tangible strategies to streamline their job search, create a resume that reflects their skillset, and articulate their value in interviews.

We look forward to seeing you. Everyone is welcome, no cost to attend.

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



James Rowan Presents  
History of Illinois +  
Travel Destinations

Sunday – February 9, 2025\*  
1 to 3 pm

Wolf Road Prairie House  
11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester



Photos by Jim Rowan

\*Snow Date: Sunday – Feb. 23, 2025



# WINTERFEST FUNDRAISER

Saturday, February 15, 2025

8:00 to 11:00 pm

JOE'S SALOON

9220 47th Street • Brookfield



\$40 donation includes

Appetizers • Beer  
Well Drinks • Wine

**RAFFLE PRIZES !**

Purchase your ticket from a  
Lions Club member

For more information, contact  
Don Prignano at 708 / 207 - 3004  
or donp63@sbcglobal.net

Net proceeds benefit the needs of local communities



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## GIRLS SOFTBALL

slow-pitch

**T-BALL**

ages K - 1st Grade

**JUNIORS**

2nd - 4th Grade

**MINORS**

5th - 8th Grade

**MAJORS**

9th - 12th Grade



## 2025 SEASON

MAY - JULY

**OPEN REGISTRATION**

DECEMBER 1ST - FEBRUARY 28TH

\*T-Ball registration extended through April 1st

**REGISTRATION AVAILABLE  
ONLINE & MAIL-IN**

please see website for additional information  
[www.leaguelineup.com/wgs](http://www.leaguelineup.com/wgs)

**ALL GIRLS WELCOME!**

**NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

all skill levels welcome

**COMPETITIVE FALL BALL FAST PITCH  
SEPT. & OCT.**

separate registration available later in season

promoting fun, friendship,  
sportsmanship,  
fair play, courtesy, respect,  
honesty & integrity

T-BALL \$120  
JUNIORS \$180  
MINORS \$180  
MAJORS \$180



REGISTER HERE

SAVE \$50 with  
refer-a-friend rebate

\*restrictions apply



**Westchester  
Chamber of  
Commerce**

Westchester, Illinois

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHAMBER? SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR EMAIL  
[INFO@WESTCHESTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@WESTCHESTER.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



We love  our members!





# JOIN OUR TEAM



SEASONAL - \*MAY-SEPTEMBER  
\*position dependent

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

PARKS - MAINTENANCE age 18+  
WEEKDAY / WEEKEND

LIFEGUARD age 15+  
SWIM LESSON COORDINATOR age 17+  
SWIM LESSON INSTRUCTOR age 15+  
CONCESSIONS age 16+  
CASHIER age 17+

DAY CAMP COUNSELOR age 16+

PART TIME

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING SUPERVISOR age 16+

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APPLY IN LESS  
THAN 5 MINUTES





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