



Village of Westchester

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From the desk of Village President Greg Hribal

With school back in session, please make every effort to be alert while driving and be mindful of children walking to or from school or bus stops. With the use of electronic devices and headphones by children on their way to school, the lack of attention to traffic can be dangerous.

Be mindful at crossings and remember that it is illegal to pass a school bus with its stop arm out and flashing.

A warning from School District 92 ½ recently advised of an email scam that has been reported to them. Emails that have the appearance of being an official email from the school district have a link that is attempting to obtain password information from the recipient when the link is clicked.

If you open the email, do not open the attachment that is linked within.

The Village of Westchester was recently notified that we have been awarded a Cook County Bureau of Economic Development Block Grant in the amount of \$250,000 that will be utilized for water main improvements in two separate locations.

This is the second Community Block Grant award to be received recently that will be utilized to complete more of the repairs needed and replace century old water mains.

As a reminder, visit the village website for information and updates on water main, street reconstruction, and sewer lining projects that are currently being worked on.
www.westchester-il.org/construction

The sixth annual Tour de Proviso is hosted by Oak Park, Forest Park and River Forest this year. It has been scheduled for Saturday October 4, 2025, and will both start and end at the

Oak Park Village Hall located at 123 Madison St.

This year there will be a 7-mile and 20-mile course for riders, and as always it is free. Please register for the event online.

With summer over, the Village of Westchester summer hours have ended, and we have reverted to weekly hours of Monday through Friday, 8am to 4:30pm. Please note that several services and documents are available directly from our website. Water bill and ticket payments, generalized permitting documents, and other information is available online at the village's website.

The Village of Westchester hosted two town hall meetings recently, regarding the new online water usage portal Veregy.

This portal has already been extremely impactful to residents who were unaware of small leaks in their house, mostly due to a faulty toilet flap.

Sign up on our website and be notified if there is a suspected leak or continuous use of water through your water meter long before a bill comes. Also, you can review projected water use at any time during the month. If you require assistance in setting up this service please contact public works.

The Illinois Secretary of State's REAL ID rush has calmed down in the past month, reducing the waiting times at the facility.

The Westchester Senior Secretary of State service office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 4:00pm offering services to those 65 and older. Drivers license renewals, license plate stickers and driver's tests are just a few of the services seniors can have handled without an appointment.

Village of Westchester

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



Village Officials

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General Questions/Information

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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
31	1 HAPPY LABOR DAY	2	3 VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED FOR IN-SERVICE DAY BWJWA MEETING 10:30AM - BROADVIEW VILLAGE HALL	4 GROW ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION - 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	5	6 PRAIRIE FEST 10AM - 4PM PRAIRIE HOUSE
7	8	9 VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 6PM VILLAGE HALL	10 AGING CARE BINGO 11:15AM MAYFAIR REC CENTER	11 9/11 CEREMONY 9AM - VILLAGE HALL 100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM - VILLAGE HALL	12	13 BRIDGING THE GAP PARADE & FAIR 10AM - 4PM MAYWOOD / PLCCA
14 INSECT SAFARI 12-2PM PRAIRIE HOUSE	15	16	17	18	19	20 REUSE-A-PALOOZA COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE
21 REUSE-A-PALOOZA COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE	22 hello fall	23 VILLAGE BOARD & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 6PM VILLAGE HALL	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION 6PM VILLAGE HALL	1 VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED FOR IN-SERVICE DAY BWJWA MEETING 10:30AM - BROADVIEW VILLAGE HALL	2 GROW ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION - 6:30PM VILLAGE HALL	3	4 TOUR DE PROVISO 7AM - OAK PARK VILLAGE HALL

• VILLAGE MEETINGS • VILLAGE EVENTS • OTHER LOCAL EVENTS



thank You

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join us!

www.westchester-il.org/sponsors



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SUPER ONE HOUR CLEANERS
TRITON COLLEGE
THE WATSON FAMILY
WEST40
WESTCHESTER CHAMBER
WESTCHESTER MASONIC TEMPLE
WESTCHESTER PARK DISTRICT
WESTCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WINTRUST
ZIEBELL WATER SERVICE PRODUCTS

WESTCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT



OPEN HOUSE

FOOD, FUN & FIRE PREVENTION!



MONDAY, OCTOBER 6



6:00 TO 8:30 PM



FIRE STATION #25
10240 ROOSEVELT RD
WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

Enjoy an evening filled with excitement and education at the Westchester Fire Department—featuring a **DJ, bounce house, free food, giveaways** and **live demonstrations!**



NATIONAL
FIRE PREVENTION
-WEEK-

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Celebrating Paul Gattuso and Paul’s Pizza

Westchester is fortunate to be home to many excellent businesses and many dedicated business owners. When those two come together, the entire community is made stronger. Few stories capture this better than that of Paul Gattuso and his long-time business, Paul’s Pizza.

Although Paul’s Pizza recently closed its doors, Paul continues his work in the restaurant world as co-owner of GP Italiano in LaGrange. While Paul may not be a lifelong resident of Westchester, his contributions as a business owner, Village Trustee, and Village President have left a lasting mark on our community.

Paul’s story is one of determination and hard work. From his early years holding three jobs—at Sears in Berwyn, Sexton’s Paint, and the Berwyn Theatre—Paul dreamed of running his own hot dog stand. He saved diligently and eventually opened his first store at Harlem and Irving. Wanting to establish himself in the western suburbs, Paul found a small 600-square-foot shop on 31st Street in Westchester by Rosemary Joyce Real Estate, where he operated for more than 20 years.

Paul credits several community mentors—Tony Christopher, Angelo Luciano, John Sinde, and Wayne Busa to name a few—with helping him understand both business and community life. Their support, advice, and even hands-on assistance in his shop shaped his approach to leadership and service.

From the beginning, Paul embraced the belief that true business success comes from investing in the com-

munity. Starting with Westchester Baseball, his support extended to Girls Softball, Blind Baseball, local hockey leagues, churches, the “Soup for Veterans Run,” and countless police, fire, and emergency personnel throughout the western suburbs. His guiding principle has always been simple: “You do good because it’s good. If you do that, it will come back tenfold.”

In 1999, Paul relocated down the street to Westbrook Commons, where he built lasting relationships with neighboring businesses. Together, they formed a nonprofit group that organized craft fairs, car shows, movie nights, and concerts—events that strengthened local business and community ties alike.

Over the years, Paul’s Pizza became more than a restaurant—it became a gathering place. From the “Morning Coffee Clutch” to regular lunch groups, Paul knew his customers by name and by order. The Monday Hot Dog crowd, the Tuesday Beef Sandwich and Meatball group, and fans of his Eggplant Parmesan each added to the fabric of his business. Paul was thankful that Chauncey from Chauncey’s Great Outdoors on ESPN 1000 hosted a live remote every year on the first Saturday of August for 20 years. Paul is thankful for everyone who helped Paul’s Pizza be a success. Through it all, Paul felt every day was made brighter when his father, Anthony, worked alongside him, instilling lessons of hard work and integrity that Paul carries with him to this day.

Not only was Paul’s Pizza a Westchester institution, it also served

as an important first job for many young people in Westchester. Over the years, Paul employed more than 75 individuals, including many local high school and college students. Paul is grateful for his first set of employees – Michael Sullivan, Jesus Marrillo, and Tom Bannon – as well as all the others who made Paul’s Pizza a neighborhood institution. Whether the employees were working the hot dog table, beef table, frier, pizza oven, or cleaning tables, Paul valued them all the same. His longest-serving employee, Luis Landeros, and his family became like family to Paul. For Paul, supporting and mentoring young workers was as rewarding as running a successful business.

Today, Paul has partnered with Joe Delcroce—a former Paul’s Pizza employee and Kendall College Culinary graduate—to operate GP Italiano. Together, they serve a mix of traditional Italian favorites and contemporary dishes, from Chicken Parmesan and steaks to short ribs, octopus, and wood-fired pizzas.

While many will miss Paul’s Pizza—the food, the staff, and even the hand-painted mural by Bruce Sirus (which Paul still has today)—Paul continues to serve with the same passion, work ethic, and love for community at GP Italiano. GP Italiano is located at 1 S. LaGrange Road, open Tuesday – Saturday 4:00-10:00, and Sunday 4:00-8:00.

On behalf of Westchester, we thank Paul Gattuso for over 46 years of outstanding business, leadership, and service.

Thank you, Paul!



School's Back—Let's Keep Our Children Safe

Well, just like that, our children are back in school! Many are traveling by bicycle, walking, or taking the bus each day. This is a time when drivers must be especially observant and alert—particularly in school zones and around buses making stops.

By law, drivers must come to a complete stop when a school bus has its red lights flashing and stop arm extended. Bus drivers do their best to guide children safely, but kids can act unpredictably.

That's why it's critical for all of us behind the wheel to stay attentive and prepared for the unexpected so every child gets to and from school safely.

Remember: school buses are equipped with camera systems that can record traffic violations, and those recordings can be used by police in court. Too often, crashes happen when drivers rush to get from point A to point B. Slowing down, observing speed limits, and giving yourself extra travel time can prevent injuries—or even save a life. Stay aware of your surroundings, avoid



distractions like your phone, and watch carefully when making turns near side streets in school zones. Crossing guards are out there helping, but they can only do so much. Always maintain a safe dis-

tance from buses in case of sudden stops. At the end of the day, it's up to us as responsible drivers to protect children. Tragedies can be avoided by being patient, alert, and cautious. Please—slow

down, because once something bad happens, we cannot turn back time.

Sincerely,
Police Chief Daniel Babich



Congratulations to our newest officers!

On August 22, Officer Gresik, Officer Garcia, and Officer Wasik graduated from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy Class 25-02. They are now completing their Field Training next week, and we are excited to officially welcome them to the Westchester family. If you see them out on the street, be sure to say hello and give them a warm welcome!

WESTCHESTER POLICE BLOTTER

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

25-2483 07/08/2025 1:17AM TRAFFIC ARREST MANNHEIM RD & GLADSTONE ST

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 23 year old male from Brookfield, IL was cited for Disregard Traffic Control Device, Speeding, No Valid Insurance, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol,

and Illegal Transportation of Cannabis. The 23 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

25-2561 07/14/2025 10:13PM TRAFFIC ARREST 1400 BLK WESTCHESTER BLVD

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 27 year old male from Westchester, IL

was cited for Driving in the Wrong Lane, Registration Suspended for Insurance, and Expired Driver's License. The 27 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

25-2572 07/15/2025 9:21PM TRAFFIC ARREST ROOSEVELT RD & BOEGER AVE

WPD Officer on patrol observed a

vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 51 year old male from Chicago, IL was cited for Improper Lane Usage, Impeding the flow of Traffic, and Driving while License Cancelled. The 51 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

*This is not a comprehensive list. Please visit www.westchester-il.org/blotter for more information.



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER

September 2025

Kayak with the Library! Multiple dates | See Calendar

Join us on a kayak trip and discover the beauty of the Des Plaines River this fall! Call for more details
(708) 562-3573 x2

September Book Discussion

September 16th | 6:30 PM
Join us to discuss *I Cheerfully Refuse* by Leif Enger. Copies are available now at the circulation desk.

New Monthly Knitting Group!

First Wednesday | 6 PM
Drop in to hang out with other Westchester knitters! Call for more details **(708) 562-3573 x2**

Nature Journaling

Saturday, September 13th | 11 AM | Conference Room
Want to connect to the natural world? Visit the library's gardens and start a nature journal, guided by a librarian. Every attendee will be provided with a journal, and we'll talk about observation, sketching, and how to keep journaling through the cold of winter. **Registration is required.**

Adult Take-and-Make: Printed Leaf Book-Page Garlands

Monday, September 15th | Adult Department
While Supplies Last

Create a fall decoration with our Adult Take-and-Make Printed Leaf Book Page Garland kit, which includes old book pages and paint for stamping colorful leaf prints at home. While supplies last.

Embroidery Journaling

Thursday, September 18th | 6 PM
Community Room

Come sew a felt embroidery 'journal' that you can use to learn new stitches throughout the year! This 1-session program will teach you to sew a folded felt 'journal', how to do the straight stitch and the back stitch, and suggest ideas for embellishing the cover. Future take-home instructions will teach you one new stitch per month. **Registration is required.**

Papermaking 101

Tuesday, September 30th | 2 PM or 6 PM Community Room

Learn the basics of papermaking and create your very own paper by hand—just in time to use it in next month's bookbinding class! **Registration for either the 2PM or 6PM sessions is required.**

Hoop Dancing Performance by Starr Chief Eagle

Wednesday, October 22nd | 6 PM | Community Room

Starr Chief Eagle, an enrolled member of the Sicangu (Rosebud) Lakota Sioux Tribe, will provide an interactive and educational dive into Lakota Culture that will explore the language, art, and knowledge of the Lakota people. During her presentation she will perform the rare tradition of Hoop Dancing in which she uses 22 hoops to create several designs, shapes, and creatures to tell a story. **Registration is required**

Chair Yoga with Fit4Chicago

September 9th | 11 AM | Community Room

Come stretch with Fit4Chicago's talented instructors! This is a gentle chair yoga session, perfect for all fitness levels with no floor work required. Just bring yourself and get ready to move, breathe, and relax. **Registration is required.**

Qigong and Sound Meditation

September 20th | 11 AM | Community Room

Join Gail Morales for this beginner-friendly workshop that is a combination of qigong and beautiful sounds.

Qigong involves a series of slow flowing movements and deep measured breathing while in a chair or standing. The workshop ends with soothing sounds from seven crystal singing bowls, chimes, handheld gongs, and other sound instruments. **Registration is required.**

Prairie Sounds & Reflections with Gail Morales

September 24th | 5:30 PM | Wolf Road Prairie House

Come experience the Autumn Equinox with Gail Morales at the Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve. Autumn brings the sound of wind rustling through leaves, bird calls, and even scents of pine and grass. This tranquil gathering will feature a light sound bath and the beautiful sounds of nature, creating a deeply calming and restorative experience. Afterwards, we will reflect and journal our observations. This program will be outside on the deck of the Wolf Road Prairie House. Chairs are provided, but feel free to bring a yoga mat. Journals will be supplied by the library. **Registration is required.**

After-Work Garden Photography

September 25th | 5:30 PM | Library Garden

Join us in Prairie Rising, the native plant garden on the library grounds, to take photos of the plants, pollinators, and birds. Use your own camera or smartphone, or borrow one of the library's DSLR cameras. **Registration is required.**

Flappers and Fedoras! Songs of the Roaring Twenties

Tuesday, September 23rd | 6 PM | Community Room

It's the Bee's Knees! The 1920s come alive musically with Matt and Cynthia Gruel through tunes like "It Had to Be You," "Ain't Misbehavin'," "Chicago, That Toddlin' Town," "Mack the Knife," "Puttin' on the Ritz," "Bye Bye Blackbird," "Sweet Georgia Brown," "Ain't She Sweet," "Charleston," and many more! Hear fascinating stories about Prohibition, Al Capone, Fats Waller, F. Scott & Zelda Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and Chicago in the 20's. **Registration is required.**



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 Patrick Callaghan • Board of Trustees John Lamberti-president, 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 in the Library

Mother Goose on the Loose

Wednesdays | 10:15 AM | Youth Department

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

Tales & Treats!

Thursday, September 11th | 4 PM | Community Room

Calling all kids in Kindergarten - 2nd grade. Join us once a month for this special storytime just for you! Listen to fun stories while you munch on a delicious snack! **Registration is required**; for grades K - 2.

Pajama Storytime

Thursday, September 25th | 6 PM | Youth Department

Grab your pajamas and join Ms. Mel for this special evening storytime, complete with snacks! Best for PreK - 2nd grade.

Teen Programs

Volunteer for the Puzzle Swap!

Saturday, September 13th | 9:45 AM - 2:15 PM

Oversee our first puzzle swap down in the Teen Room! Please select your start time when registering. Each participant will receive two (2) volunteer hours. Volunteers need to have a volunteer application filled out and signed by a parent/guardian at least one day before the event. For more information, call the Teen Librarian at **708-562-3573 X3**.

Paint and Sip with Bob Ross

Monday, September 15th | 6 PM

Paint happy little trees along with Bob Ross and sip on soda (or bring your favorite drink). **Registration is required**; for grades 6-12.

Teen Mystery Book Boxes

October 6th | Circulation Desk

Sign up for a Mystery Book box! In the box, you'll find a book (or two) on a specific theme and some surprises! For grades 6-12 with a valid library card. **Registration is required**.

Teen Take & Make

October 6th | Teen Room

Drop by the Teen Room for a craft kit--take it home or stay in the library and create it! For grades 6-12 while supplies last.

Youth Programs

Favorite Books Scavenger Hunt

All Month | Youth Department

The covers of your favorite books are hidden in the Youth Department! Collect a sheet and start hunting! When you find them all, come to the Youth Services desk for a prize! One (1) sheet per participant

Imagination Station

Monday, September 8th | 10 AM - 7 PM

Once a month stop by our Imagination Station where you'll find everything you need to make a cool craft, pick up books on a specific topic, and more! What a great way to give your creativity a work out! Best for grades K - 5, while supplies last.

Mario Kart Mondays

Mondays | 4 PM | Teen Room

Zoom through the colorful world of Mario Kart and show off your racing skills! Best for kids in 3rd grade+.

Sensory Lab

Monday, September 15th | 11 AM

Don't miss this special monthly program where your little one can touch, feel, explore and more at our sensory stations! **Registration is required**; best for PreK.

Lego Club

Friday, September 12th & 26th | 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.

Puzzle Swap

Saturday, September 13th | 10 AM - 2 PM | Teen Room

Tired of your old puzzles? Bring them in and swap them out with some new-to-you ones! While supplies last.



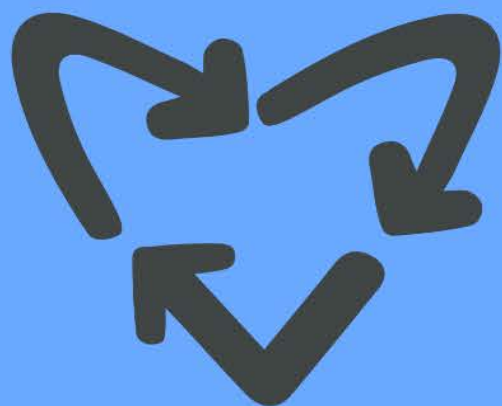
WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY • 10700 Canterbury Street • Westchester, IL 60154

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

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



REUSE-A-PALOOZA

YARDSALE BONANZA & REUSE FEST

SALE!

Community Yard Sale September 20-21, 2025

GROW Ecological Commission invites you to participate in our annual community yard sale! Reduce your trash by keeping useful items out of landfills, and shop for deals on unique, pre-loved items that reduce the impacts of buying new.

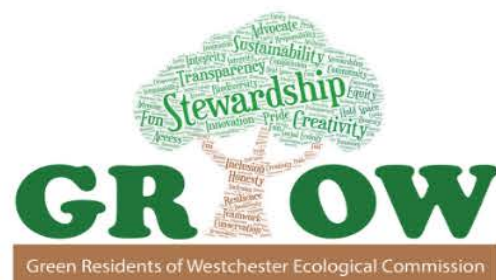
REGISTER YOUR SALE BY SEP. 12:
www.westchester-il.org/reuse



**Reduce
Reuse
Recycle**

Map of sales:

Visit **www.gsalr.com** and enter zip code or scan below



Tips to Make Your Reuse-a-Palooza Yard Sale a Success

Westchester’s Reuse-a-Palooza yard sale fest is hosted by the Green Residents of Westchester (GROW) Ecological Commission with a goal to help you declutter your home, make extra cash, and ensure your items stay out of the landfill. Here are some helpful tips to set your sale up for success:

Plan Ahead

• **Timing:** Consider holding your sale over both days to maximize revenue and the amount of stuff you can declutter.

• **Weather:** Monitor the weather forecast and have a backup plan in case of rain, such as tarps, tents, or an indoor area.

• **Set your pricing strategy:** See page three for pricing and sales tips.

• **Cash and digital payments:** Have plenty of change available and keep cash in a secure, easily accessible place like a money belt or a lockbox. Consider accepting digital payments via apps like Venmo or PayPal to accommodate more buyers.

Get buyers to your sale:

• **Help spread the word:** Advertising and marketing of your individual sale is your responsibility. Promote your garage sale items on community boards, local newspapers, and online platforms like Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace, and Nextdoor. Use clear, eye-catching signs around your neighborhood with the sale address. Remember: The Village will post banners, but cannot promote individual sales.

• **Collaborate with your neighbors:** This event is just as much about community engagement as it is about yard sales. Check the map to see who is hosting in your area to a) Collaborate with your neighbors to hold a larger sale b) get neighbors involved so more buyers will come to your area.

• **Consider a theme.** Think about what you are selling and how you can highlight your sale from the others taking place (vintage kitchenware, baby accessories, electronics, etc), and advertise accordingly.

Set Up Effectively

• **Categorize:** Arrange items by category (e.g., clothes, toys, books) to make browsing more convenient for shoppers. Especially with multiple sales on the same day, buyers may be less likely to spend lots of time at a sale if they can’t immediately find items of interest to them.

• **Display:** Use tables, shelves, and racks to display items neatly. Ensure everything is visible and within easy reach.

• **Cleanliness:** Clean all items before the sale. A tidy, well-organized setup can attract more buyers.

• **Comfort:** Consider providing shade and seating for yourself and shoppers, especially if the weather is hot. Encourage shoppers to linger at your sale instead of moving on.

• **Safety:** Keep valuable items close to you and consider having a helper to keep an eye on things.

Extra Ways to Build Community

• **Greeting:** Be friendly and greet shoppers as they arrive. A warm welcome can make people more comfortable and willing to browse.

• **Refreshments:** Offering inexpensive refreshments like bottled water or homemade lemonade can entice customers to stay longer and shop more.

After the Sale

• **Donations:** Decide in advance what to do with unsold items. Consider donating them to charity or scheduling a pickup with a local donation center. The Eventbrite page includes a repository of potential donation resources, but this is not an exhaustive list.

The village will not be coordinating trash pick up or donation pick up: The purpose of this event is to encourage landfill diversion, so there will be no special trash pickup. It is impossible to predict the types, locations, and quantities of items being donated, so the Village is unable to engage a charity to drive around town with a box truck to pick up donations.

• **Cleanup:** Remove any remaining signs from your neighborhood to avoid fines and maintain goodwill.

Pricing and Sales Tips

Remember that this event is intended to help you declutter your house, not to fully fund your retirement. By having realistic expectations and following these pricing tips, you can attract more buyers, encourage sales, and ensure your items move quickly during your garage sale.

Set Your Prices:

• **Research pricing:** Check online marketplaces like eBay, Craigslist, and Facebook Marketplace to see what similar items are sold for. This will give you a baseline for pricing. You can also visit other garage sales in your area to understand local pricing trends. Note the prices of items similar to what you’re selling.

• **Condition:** Price items based on their condition. Items in excellent condition can be priced higher, while those with visible wear and tear should be priced lower.

• **Depreciation:** Remember that used items typically sell for much less than their original purchase price. Aim for about 10-30% of the original retail price, depending on the item’s condition and demand.

• **High Value Items:** Unlike estate or consignment sales, most garage sales include lower-priced items. If you’d like to include higher-value items in your sale, consider marking prices as “firm” if you’re not willing to negotiate. If you are committed to a particular price, you may want to consider keeping that item out of your sale. Selling that item on Facebook Marketplace, eBay, or other specialty platforms can draw in serious buyers from a broader area that know the item’s value and are willing to pay a higher price.

• **Negotiation:** Be open to haggling, but set a minimum price in your mind for each item. Bundle deals can also encourage buyers to purchase more.

Pricing like a Pro:

• **Bulk Pricing:** Offer bundle deals, such as “3 for \$5” on books or toys. This can help move items quickly and encourage buyers to purchase more, leaving you with less clutter.

• **Early Bird Discounts:** Offer and post on Facebook if you will offer a discount to early shoppers or for those who buy multiple items. For example, “Buy 2, get 1 free” or “10% off before 10 AM.”

• **Low-Priced or Free Items:** Have a bargain bin with items priced at \$1 or less – or even a “free” section. This can lure more shoppers to your sale and help move smaller, less valuable items quickly.

• **Last-Day Deals:** On the final day/in the final hours of your sale, consider slashing prices or offering deep discounts to clear out remaining items.

Registration Information:

Must register by September 12 to be included on the sales map. You will then receive a link for your individual listing on September 13, one week before the event. That should still give you time to upload photos and promote your sale.

Here’s how the process will work for 2025:

•September 13, you’ll receive an email from gsarl.com with the subject line: “Pending invitation to join: Reuse-A-Palooza from mailer@gsarl.com”

- Open the Email & Approve Your Listing
- Click the “Yes, Approve my listing!” button in the email.
- Confirm your participation
- Add photos of items you’re selling (up to 50!)
- Write a description to highlight your sale (ex: baby items, furniture, tools, etc.)
- Choose optional upgrades if you want to boost visibility (not required)
- Your listing will then be published and included in the interactive sale map.

If you run into issues or don’t receive your email, check your spam folder or contact mailer@gsarl.com. You can also reach out to me at nway@westchester-il.gov with questions. Thanks for joining in — let’s reduce, reuse, and make this our best sale yet!

Green Fact of the Month

Recycled aluminum uses less than 5% of the energy to make original product.

Recycled glass uses about 75% of the energy to make virgin glass.

Recycled steel uses 60-75% of energy used to make steel from raw material.

<https://archive.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/smm/wastewise/web/html/factoid.html>

Recipe of the Month

• **Keep enjoying what’s in season!**
• This bake is easy to customize with your favorite spices and veggies and works well as a side or main dish. Leave out the parmesan to make it vegan/dairy-free.

Tomato Eggplant Zucchini Bake with Garlic and Parmesan

• *makes 6 servings*

Ingredients

- -3 medium zucchini (about 1 1/2 pounds)
- -1 small/medium eggplant (about 3/4 pound)
- -1 pint cherry tomatoes or grape tomatoes
- -1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- - 4 large cloves garlic, minced

- - ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
- - ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
- - ⅔ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese divided (about 2 1/2 ounces)
- - ¼ cup chopped fresh basil divided
- -¼ cup chopped fresh parsley divided

Instructions

-Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Lightly grease a deep 9x9-inch baking dish or similar 3 1/2-quart casserole dish with nonstick spray.

-Quarter the zucchini then cut into 1/2-inch slices and place in a large mixing bowl (each piece of zucchini should be roughly 1/2 to 3/4 inches in size).

-Next, slice the eggplant into 1/4-inch rounds, then stack the rounds and cut into roughly 3/4-inch pieces. Add to the bowl with the zucchini. Halve the cherry tomatoes and add them to the

bowl.

-Drizzle the cut vegetables with the olive oil, then add the garlic, salt, pepper, 1/3 cup of the Parmesan cheese, and half of the basil and parsley. Toss gently to combine.

-Transfer the vegetables to the prepared baking dish. Bake for 25 minutes, cover the pan with aluminum foil, then continue baking for 10 to 20 additional minutes, until the vegetables are tender.

-Sprinkle with the remaining Parmesan cheese, basil, and parsley. Serve warm.

Source: www.wellplated.com

Have a plant-based recipe you’d like to share with the community? Send it to GROW@westchester-il.gov for consideration for future newsletters.

PUBLIC WORKS

Village branch collection for September will be the week of September 8th – 12th
October’s collection will be the week of October 6th – 10th

November’s collection will be the week of November 3rd – 7th (last collection of the season)

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 your designated collection 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 collection 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 debris 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 S.B.C. began on your first rubbish collection day in April.

S.B.C. Waste Solutions, Inc. – 312-522-1115
sbcwastesolutions.com/westchester

- **Labor Day Delay:** There will be no garbage pickup on Monday, September 1. Monday routes will be collected on Tuesday, September 2. Tuesday routes will be collected on Wednesday, September 3. Thursday and Friday routes will remain on their regular schedule.
- 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.

Street Parking Restrictions

From April 1 through November 30, parking restrictions are in effect to support **street maintenance** activities. Please check posted street signs carefully—it is unlawful to park or leave a vehicle parked during designated weekday hours on streets marked for maintenance. These restrictions help ensure our streets stay clean and well-maintained. These restrictions are for one side of the street, once a week, 7am-3pm as designated by posted signage.

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.

Village Watering Restrictions

There are water use restrictions in effect every year, May 15th to September 15th, from 12pm to 6pm. This includes:

- (1) Outdoor Watering
- (2) Cleaning Outdoor Surfaces
- (3) Cleaning Buildings
- (4) Pool Filling
- (5) Sprinkling/ sprinklers

Outdoor water usage during unrestricted hours (before noon, after 6pm) is allowed on even numbered days for residents with even numbered addresses, and on odd numbered days for residents with odd numbered addresses. If we have a dry summer, further restrictions may be necessary.

CONSTRUCTION NEWS

Construction notices & signs are all around the Village. Please read & keep notices when you receive them, and remember to obey all signs, permanent & temporary. UPDATES are posted daily to the Village of Westchester website.

- **In-House Street Paving Phase II – Anticipated for September 22–26, subject to weather and scheduling**

Street	From	To
Windsor Dr.	Mayfair Ave	Boeger Ave

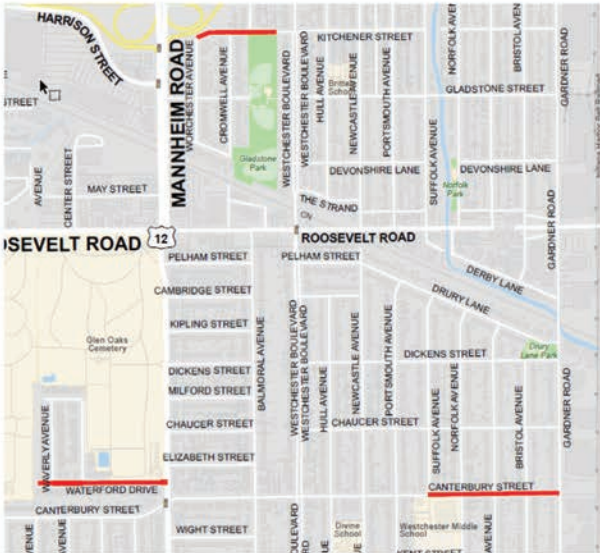
- **Water Main/ Service Line Replacements, Sewer Lining, and Street Resurfacing Program**

Street	From	To
Norfolk Ave.	Wedgwood Dr.	Roosevelt Rd.
Pelham St.	Westchester Blvd	Newcastle Ave.
Drury Ln.	Newcastle Ave.	Gardner Rd.
Canterbury St.	Mannheim Rd.	Westchester Blvd
Water main & service line replacements only		
Balmoral Ave.	Canterbury St.	Wight St.



- **Street Resurfacing Program**

Street	From	To
Waterford St.	Mannheim Rd.	Cul-de-sac
Kitchner St.	Westchester Blvd	Worcester Ave.
Canterbury St.	Suffolk Ave.	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 708-593-3830.

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Giordano Manfredini
708-363-6789


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9:00 AM - 1:15 PM
10210 Canterbury St, Westchester, IL
(Basement)




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Donors will have the chance to win one of two (2) \$10,000 prepaid gift cards, redeemable by email. *Terms and conditions apply; see vitalant.org/SeptGiveaway.

Appointments Recommended.
Prepare: Eat well, hydrate, & bring ID.

For more information visit us at vitalant.org or call 877-258-4825. **Because of you, life doesn't stop.**





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Mike Rush and Larry Godson

Sunday – September 14, 2025
12-2 pm

Wolf Road Prairie House
11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester



Locust Borer Beetle (*Megacyllene robiniae*) Photo: Jim Rowan

CENTENNIAL HISTORY: William Zelosky

One of the earliest developers of the model town of Westchester was William Zelosky. His office was located on Roosevelt Road very near the Roosevelt train station that opened on Oct. 1, 1925, connecting Westchester to the city of Chicago. Zelosky's real estate sales office was intended from the start to be donated to the village of Westchester as a civic center after the William Zelosky Company no longer needed it as a sales center. The building was created as a modified English-style building with a thatched roof. The interior was to contain a hall holding about 400 people with an arched ceiling. It was planned with the most modern conveniences, with an executive office and ten private offices for sales managers, including restrooms and lighting effects.

His vision was to create communities close to transportation with key infrastructure in place, such as water and gas mains, sewers, and street lighting. Sidewalks and extra wide streets were to be created, as well as parklands.

He also advocated for elm trees to be planted, and Westchester planted 15,000 of these trees. He had already developed eight subdivisions on the Northwest side, where he had restricted properties and zoned them for residences, apartments and business buildings before Chicago adopted zoning laws.

His main hub of operations was located at 111 West Washington, on the second floor of what was then known as the Conway Building, designed by famed architect Daniel Burnham, now called the Burnham Center. Wherever Zelosky created subdivisions, they bore his unique stamp of community planning.

Who was this successful real estate developer? William Paul Zelosky (originally Zelichowski) was born on May 8, 1867, in Gniewkowo, Poland. He came to the US in 1880 and settled in Ft. Worth, Texas, where he resided from 1890 to circa 1900. His brother Frank emigrated from Poland and settle there as well in 1884, changing his name to Zeloski in 1909. William encouraged his niece Rose Cecilia Zelosky (with a "y") to study law at the University of Texas at Austin, and she became one of the first women to graduate from law school in Texas.

William Zelosky had promised her a trip to Europe if she completed her studies. She became a suffragette and worked on the legal team of AT&T and later for the Veteran's Administration. After the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, William Zelosky decided to move and settle in Chicago, where he began his real estate business around 1896. He traveled frequently, visiting places such

as Europe, Egypt, Palestine, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii, collecting ideas and inspiration. He was married twice, marrying his second wife in Chicago in 1915. He was a member of the Chicago Real Estate Board, North-West Side Real Estate Board, Illinois Athletic Club and the Press Club. He often was invited as key speaker to real estate and other organizations, and his offices ran real estate classes toward licensing future real estate agents. He was made president of Chicago Mayor Dever's Housing Commission. Dever was mayor from 1923-1927.

William Zelosky created several improvements for financing properties and homes for prospective owners. Many ads were placed in the Chicago Tribune advertising investments in lots and homes in these newly expanded communities.

Back in the 1920s banks required a 50 percent downpayment on a home. Zelosky created his own financing plans which helped many working-class people be able to afford their own home through lower monthly payments, "like paying rent." He specialized in brick homes, especially bungalows, two-flats, and on occasion, three-flats. In 1924, he invested in and developed subdivisions in Lake View West, Rosedale Manor, Colonial Gardens, Park View West, Catalpa Park, Gladstone Park and Gardens, and Jefferson Park. One can still find a rare plaque on the sidewalks of Catalpa Avenue bearing the William Zelosky Company name. He offered safe, efficient and attractive subdivisions to prospective clients.

He had offices in eight locations in the Chicago area, with four on Milwaukee Avenue alone. In the early to mid-1920s, he recruited sales managers, real estate agents, and staff to conduct his business. When Westchester was created in 1925, he had already gathered the requisite knowledge and experience to create and develop attractive subdivisions near the city of Chicago. What was new was that he was able to work setting up a community from scratch.

All the other communities he had worked on were already partially developed and did not have the open space that the Westchester area had to offer. The first baby born in Westchester was named after him - William Paul Gardaphe, whose father Charles worked for the Zelosky Company. William Zelosky died of a heart attack in Del Mar, San Diego, California.

He was 78 years old. If you visit the Westchester streets north of Roosevelt Road, you can still find examples of Zelosky homes and developments sandwiched between more modern postwar



One of the earliest developers of the model town of Westchester was William Zelosky. His office was located on Roosevelt Road very near the Roosevelt train station that opened on Oct. 1, 1925, connecting Westchester to the city of Chicago.

buildings. Today the Westchester Village Hall is located where his sales office used to be. Starting in 1962, following the death of William's wife Mildred Zelosky in 1959, an exchange scholarship program was set up to have U.S students study in Poland, and Polish students study in the U.S. Above all William Zelosky had great faith in the expansion

of Chicago and its surrounding communities with transportation services and infrastructure in place. Westchester was inspired by his vision of the perfect model town.

Patricia Reaves
Save the Prairie Society
Director and Historian



GARDENS NEEDED FOR 2026

Grassroots Garden Group is looking for gardens to showcase in our 8th Annual Westchester Garden Walk in 2026! If you want your yard and gardens to be considered, contact us immediately. Garden scouting will occur in August and September. Benefits of being in the garden walk include:

- Help those in need
- Encourage fellow gardeners
- Meet great people
- Show off our beautiful village
- Attend our Preview Party
- Advance viewing of all gardens

www.GrassrootsGardenGroup.org/Volunteer

LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

Interfaith Career Network Offers Free Assistance Open to All

"Tech-Savvy for Success: Basic Digital Skills for Job Seekers"

Thursday, September 18, 2025 From 7-9pm

Casey Emerich, Presenter

Join us at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, Western Springs, as we explore time-saving tech tips and tricks with our speaker, Casey Emerich, Office Technology Information Professor at College of DuPage.

In today's competitive job market, digital organization can set you apart. This practical, hands-on session is designed to help job seekers boost confidence and productivity by mastering everyday technology tools and techniques.

Key Takeaways:

- Best practices for organizing digital files and folders.
- Smart file naming conventions for easy retrieval
- How to use OneDrive to access your documents from anywhere
- Keyboard shortcuts to improve speed and efficiency.

Join us for this informative presentation at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs on 9/18, 7-9pm. All are welcome. There is no cost to attend.

Visit www.interfaithcareernetwork.com for additional resources.

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Westchester Garden Walk Delivers!

Despite a steady rain that lasted nearly an hour, Grassroots Garden Group's 7th Annual Westchester Garden Walk on Saturday, July 19th, was a record breaking success! The rain couldn't keep over 140 garden walk enthusiasts away from visiting this year's 11 featured gardens which covered the entire village in celebration of Westchester's Centennial. The expanded offering included both public and private gardens featuring a stunning array of flowers, vegetables, trees, ponds, and elaborate entertaining spaces. The vision and creativity of this year's garden owners was truly special and has cemented the garden walk as one of Westchester's signature annual events.

"Every year our garden walk features beautiful gardens and this year was no exception," said Grassroots Garden Group's founder, Bethanny Alexander. "Several visitors have shared with us that the Westchester Garden Walk is their favorite garden walk in the area. We thank our garden homeowners, sponsors, volunteers, and enthusiastic garden walkers for making 2025 the best garden walk yet. Our garden walk reinforces that Westchester is a beautiful place to live."

Proceeds from the garden walk are donated to the Westchester Food Pantry. A record-setting \$7,000 check was presented to Amanda Grant, executive director of the food pantry. Since 2018, Grassroots Garden Group's annual garden walks and plant sales have raised nearly \$50,000 for the Westchester Food Pantry.

"The need to assist those who are food insecure is greater now than ever before," said Grant. "We are so grateful Grassroots Garden Group continues to partner with us to help fulfill our mission."

For more information about getting involved with Grassroots Garden Group, or if you would like to have your yard and gardens considered for the 2026 Westchester Garden Walk, please visit www.grassrootsgardengroup.org or send an email to grassrootsgroup2015@gmail.com.



WaterSmart Portal is Now Live – Sign Up Now!

We're excited to announce the launch of Westchester's new Water Usage Portal! This new tool will allow residents to view real-time water usage, receive automated alerts for leaks or unusual activity, access billing information, and more — all in one convenient place.

Don't miss this opportunity to take control of your water usage, avoid surprises on your bill, and help us build a more efficient, responsive utility system.

SIGN UP FOR THE WATERSMART PORTAL NOW: www.westchester-il.org/waterportal

New Water & Sewer Rates

These changes took effect July 1, 2025, following a professional rate study, and represent the next phase of the Village's multi-year plan to address aging infrastructure, comply with the State's Lead Service Line Replacement Mandate, and maintain long-term financial sustainability of our water and sewer systems.

New Rates Effective July 1, 2025:

- **Water usage:** \$19.21 per 1,000 gallons
- **Sewer usage:** \$4.03 per 1,000 gallons
- **Water infrastructure fee:** \$22 per month
- **Sewer infrastructure fee:** \$15 per month

These rates will appear on the **September 2025 utility bills**.

The approved ordinance also includes a 10% increase in July 2026, a 5% increase in July 2027, and then annual increases of 3–5% to keep pace with infrastructure maintenance and water delivery costs.

Please note: Garbage rates as of July 1, 2025, will be \$21.65 per month (or \$18.56 per month for senior households), based on the standard annual increase in the Village's solid waste contract.

Water Fixture Efficiency Reimbursement Grant Program

The Village of Westchester is offering a Water Fixture Efficiency Reimbursement Grant to assist low-income residents in reducing water usage and offsetting the cost of high-efficiency fixtures. Eligible residents can receive up to 90% reimbursement on the purchase and installation of lead-free toilets, faucets, and showerheads—with a lifetime household maximum of \$500.

Highlights:

- ✓ Covers up to:
 - \$200 per toilet
 - \$100 per faucet

- \$75 per showerhead

- ✓ Must meet water-efficiency standards (e.g. 1.28 gallons per flush for toilets)
- ✓ Must obtain a free plumbing permit. Income eligibility required (e.g. Medicaid, SNAP, LIHEAP, or unemployment letter)

Utility Bill Hardship Program

The Village of Westchester offers a Utility Bill Hardship Program to assist residents

who are experiencing financial difficulty in keeping up with their water and sewer bill. This program allows eligible account holders to apply for a payment arrangement through a formal hardship hearing.

Program Details:

- ✓ Account must not be delinquent at the time of application
- ✓ Residents must apply in writing using the official application
- ✓ Only one hardship arrangement allowed every 6 months

- ✓ Applicants must attend a scheduled hardship hearing – missing it counts as your one chance for the 6-month period
- ✓ If approved, failure to follow the payment plan will result in termination and the full balance becoming due

Submit completed applications to:
Village of Westchester –
Utility Billing Department
10300 Roosevelt Road,
Westchester, IL 60154

A SMARTER WATER EXPERIENCE HAS ARRIVED IN WESTCHESTER!

With the WaterSmart Customer Portal, you'll be able to:

- View hourly water usage
- Detect potential leaks
- Track usage trends
- Discover conservation tips to help save money

SIGN UP NOW! SCAN HERE:

www.westchester-il.org/waterportal

SIGN UP NOW

SAVE *the* DATE

Parade and Community Resource Fair
Saturday, September 13, 2025
Parade – 10 : 00 am – 12:00 pm
Resource Fair – 12 : 00 pm – 4:00 pm

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS...

CANTATA CENTENNIAL FESTIVAL

Cantata Adult Life Services, a not-for-profit senior living and senior services organization in Brookfield, is celebrating its Centennial.

100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY FUN GRATITUDE

FREE ADMISSION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
1:00PM-9:00PM
CANTATA ADULT LIFE SERVICES CAMPUS
8700 W 31ST ST, BROOKFIELD, IL
(FREE PARKING AVAILABLE AT BROOKFIELD ZOO NORTH LOT,
FREE VALET BICYCLE PARKING PROVIDED BY CYCLE BROOKFIELD)



HEADLINED BY MAGGIE SPEAKS 7PM!

- CANTATA100 BIKE RIDE BY CYCLE BROOKFIELD
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- GAMES & RAFFLES



MORE INFORMATION CAN BE SEEN AT WWW.CANTATA100.ORG INFO@CANTATA.ORG

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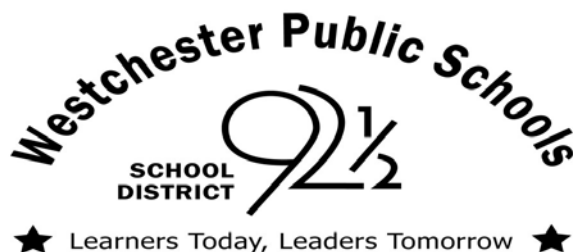
It's the Bee's Knees! The 1920s come alive musically with Matt and Cynthia Gruel through tunes like "It Had to Be You," "Ain't Misbehavin'," "Chicago, That Toddlin' Town," "Mack the Knife," "Puttin' on the Ritz," "Bye Bye Blackbird," "Sweet Georgia Brown," "Ain't She Sweet," "Charleston," and many more! Hear fascinating stories about Prohibition, Al Capone, Fats Waller, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Zelda Fitzgerald and Chicago in the 20's.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD, 6 PM

REGISTER NOW



10700 CANTERBURY STREET, WESTCHESTER, IL 60154
ASKUS@WESTCHESTERPL.ORG
708.562.3573
WWW.WESTCHESTERPL.ORG



A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you're enjoyed the final stretch of summer and finding time to relax and recharge. While it's always hard to say goodbye to summer, I'm excited about what's ahead for our students and staff. Over the past few months, our team has been hard at work preparing for a great school year—one that's full of engaging lessons, meaningful connections, and continued focus on safety and student well-being.

One tradition we're proud to continue is Significant 72—a program dedicated to the first three days of school, focusing on building strong relationships between students and staff. Our team met again this summer to plan activities that will help students feel welcomed, connected, and ready to learn from day one. We're all looking forward to the first day of school on Wednesday, August 20th!

Thank you to all the families who completed registration in July. A big thank you goes out to our school administrative assistants, principals, Officer Aguirre, and our district staff for all their help supporting families through the process.

Here are some important dates to keep on your radar:

- **August 5th** – National Night Out at WIS from 4:00–7:00 p.m.
- **August 11th** – WPS Kindergarten Bus Orientation from 5:00–6:30 p.m.
- **Week of August 11th** – Student schedules will be posted in PowerSchool's Parent Portal
- **August 13th** – WMS Locker Move-In Day, 2:00–5:00 p.m. (for fully registered students)
- **August 18th & 19th** – Teacher Institute Days (No school for students) **Please Note:** Registration will be paused from August 18–20 so staff can focus on first-day prep
- **August 18th** – Meet-and-Greet-with-a-Treat at all buildings, 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- **August 20th** – First Day of School for all students

We know strong partnerships with families make a big difference in student success. I encourage you to stay connected—whether it's through school events, volunteering, or just checking in with your child's teacher. If you ever have a question or want to reach out directly, don't hesitate to email me at psalemi@sd925.org or call my cell at 708-670-1927.

Here's to a fantastic start to the 2025–2026 school year!

Sincerely,

Philip Salemi, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools District 92½

Westchester Primary School

Westchester Primary School was thrilled to begin the school year on August 20th! WPS continues to implement Responsive Classroom Practices for social-emotional learning into our school day. Specifically, we devoted the first three days of school to building a classroom culture and relationships, while also explicitly teaching the Dolphin Pride Expectations for behavior throughout our school: Be Ready, Be Caring, Be Safe.

Also, students have been engaged in all areas of academic learning to ensure achievement and have been participating in the beginning of the year benchmark assessments to collect baseline data and create small groupings for both the ELA and Math. Additionally, our staff will use assessments throughout the school year to help students set and achieve learning goals.

We look forward to creating partnerships with all our families and community members. The WPS Curriculum Night will be held on Thursday, September 4th, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. All attendees learn about their child's curriculum and expectations for learning, and have the opportunity to engage in mini-sessions to gain insight into how to support learning at home after school. Also, WPS will host a Grandparents Night of Activities during our curriculum night to celebrate the special relationship between grandparents and their WPS grandchildren. We encourage families to follow our calendar of events located on the district website at sd925.org.

At this time, WPS would like to welcome the new additions to our school family:

- **Alexa Coglianesi** - Second Grade Teacher
- **Sabrina Gambino** - First Grade Teacher
- **Allison Rogers** - Second Grade Teacher
- **Jeannine Phillips** - Speech Pathologist
- **Natalie Salinas** - Long-term kindergarten substitute teacher for Brittany Swift

We also have a few grade-level changes at WPS this year. **Angie Nagle** and **Brittany Swift** will be teaching kindergarten, and **Tiffany McMorro** and **Ivy White** will be teaching first grade. Additionally, Haley Calabrese has joined us from WIS to serve as a paraprofessional in our school.

WPS continues to send weekly updates on Friday afternoons, starting at 4:00 PM, to our families through Parent Square. All families are encouraged to download the app on their phone for up-to-date information. These messages include essential information about WPS and our upcoming activities and events. Please ensure that your email address is current in PowerSchool so that you receive these messages. If you are not receiving the messages, please get in touch with the main office at 708-562-1509.

Finally, all families are encouraged to join the WPTC if they have not already done so. Joining is an excellent way to stay connected to the school and participate in year-long events that help strengthen the home-school connection.



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF THE WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY

HARVESTING *Hope*

HONORING OUR PAST...BUILDING OUR TOMORROW

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 5:30PM

*Join us for a reception and dinner to celebrate
the Westchester Food Pantry's 30th anniversary
and discover how you can actively support its future*



WESTCHESTER
FOOD PANTRY

Plymouth Place, Dole Hall
315 N. La Grange Road, La Grange Park
(free parking available)



WHAT A JOURNEY THE LAST 30 YEARS HAS BEEN!

*What began as a seed of an idea
in our founder's garage has grown
into an incredible organization that
assists over 6000 households a year.*

*While there is a lot to celebrate,
there is much work that lies ahead.
Join our future at Harvesting Hope.*



**WESTCHESTER
FOOD PANTRY**

COCKTAIL RECEPTION & DINNER
RECOGNITION | GUEST SPEAKERS
WINE PULL | PADDLE RAISE | AUCTIONS



\$100 PER PERSON | \$900 PER TABLE

To purchase tickets, scan the QR code
or visit www.westchesterfoodpantry.org
by September 8th

HARVESTING *Hope*





WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



WET NOSE PANTRY



DONATIONS NEEDED! CAN YOU HELP?



NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

The Pantry is always in need of cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, jelly, condiments, meals in a can (beef stew, chili, ravioli, etc.), soup, rice, coffee and tea. We also accept dish soap, toiletries and laundry detergent. Drop off at any local donation site or directly to the Pantry during open hours.



PAPER BAGS ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

The Pantry goes through 500 paper bags every week! Donate your paper bags year round. Paper bags with handles are preferred (example: Mariano's and Trader Joe's). Drop off at any donation site or directly at the Pantry during open hours.



FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE ACCEPTED: JUNE-OCTOBER

Is your garden growing out of control? Bring your extra produce to the Pantry! Cucumbers, zucchini, tomatoes and more are welcome. Please clean, bag and label it, and drop off directly to the Pantry during open hours.



DOG AND CAT FOOD ACCEPTED: YEAR ROUND

At the Westchester Food Pantry, we look out for furry family members as well. Donations of wet and dry dog and cat food are accepted year-round. Unfortunately, we cannot accept prescription pet food or medicines. Drop off pet food at any local donation site.

DONATION DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

Westchester Food Pantry

1938 S. Mannheim Road, Westchester IL 60154
Come to the alley entrance and ring the bell.
11am-7:00pm Wed; 11am-2:30pm Fri;
8:30-11:30am Sat

Westchester Village Hall - Lobby

10300 Roosevelt Road, Westchester IL 60154
Place in the bins between 7:30am - 4pm Mon - Fri

Westchester Public Library

10700 Canterbury Street, Westchester, IL 60154
Place donations in marked bin inside.
10am-8pm Mon-Thu; 10am-5pm Fri-Sat; Closed Sun

Westchester Park District, Community Center

10201 Bond Street, Westchester IL 60154
Place in bin located in the lobby.
9am-4:30pm Mon - Fri; Closed Sat and Sun

Westchester Park District, Mayfair Fitness Center

10835 Wakefield Street, Westchester IL 60154
Place in bin located in the lobby.
5:30am-8:30pm Mon-Fri;
7am-3pm Sat; 7am-12pm Sun

Historic Prairie House at Wolf Road Prairie

11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester, IL 60154
Drop off in the blue bin on the porch anytime

WESTCHESTER SHRED & RECYCLE EVENT

OCTOBER 18 - 10:00 AM 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 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.



**THIS COLLECTION EVENT IS FOR
 VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER RESIDENTS.**

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

WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG



An Old-Fashioned

Prairie Fest

Saturday, September 6

10am—4pm

11225 Constitution Drive in

Westchester, at the North end of

Wolf Road Prairie

Rain date: Saturday, September 13



Free Event:

Something for Everyone!

Vendors offering Arts and Crafts items

Nature guides leading Wolf Road Prairie Walking Tours

STPS local historian giving tours of an

1853 Schoolhouse within an 1870s Prairie Farmhouse

Ledo's Pizza

JG's Reptile Roadshow


Dulcimer Players performing music on the front porch


Come learn more about Prairie and History Events,

Restoration Efforts and other


Save the Prairie Society Volunteer Opportunities

ENRICHMENT - AGING WELL NEIGHBORHOOD



Because Aging Well Matters




Aging Well in Westchester - Upcoming Event Schedule



Mayfair Recreation Center
10835 Wakefield Street
Westchester, IL 60154



Wednesdays, 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM




Sept. 10 – Wellness Topic*

Oct. 8 - BINGO!

Nov. 12 – Wellness Topic*

Dec. 10 – Holiday Party*

*RSVP to Gia Marie Benline giabenline@gmail.com or awn@agingcareconnections.org
MayFair Recreation Center, 10835 Wakefield St., Westchester 60154

These programs are brought to you by the: 


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.

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

111 W. Harris Ave., La Grange, Illinois 60525 | Tel.: 708-354-1323
W:AgingCareConnections.org | E: awn@agingcareconnections.org




Proviso Handyman Department

September 2025

It's getting dark out earlier! Time to make sure your outside light fixtures and security lights are in working order. We can change the lightbulbs or the fixtures. We can also help put away your lawn furniture. When was the last time you changed the batteries in your smoke alarms?

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

Gay F. Chase · Evelyn Chavez · Joseph Christopher · Tommy Olson
Trustees

Village of Westchester

ENERGY PLAN



The Village of Westchester is creating its first Energy Plan to improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase sustainability in our community.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED NOW:

1

TAKE THE ENERGY PLAN SURVEY

Take the Energy Plan Survey to help set our priorities, and share it with your Westchester friends, family, and neighbors!



2



Stay Informed

Follow the development of the Village's Energy Plan by visiting the plan's webpage at <https://palebluedot.llc/westchester-energy-plan>

Scan the QR code

Take the survey and follow the planning progress by visiting the Energy Plan webpage.

<https://palebluedot.llc/westchester-energy-plan>



LACE UP FOR A CAUSE

WEST40 RUNS

5K | 1 MILE | 40 YARD DASH

Join the West40 Run for a day of fun, fitness, and community spirit, all while helping students in need.

CHOOSE YOUR RACE:

- 5K – Push your pace and go for a PR!
- 1 Mile – Fast, fun, and family-friendly.
- 40 Yard Kids Dash – Every finisher gets a ribbon!

AWARDS:

Top 3 finishers in every age category for the 5K and 1 Mile receive medals.



Your registration supports the West40 Education Foundation, helping remove barriers to success for local students, whether it's providing warm coats, school supplies, or safe housing. When we run together for our kids, the ripple effect reaches our whole community.



Saturday, October 11, 2025

St. Joseph Campus

10900 W. Cermak Rd.,
Westchester, IL

- Packet Pick-up: 8:00 AM
- 5K & 1M Start: 9:00 AM
- 40 Yard Dash: 10:15 AM

**SIGN UP TODAY
LET'S RUN FOR
HOPE, FOR OUR
STUDENTS,
FOR OUR COMMUNITY!**



<http://raceroster.com/105914>



We are so happy to be Back to School! We kicked off August with a Meet and Greet at each school. We welcomed both new and returning students and families with a sweet treat. We are excited to ring in the 2025-2026 school year!

The “Back to School Celebration” at Mayfair Park was a blast! It was wonderful to see so many students and their families at this much anticipated event!

The first WPTC meeting of the 2025/26 school year will be held on September 3, in the WIS cafeteria at 6:00 p.m..

The WPTC is looking forward to our annual Walk-a-Thon on September 26th. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and their families to raise funds to help support their schools.

WPTC is looking forward to making this school year a memorable one for students and their families.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

Important Dates:

First WPTC Meeting: September 3

WPS Curriculum Night: September 4

WIS Curriculum Night: September 16

WMS School Store: September 25

Walkathon: September 26

Please continue to check our Facebook page and website for any updates!

www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com

<https://www.facebook.com/WPTC92.5>

You can also reach the WPTC via email at wptc925@gmail.com.

**The Women from the
Westchester Community Church
1840 Westchester Blvd. in Westchester**

are seeking crafters/vendors for their annual



Harvest of Crafts



Saturday, November 15, 2025

The sale is from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

It features: *Homemade crafts made by the church members *

* Treasures and Trinkets for \$2.00 * * Raffle prizes *

We are selling a space with a table for \$30.00. (If you wish to have two tables the cost is \$50.00.) The table(s) is 2 1/2 ft. by 8 ft. and includes 2 chairs. Limited electrical outlets on a first come first serve basis. Contact Westchester Community Church, 708-865-1282, if interested or have any questions.

To reserve a space, a non-refundable fee of \$30 (\$50 for two tables) needs to be paid by Monday, Oct. 27th. If reserving a space on or after Tuesday, Oct. 28th the cost of the table will be \$35 (\$55.00 for two tables)



Mark your calendars, the annual Pumpkin Smash will be November 8 & 9!

Westchester's 7th annual Pumpkin Smash, brought to you by the Green Residents of Westchester (GROW), is an effort to keep pumpkins out of landfill.

Drop them at collection bins at one of two locations and they'll be sent to be composted:

1. Behind the Westchester Community Church:
1840 Westchester Boulevard
2. In the back of the Mayfair Recreation Center
parking lot: 10835 Wakefield Street



2025 Tour de Proviso

The villages of Oak Park, Forest Park and River Forest will host the Sixth Annual Tour de Proviso on Saturday, October 4 to promote health and wellness across Proviso Township and its neighboring villages.

This free annual bike ride brings together neighboring communities for a morning of cycling and regional connection across many communities including Bellwood, Broadview, Forest Park, Maywood, Oak Park, River Forest and more.

Originally started in 2020 by Mayor Katrina Thompson of Broadview as a way to foster wellness during the pandemic, the annual event is organized in partnership with Best of Proviso Township and has grown into a rotating, multi-community ride. Each year, a different municipality takes the lead in organizing the route and activities. Oak Park is hosting Tour de Proviso for the first time and is looking forward to welcoming riders this fall.

Event Details

Hosts: Village of Oak Park, Village of Forest Park and Village of River Forest

Date: Saturday, October 4, 2025

Check In Time: Begins at 7:00 a.m.

Ride Start

Main ride: 8:00 a.m.

Family ride: ~8:30 AM

Route Lengths

Full ride - 20 miles

Family ride - 7 miles

Start/End: Oak Park Village Hall (123 Madison St.)

Cost: FREE

Who Can Join: All ages and experience levels

Register Online by September 14: oak-park.us/community/tour-de-proviso

Routes: Tour de Proviso is a family-friendly event designed for cyclists of all skill levels. Two routes will be offered at varied distances, a seven-mile route and 20-mile route.

Both routes begin and end in Oak Park, near Village Hall (123 Madison St.), and have been reviewed in coordination with the Oak Park Police Department, the Department of Public Works and leaders from neighboring municipalities most impacted by the routes, including Forest Park and River Forest.

Community Fair: The Village of Oak Park will host a Community Fair from 9 a.m. to noon on the south lawn at Village Hall. The fair will feature 20+ participants from across west Cook County, including elected officials, local organizations, businesses. There will be food vendors on site, with music also provided by a DJ.

Last Chance for Federal Tax Savings on Electric Vehicles, Solar Panels and More

Elizabeth Wiseman-Chase, GROW Commissioner, July 24th, 2025

Recent legislation will end Federal tax incentives on electric vehicles, rooftop solar and battery storage, home weatherization, and installation of a heat pump HVAC system or hot water heater.*

** Please consult your tax advisor on how these incentives may apply to you*

Electric Vehicles and Home EV Chargers:

The Federal Clean Vehicle Tax Credit incentive of up to \$7,500 for purchasing a new EV, and up to \$4,000 for a used one will end on September 30, 2025. If you're in the market for an EV, there is still time to take advantage of this incentive and some manufacturers are offering attractive financing. Level 2 chargers placed in service before June 30, 2026 may be eligible for up to \$1,000 with the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit incentive. ComEd is offering incentives of up to \$3,750 for installation of a home charger.

Rooftop Solar and/or Battery Storage

The Residential Clean Energy Credit of 30% for the cost of purchase and installation. Systems must be installed and placed into service by December 31, 2025. Upgrading the electrical panel with installation of rooftop solar and/or battery storage may qualify you for an uncapped 30% credit on the panel upgrade.

There is an additional group purchasing discount (up to 17%) offered by the Switch Together Program that has been vetted by Citizens Utility Board, the Midwest Renewable Energy Association, and Cook County. The program is scheduled to open on August 6th, and the decision deadline will be September 3rd. The program cannot guarantee projects will be installed by the end of the year (which would give customers a better chance at claiming the tax credit) but that is the goal.

Home Energy Efficiency

The Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit of up to 30% of the cost of purchase and installation. Systems must be installed and placed into service by December 31, 2025.

There are aggregate limits for this credit: \$1,200 limit for projects like a professional home energy audit; installing insulation; door, window and electrical panel upgrades; and installing a high efficiency air-conditioning unit. There's an additional credit of up to \$2,000 is available for buying an electric heat pump (HVAC) system or a heat pump water heater. Upgrading your electrical panel to 200 amp service is eligible for a 30% credit, up to \$600. Combining an electrical panel upgrade alongside a heat pump could potentially allow for \$2,600 in Federal tax credits.

ComEd is offering ENERGY STAR rebates on select electric and heat pump washers/dryers, induction cooktops and ranges.

For more information, contact ewchase@westchester-il.gov

VOICES OF WESTCHESTER

SHARE YOUR STORY –
BE PART OF OUR CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION

As part of Westchester's 100th Anniversary, we are collecting stories and memories from residents past and present. The Voices of Westchester project will feature interviews that capture the people, history, and spirit of our community—preserving them for generations to come.

Interested in participating? Email:
info@westchester-il.gov





OPEN ENROLLMENT

4-5 YEAR OLD DAY CARE

Join us for the start of your child's lifelong learning experience. Our facility is designed to provide your child with a high quality, loving environment with families and faculty working together to meet your child's individual needs.

- * Complies and enforces DCFS regulations
- * Nutritious lunch and snacks served daily
- * Teachers trained in first-aid/CPR
- * Child care available for ages 2-5 years old

WHY ENROLL? ✓

It is our goal to give peace of mind to parents by giving careful and personal attention to your child in a clean, safe and nurturing environment. Our program allows children to explore and experience success through developmentally appropriate activities.

Curriculum

The classrooms are designed to encourage active learning. Curriculum planning emphasizes learning as an interactive process. Caregivers prepare the environment for children to learn through active exploration and interaction with adults, other children and materials.

Staff

Smart Start is staffed by professionally qualified teachers and caregivers. They follow rules and regulations put forth by the Department of Children and Family Services.

Price

Days/Week	Weekly Fee	Hours
2	\$ 152	7:00am-6:30pm . Monday-Friday
3	\$ 200	
5	\$ 258	708-862-8200 x216



We look forward to the opportunity to show you why SMART START is truly a special place for your child(ren).

SMART START EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

DON'T MISS OUT - STAY CONNECTED



@WDPARKS



@WDPARKS



WWW.WDPARKS.ORG



@WDPARKS



Help Shape Westchester's *FUTURE*

The Village of Westchester is developing a **Strategic Plan**, and we want your input!

To participate, scan the **QR code** or visit
www.westchester-il.org/strategicplan



► *TAKE THE SURVEY*

Your feedback will help set priorities for the next three to five years.

► *JOIN A RESIDENT FOCUS GROUP*

Sign up to participate in a small-group conversation about Westchester's future.