



**MARCH, 2025**

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# Village of Westchester

## From the desk of Village President Greg Hribal

The Village of Westchester is now proudly collaborating with the Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County hosting them in our courtroom weekly. Every Thursday, beginning on March 6, 2025, from 10am to 3pm, they will be available to provide services to veterans such as the processing of claims and answering questions about services available to all veterans.

The lines at the Secretary of State facility here at the village have increased with public notifications that a Real ID was required by May 7th of this year. Your current drivers license is still valid and will not expire this May as some have stated. A Real ID is a form of identification, federally mandated, that WILL be required for domestic air travel, and entry into federal buildings in May if you do not have a valid passport or global entry card. It should also be known, that Real ID's can be obtained at any time after May as well if the need for travel were to arise at a later time. Please visit the Secretary of State website for a full list of items that are required to obtain your Real ID to avoid visiting a facility and being turned away. As a reminder, Westchester's Secretary of State facility is a 65 year or older walk-in facility.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District is continuing its work along Addison Creek in our northern portion of town to increase creek size and clean out debris in an effort to improve water flow out of our community. This is a flood control project that coincides with their recently unveiled water detention facility in Bellwood along the creek. Engineers are seeking to remove almost 200 homes from the current flood plain in the near future which will assist in lowering or removing the required flood insurance that many residents can be burdened with.

The Village also continues to eliminate flooding concerns by televising our sewers regularly, jetting clogged or debris filled sewers and relining or replacing portions of sewers that have collapsed due to age. Over the past decade, a majority of sewers in town have been replaced or relined nearly eliminating the calls received during storm events.

At our February 25th board meeting, the village's contracted outside audit firm was present to provide us with completed audits for fiscal year 2022 and 2023 and give an overview of our finances during those periods. We ended 2022 with a net increase of our general fund balance of \$1,332,583 and ended 2023 with a net increase of \$2,041,449 adding at total of \$3.4 million dollars in our fund balance reserves over the two-year period. This occurred primarily due to staffing shortages in our police, fire and administration departments. The village's auditor intends on completing our fiscal 2024 audit by this summer.

In attempts to restore staffing to appropriate levels, funding pension liabilities and make needed building improvements and equipment purchases that were

deferred in previous years, the budget passed in April of 2024 showed a spend down of over \$800,000 of our previous year's surpluses. As we near the end of the budget year ending on April 30, 2025, at this time, early projections show expenditures are trending under the budgeted amount leading to a more balanced budget for this year.

The Westchester Food Pantry is seeking donations due to a reduction in food allotments being received. Cereal, peanut butter, jelly and meals in a can are being requested. In 2024, close to half a million meals were provided by the Westchester Food Pantry to over 6,000 households. Donations and volunteers are always needed. The Westchester Food Pantry is located at 1938 S. Mannheim Road.

Lastly, locally owned and operated, the restaurant Tasteful has announced that they will be opening on March 17, 2025. Located at 1929 Mannheim they will be serving pizza, burgers and wings for both dine-in and carryout. By supporting local businesses, you are supporting the Village of Westchester. Please shop local when possible.



President Hribal honors Westchester's own Olivia Cameron, history-making Fenwick bowling star, and Ryan Smith, Nazareth alum who was recently drafted by the Houston Astros, with proclamations.



# 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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dbabich@westchester-il.gov

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Daniel Manning, Fire Chief  
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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
						1
2	2025 VEHICLE STICKERS ARE NOW ON SALE			6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

• VILLAGE MEETINGS • VILLAGE EVENTS • OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

join the historic celebration

become a centennial sponsor today!

VISIT WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/CENTENNIAL

thank you to our sponsors!

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GENERAL SPONSORS:

J4 EVENTS, TENTS & RENTALS

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Save the Dates

Celebrate Westchester: A Roaring 20s Centennial Soiree

A centennial twist on a longstanding tradition – join us for a 1920s themed evening of dinner, drinks & dancing!

May 17

Juneteenth Ceremony & Community Celebration

Honoring Westchester's past and embracing its future – join us for a celebration of culture, unity, and fun!

June 19 & 21

Wine & Cheese Fundraiser

An evening of history and hospitality – sip, savor, and support the Westchester Community Events Foundation!

June 29

Westchester's 100th Birthday Party in the Park

A centennial celebration of community spirit – join us for a weekend full of food, live music & fun as we celebrate 100 years of Westchester!

July 11 & 12



# Pet Safety Tips from the Westchester FD



Chief Manning's fur baby

he Westchester Fire Department wishes all of you a happy Spring! As the weather starts to warm up, we are seeing many of our village's four-legged friends sniffing the grass and paying visits to our fire hydrants!

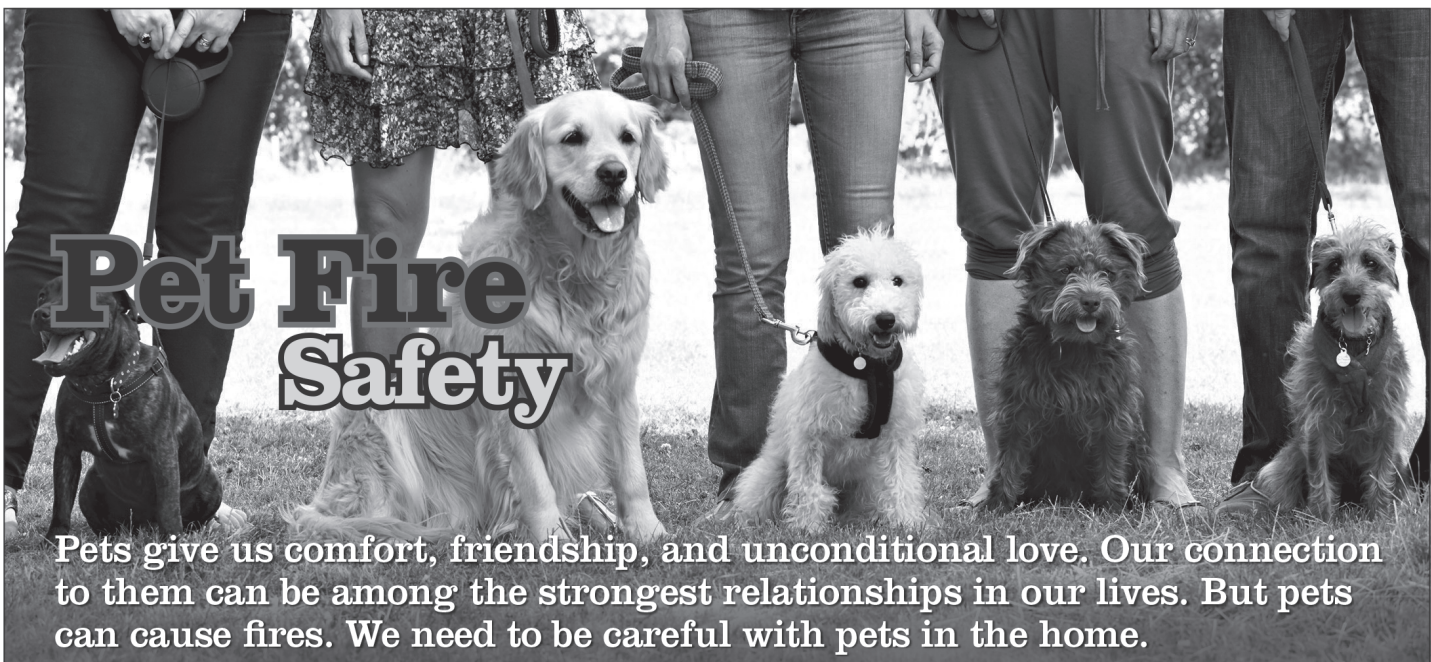
We always like to remind our residents of fire safety for humans, but would like to spend this month advocating for fire safety for pets.

Did you know that cats like to chew on electrical cords and dogs like to put their paws up on oven knobs? According to Today's Veterinary Practice, "500,000 pets are affected by house fires each year, with 1,000 house fires started by pets themselves." If your little furball tends to jump up on the stove or your cat enjoys knocking things over in your home, make sure to use child locks on the stove and not have space heaters or candles around your pet.

You can also use baby gates or close doors as needed when you leave the home.

We have attached a pet safety sheet from the National Fire Protection Association for reference. You can also search online for more tips for your little cutie's safety.

Make sure to wave to us when we pass by you and your pets this Spring!



### SAFETY TIPS

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles. They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

### SMOKE ALARMS

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.

### Pets and Wildfires

Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.



### FACT

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo



# Medical ID Bracelet Program

The Westchester Police and Fire Departments offer Medical ID Bracelets free of charge

**What are Medical ID Bracelets?**

Medical ID Bracelets would go around the participant's wrist for the purposes of identification, by use of a unique identification number. If the participant is confused, no-verbal or unable to communicate during an emergency or stressful situation.

All participant's information will be kept on file within a secure server of the Westchester Police Department. Each unique identification number will include but is not limited to:

- a. Name
- b. Nickname
- c. Date of Birth
- d. Address
- e. Emergency Contact
- f. Diagnosis
- g. If non-verbal how does participant communicate
- h. Medication
- i. Doctor

Information that may assist a subject

that may be confused and or stressed in a situation (certain likes, dislikes, music etc.)

**Who Benefits From This Program?**

Residents of Westchester that may benefit include those suffering from medical or mental health conditions such as:

Alzheimer's, Dementia, Autism, Developmental delays or any other medical or mental health concerns.

**Bracelets**

Each bracelet is made of a strong silicone material affixed with a metal face plate that will contain:

- a. Unique medical identification number
- b. The name and emergency number for the Westchester Police Department

**How to Enroll**

Please contact The Village of Westchester to inquire on enrolling in this program.

Call: 708-345-0433

Email: idbracelet@westchester-il.gov



You will need your medical and emergency contact information in order to complete the application. All information will remain confidential and only be utilized in the case of an emergency by authorized personnel.

**Release of Information**

The information contained within the Medical ID Bracelet will ONLY be

released to authorized personnel (Police Department, Fire Department, Hospital Staff) in order to assist in a resolution of an emergency situation.

Anytime information in the bracelet is utilized the person providing the information will complete the Village of Westchester Medical ID Bracelet Program Log.

# CENTENNIAL

## The Westchester Branch and the Westchester Train Stations

The Westchester Branch was part of the interurban train line's extension of service to the western suburbs. As conceived in the early 1920s, The Chicago Aurora and Elgin (CA&E) wanted to create a bypass for their Western line that would leave the main line at Bellwood and head south, with the idea of reconnecting to the CA&E at Warrenville. The CA&E was also called either "The Third Rail" or the "Roaring Elgin." Since much of the early Westchester area was open farmland, progress on that line could be extended without major obstacles on a one mile stretch from Bellwood to Roosevelt Road (formerly 12th Street). Samuel Insull and a group of developers had invested in 2,200 acres of farmland that was to be developed around the transit system, providing fast and efficient service for this newly conceived town of Westchester to the Chicago Loop. As the owners of the "L" at the time, he Chicago Rapid Transit Company (CRT) would operate the branch line. The Grant N. Britten camp on the former Hermann Pug farm (near the overpass on Mannheim Road north of Roosevelt Rd.) housed the many workers who would lay the tracks and level the ground for trains and streets. The Harrison Station, located just north of today's Eisenhower Expressway, was the entry point to Westchester. From there the line extended on the east side

of Gareld Park just west of Westchester Boulevard to Roosevelt Road. The Illinois Central would cross on an overpass right before the station. One can still see some of that historic train line right- of-way north and south of Kitchner Avenue where a line of telephone poles still exists. The platform at the Roosevelt Station was located on an underpass below the station.

In early 1926 an abundance of advertisements suddenly appeared in the newspapers about the model community of Westchester, which incorporated in 1925. People could buy lots and own houses and make a home in two- or three-story apartments built by developers such as Zelosky and Nixon. Those advertisements focused on trains with cheap and frequent service. Soon the train line to Roosevelt Road was opened on Friday, October 1, 1926, at 12:34 am. Celebrations that weekend centered around William

Zelosky's company office, located near the intersection of Mannheim and Roosevelt Road (the site of Westchester's city hall today). According to the Chicago Tribune, attractions included a "Texas Barbecue, a sh fry, and other features." William Zelosky had originally hailed from Texas! It took a great deal of 1920s exuberance to create an English-style development that might well lose money initially, content that it could be recouped in the future once lots were sold and homes were built.

Indeed, construction of the Westchester train branch pushed forward, with an extension from Roosevelt Road to Canterbury Street station taking shape. This was started in 1927, at rst boldly but quietly, since the rights to cross Roosevelt Road had not yet been secured. By December 1, 1930, the branch continuation reached its destination at Cermak (22nd Street) and Mannheim Road. It never was extended further to create a bypass, as had been the initial aim. The single-track route used by a single shuttle car ran between Balmoral Avenue and Westchester Boulevard along the slight bend west of Balmoral to Mannheim Road. The station at 22nd and Mannheim was located where the proposed center of Westchester was to be with a civic center, a theater, a library, a park with a fountain, and a school. The Great Depression of 1929

halted all these ambitious development projects in the Westchester area, leaving empty lots and overgrown sidewalks. The trains continued to run, but in the 1920s people never anticipated that car usage would take precedence over train ridership. In the forties and fties, after World War II, Westchester grew once again as new-home construction soared, but the use of trains declined. On December 9, 1951, service on the Westchester Branch was halted completely. The Pace buses later would follow the route of the former train line in Westchester. A bus stop replaced the station on Canterbury, and a bank replaced the station at Cermak and Mannheim. The main train line of the CA &E ceased to function by June of 1958 as well. A new era began with the creation of the Tri-State Tollway system and the opening of the Eisenhower Expressway in 1960 along the northern border of Westchester. This year, 2025, Westchester is revisiting its unique history as part of the centennial celebration of its roots as a model community planned along the Westchester train transportation branch.

Patricia Reaves,  
Save the Prairie Society Director  
and Historian





# The Challenges and Honor of Serving in Law Enforcement

Law enforcement has become one of the most challenging and least sought-after professions in the United States today. When I began my career in 1987, police departments would regularly see 150 or more applicants for a single position. Now, we are fortunate if we receive 30-50 applicants, and by the time the hiring process is complete, only 10-15 candidates may make the final list.

Rest assured, the hiring process remains rigorous, requiring applicants to undergo an extensive interview process, medical and psychological exams, a background investigation, and a physical agility test, which includes a timed mile-and-a-half run. Those who successfully complete this process then attend a demanding 16-week police academy, followed by an additional 10-week Field Training Officer program.

In 2024, the United States lost 162 police officers in the line of duty, and on average, another 150 officers took their own lives.

Departments across the country are struggling to recruit new officers, creating an increasingly competitive environment where agencies must offer the best benefits and highest salaries to attract candidates.

Being a police officer means always staying on guard, relying on instinct, and communicating effectively—even in the most difficult situations. Officers must maintain their judgment, compassion, and commitment to serving their communities, despite the many challenges they face. As in any profession, there may be a few bad actors, but the vast majority of officers dedicate themselves fully to making our world safer.

Regardless of the challenges, we remain committed to recruiting high-quality officers who serve with integrity, honor, and dedication to the Village of Westchester. While we protect our community here at home, it's also important to remember our brothers and sisters in the military do the



same far from home.

After 36 continuous years of service, I am still honored to be a police officer, even in these difficult times.

Chief Daniel Babich

Read our 2024 Annual Report: [www.westchester-il.org/2024pdreport](http://www.westchester-il.org/2024pdreport)

## WESTCHESTER POLICE BLOTTER

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

**25-00245**  
**01/18/2025 9:09PM**  
**RECKLESS DISCHARGE**  
**OF A FIREARM**  
**2200 BLK BUCKINGHAM AVE**

On January 18, 2025, at approximately 21:09 hrs, officers from the Westchester Police Department were dispatched to the 2200 block of Buckingham Avenue in response to an unknown disturbance. Upon arrival, officers determined that the situation involved domestic violence, which had escalated into gunfire. The suspect, who had fired shots, retreated into a nearby residence as officers approached. The suspect, later identified as Tyrone Coakley, 36, had barricaded himself inside the home with his three young children. Officers from Westchester Police Department, along with personnel from neighboring law enforcement agencies, quickly established a perimeter around the residence and began negotiating with the suspect. After an hour-long standoff, Coakley released the children from the home and surrendered to police without further incident. He was taken into custody on charges of domestic violence and weapons offenses. The situation

caused temporary traffic disruptions due to the police presence; however, all roadways have since been reopened, and there is no ongoing threat to the community.

**25-00292**  
**01/22/2025**  
**8:41AM**  
**TRAFFIC STOP**  
**1600 BLK NORFOLK AVE**

WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 21 year old male from Clarksville, TN was cited for Disobeying Stop Sign, and No Valid Drivers License. The 21 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**25-00419**  
**02/02/2025**  
**6:02AM TRAFFIC STOP**  
**800 BLK MANNHEIM RD WPD**

Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 36 year old female from Chicago, IL was cited for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol, and Illegal Transportation of Alcohol. The 36 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**25-00434**  
**02/02/2025**  
**10:55PM**  
**TRAFFIC STOP**  
**CERMAK RD & BUCKINGHAM AVE**  
WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 34 year old male from Berywn, IL was cited for Suspended Registration, and No Valid License. The 34 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**25-00468**  
**02/05/2025**  
**2:53PM T**  
**RAFFIC STOP**  
**CERMAK RD & NORFOLK AVE**  
WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle perform a traffic infraction. A 32 year old male from Chicago, IL was cited for Improper Disobeying Stop Sign, No Valid Drivers License, and No Proof of Valid Insurance. 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.

**25-00524**  
**02/10/2025**  
**10:01PM**

**DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL**  
**WOLF RD & WINDSOR DR**  
WPD Officers responded to the area of Wolf & Windsor for a vehicle parked on the roadway. A 39 year old male from Bellwood, IL was cited for Improper Parking on the Roadway, Driving under the Influence of Alcohol, Illegal Transportation of Alcohol, No Proof of Valid Insurance, and No Valid Drivers License. The 39 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.

**25-00530**  
**02/12/2025**  
**1:43AM**  
**DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL**  
**MANNHEIM RD & ROOSEVELT RD**  
WPD Officer on patrol observed a vehicle running in the turn lane of Mannheim & Roosevelt and failed to move after two traffic signal cycles. A 47 year old male from Westchester, IL was cited for Improper Parking on Roadway, Disobeying Traffic Control Device, Operating Vehicle Under the Influence of Alcohol, and Possession of Cannabis in Motor Vehicle. The 47 year old was released with a Citation & Notice and given a court date at the 4th District Cook County Courthouse in Maywood, IL.





WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

## NEWSLETTER

March 2025

**Leprechaun 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!

**March Book Discussion****March 18th | 6:30 PM**

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

**Bingo For Adults****March 15th | 11 AM**

Get ready to shout Bingo!

**Registration is required** for this program as spots fill up fast. Call **708-562-3573 ext 2** to sign up.

**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)**

**Adult Take-and-Make: Needle Felted Peep****Monday, March 17th | While Supplies last**

Stop by the adult department starting Monday, March 17th to grab a kit to try your hand at needle felting and craft a peep!

**Illinois Libraries Presents: Documentary Screening 9to5: The Story of a Movement****March 21st - 23rd | Online**

Watch the award winning documentary from the comfort of your home! The documentary highlights the creation of the 9to5 movement, established to fight for workplace equity and against wage discrepancy and was the basis for the feature film, 9 to 5, starring Jane Fonda, Dolly Parton and Lily Tomlin.

**Register at [https://bit.ly/ILP\\_9to5](https://bit.ly/ILP_9to5)**

**Intro to Quilting****Thursday, March 6th - 27th | 6 PM**

Learn the basics of quilting with instruction from knowledgeable staff and create your own lap quilt during this 4-week series. **Registration is required.**

**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! **Registration is required.**

**Origami for Everyone****Tuesday, March 11th | 2 PM & 6 PM | Community Room.**

Think the craft of Origami looks cool but don't know how to get started? Sign up to learn! A librarian will lead you through the basics of paper folding, then help you create one to three origami models of various difficulty levels. **Registration is required.**

**Movie Matinee: The Bikeriders (2023)****Wednesday, March 12th | 1 PM | Community Room**

After a chance encounter, headstrong Kathy (Jodie Comer) is drawn to Benny (Austin Butler), member of a Chicago motorcycle club the Vandals in the 1960s. As the club transforms into a dangerous underworld of violence, Benny must choose between Kathy and his loyalty to the club and its leader Johnny (Tom Hardy).

**Bodysmart Gardening****Thursday, March 27th | 6 PM | Community Room**

Learn how to protect yourself from injury while gardening!

BodySmart Gardening involves the tools we use and how we use those tools. It also addresses things within our control, such as skin health, and the prevention of muscle aches and strains. **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 &amp; 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 | Starting March 4th

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 | Starting March 5th

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

## Teen Programs

### Donate To The Prom Pop-Up Shop

All month long | Teen Department

Help students celebrate their time in high school by donating to the Proviso Libraries' prom pop-up shop! We're accepting donations of preloved/gently used or new prom attire such as dresses, suits, shoes, and jewelry!

Are you looking for prom attire? **Students shop FOR FREE April 5th - 12th** at the Maywood Public Library.

### Learn How To Make Shamrock Cookies!

March 4th | 6 PM | Community Room

Join us once a month as we try new simple but delicious recipes! **For grades 6 - 12.**

### Teen Crochet

Thursdays | Until April 10th | 4 PM

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

March 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

March 17th | 6 PM | Community Room

Don't miss this special gaming event just for teens! Play Mario Kart, Smash Bros 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

March 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 | Starting March 5th

Come learn basic crochet!. All skill levels are welcome. Materials will be supplied! For grades 3 – 5.

### Art Explorers

Thursdays | 4 PM | Starting March 6th

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

### Lego Club

Friday | March 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.

## Come and See the Trinity Irish Dancers!

March 13th | 5:30 PM | Community Room

Don't miss a lively and energetic performance by Trinity Irish Dance! This award-winning dance academy will not only give us a great show, but will include an interactive portion where you can learn the jig! Seating limited; registration 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 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.



# PUBLIC WORKS

**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 708-593-3830.

# 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	



TOWNSHIP OF PROVISO  
4565 Harrison St.  
Hillside, IL 60162  
P : 708-449-4307  
www.provisotownship.com



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



Scott Hopman  
773-655-8529

Giordano Manfredini  
708-363-6789



THE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE: WORLD WATER DAY – MARCH 22

by Mariana Nicholae  
GROW Ecological Commissioner

Water conservation isn't just a local issue; it's a global imperative. World Water Day, celebrated annually on **March 22**, shines a spotlight on the importance of freshwater and advocates for the sustainable management of water resources. Established by the United

Nations in 1993, the day inspires action to address water scarcity, pollution, and inequity.

This year theme of World Water Day is **Save our Glaciers**. Inevitably, the climate change affects drastically the glaciers, melting them down and pushing moreover for climate disturbances.

In 2025, nearly 1.8 billion people will live in areas plagued by water scarcity, according to the World Health Organization. By participating in World Water Day, communities can amplify their efforts, learn from global innovations, and inspire others to take action.

Saving Every Drop

Water is one of Earth's most precious resources. With increasing populations, climate change, and overuse threatening global water supplies, it's imperative for communities to adopt smarter water use practices. Small changes at the local level can make a huge difference in conserving water, ensuring its availability for generations to come. By utilizing rainwater, embracing greywater systems, and rethinking how we garden, communities can lead the charge in sustainable water use.

Harvesting Rainwater: Nature's Gift

Rainwater harvesting is a simple yet impactful practice that allows households and communities to collect and store rain for future use. By installing rain barrels or larger cistern systems, rainwater can be captured from roofs and used for irrigation, flushing toilets, or even cleaning outdoor spaces. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, rainwater harvesting can reduce household water use by up to 30%. Moreover, it helps reduce urban runoff, which often carries pollutants into nearby rivers and lakes.

Consider installing a rainwater harvesting system at home or in community spaces like parks or schools. This not only reduces the demand for municipal water but also builds resilience during droughts. Our Village Hall encouraged this practice through distribution of free rain barrels.

Smart Gardening: Plant with Purpose

Gardens can be both beautiful and water-efficient.

Mulching is an effective strategy. By covering the soil with organic material, you help retain moisture, reduce evaporation, and suppress weeds. Drip irrigation systems can also deliver water directly to a plant's roots, minimizing waste.

Greywater: A Hidden Resource

Greywater—wastewater from sinks, showers, and laundry—can be safely reused for irrigation and landscaping when treated or managed properly. By installing a greywater recycling system, households can save significant amounts of water. According to the

Alliance for Water Efficiency, greywater reuse can reduce household water consumption by 20% to 40%.

However, it's crucial to ensure proper filtration and compliance with local regulations before using greywater. Partnering with experts or community organizations can help make these systems accessible and effective.

Bottom line, small, intentional actions can ripple outwards, creating significant impact. By harvesting rainwater, gardening sustainably, reusing greywater, and educating ourselves on the global water crisis, we can contribute to a water-wise future. While individual steps are vital, community collaboration multiplies their effectiveness. Let's take this opportunity to lead by example, because every drop counts.

Checklist: Your Next Steps Toward Water Conservation

1. Install a Rain Barrel
  - Research local incentives or rebates for rainwater harvesting systems.
  - Position barrels under gutters to capture roof runoff.
2. Transform Your Garden
  - Choose native or drought-tolerant plants.
  - Install a drip irrigation system.
  - Use mulch to retain soil moisture.
3. Explore Greywater Systems
  - Learn about local regulations for greywater use.
  - Consult experts to design and install a greywater recycling system.
4. Celebrate World Water Day (March 22)
  - Share water conservation tips on your social media.
5. Reduce Water Waste



- Fix leaks promptly.
- Use water-efficient appliances and fixtures.
- Turn off taps while brushing your teeth or washing dishes.
- 6. Educate and Advocate
  - Share what you've learned with friends and neighbors.
  - Support policies that promote sustainable water management.

By adopting these practices, we can secure a brighter future where clean, abundant water is accessible for all. Remember, every step—no matter how small—brings us closer to a more sustainable world.

Green Fact of the Month

“Each American uses on average 82 gallons of water a day

at home.” [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) from 2015. For Example, the current federal water-efficiency standard from 1994 for showerheads is 2.5 gallons of water/min. Actions: Read GROW's article on

World Water Day.

Recipe of the Month

The kitchen is a great place to think about reducing water use. When it comes to cooking, consider steaming or roasting vegetables instead of boiling, reducing meat and dairy consumption (they are water intensive to produce), and making one pot meals to decrease on dishes. This month's recipe is easy to customize with your favorite vegetables or potatoes and comes together quickly. Enjoy!

Vegetable and Chickpea Sheet Pan Dinner

Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups broccolini chopped
- ½ cup red onion chopped
- 1 cup bell pepper de-seeded chopped

- 1 cup carrots peeled and chopped
- 1 cup zucchini chopped
- 2 cups sweet potatoes diced
- 1 can chickpeas drained and rinsed
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- ½ tbsp dried thyme
- ½ tbsp dried oregano
- 2 tbsp tamari
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp paprika

Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F and line a large baking tray with parchment paper. Alternatively, you can lightly grease it with olive oil.

- Add the broccolini, red onion, bell peppers, carrots, zucchini, sweet potatoes and chickpeas to a large mixing bowl. Stir together well, then add the olive oil, dried thyme and oregano, tamari, garlic, cumin, garlic powder and paprika, and mix together once again.
- Transfer the vegetables and chickpeas to the baking tray, spreading them out into a single layer. Bake in the preheated oven for 35-40 minutes, until all of the vegetables are cooked through and crispy.

Source: [www.ohmyveggies.com](http://www.ohmyveggies.com)

Have a plant-based recipe you'd like to share with the community? Send it to [GROW@westchester-il.gov](mailto:GROW@westchester-il.gov) 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**



## **Calling All Longtime Westchester Residents!**

As we prepare for our Centennial Celebrations, we want to honor **Westchester's longest-residing resident!**

Think you hold the title? Or know someone who does?

**Send an email to**  
**info@westchester-il.gov** with:

- ✓ Name
- ✓ Address
- ✓ Number of Years  
Living in Westchester





# BUSINESS Thithi's Restaurant:

## SPOTLIGHT Fine Dining & Martini Bar

When you walk into Thithi's Restaurant, there is an immediate sense of warmth and familiarity. Patrons are happily enjoying meals both at the tables and the bar. On one particular day, a loving couple and long-time Westchester residents are having a nice meal and can't help but talk about this wonderful restaurant, "This is the best food in town, what a hidden gem we have here!"

This is the experience you will get when you go to Thithi's Restaurant and the type of experience Thithi's hopes everyone has while visiting. Thithi's is a combination Thai, Vietnamese, and French cuisine fine dining restaurant, complete with a martini bar. The owners are Thi Thi Pham and Tam Nguyen. Thi Thi and Tam both came to America from Sagon - Tam in 1992 and Thi Thi in 2000. Prior to establishing her own restaurant, Thi Thi had helped her family run a restaurant serving Thai, Vietnamese and French fusion food in Merrville, IN and Calumet City, IL.

Although Thi Thi has a background in restaurants, her main goal in America wasn't to open a restaurant, but rather to have a career in the medical field. In fact, she is currently working on her Naturopathic degree at the National University of Health Sciences in Lombard. Even with her studies, she can't stay away from the restaurant business, making food and great drinks. When asked why she opened a restaurant, Thi Thi's response was, "I believe in God moments". Her husband was teaching, she was studying, and they were going to have their first child. She realized she had a background in restaurants and management and needed to do something to help the family. Thi Thi and Tam originally wanted a restaurant location close to downtown Chicago, but one day they were driving in Evergreen Park and saw the perfect location. Soon thereafter they opened the first Thithi's Restaurant in July of 2015, becoming very popular right after being featured on the local PBS show Check, Please! in 2016.

Thi Thi and Tam had a similar situation happen when they were deciding to open their second



location. They were originally looking at properties in neighboring Oak Brook, but nothing looked right. Then one day on their way home, they drove down Roosevelt Road and there was another of Thi Thi's "God moments". They saw the old D's Dog Hut building and thought it was the perfect location for the second Thithi's Restaurant. Thi Thi and Tam took on the endeavor of building a brand new restaurant, with a martini bar and beautiful murals painted on the walls. The second Thithi's Restaurant officially opened in September 2021.

Thithi's has a wonderful variety of foods, including salads, stir-fry, curry, fried rice and noodle dishes, pork chop, steak, lamb, poultry, and many seafood dishes. Some of Thi Thi's personal favorite foods are pho and mi vit tiem, pad thai, pad siew, panang, terrine de foie, jarre du porc, and duck confit. While Thi Thi loves all the food they offer, she especially enjoys making martinis. Thi Thi calls the bar her "chemistry lab", where she is able to test new combinations to come up with different, new tastes all the time.



While speaking with Thi Thi, you can tell she loves Westchester. She loves vibrant, safe, and clean the community is. She is clearly very loyal to her customers and there are many regulars who all speak very highly of her. The customers love that the Village has fine Asian dining right in our back yard. Thi Thi's belief is that once someone tries their food, they will want to come back, so she encourages everyone to get out of their comfort zone and explore something new! Thithi's currently

has a staff of ten and they all work hard to provide an excellent meal and experience for their customers. Please don't wait to try another great local restaurant!

**Thi This Fine Dining**  
**11055 W. Roosevelt Road,**  
**Westchester IL 60154**  
**708/397-4059 or 630/402-8408**  
 Email them at  
**thithirestaurant@yahoo.com**  
 Or find them on Facebook  
**thirestaurant**





**EARLY BIRD RATES  
MARCH 25TH -  
APRIL 7TH**

MEMBERSHIP TYPES	MARCH 25TH - APRIL 7TH EARLY BIRD RATES	APRIL 8TH - SEPTEMBER 14TH REGULAR RATES
	AGE 2yr & Up - membership required	AGE 2yr & Up - membership required
must reside in same household	RESIDENT / NON-RESIDENT	RESIDENT / NON-RESIDENT
INDIVIDUAL	\$109 / \$205	\$130 / \$244
FAMILY OF 2	\$167 / \$314	\$203 / \$384
FAMILY OF 3	\$197 / \$386	\$240 / \$469
FAMILY OF 4	\$227 / \$458	\$277 / \$554
FAMILY OF 5	\$257 / \$530	\$314 / \$639
FAMILY OF 6	\$287 / \$602	\$351 / \$724
FAMILY OF 7	\$317 / \$674	\$388 / \$809
FAMILY OF 8	\$347 / \$746	\$425 / \$894
FAMILY OF 9	\$377 / \$818	\$462 / \$979
FAMILY OF 10	\$407 / \$890	\$499 / \$1064
SENIOR INDIVIDUAL	\$101 / \$187	\$120 / \$226
SENIOR COUPLE	\$155 / \$285	\$186 / \$346

**HOURS OF OPERATION**

SUNDAY	8:45am-10:45am 11:00am-11:30am 11:30am-6:00pm 6:15pm-8:15pm	RENTAL MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM RENTAL
MONDAY-THURSDAY	7:50am-8:50am 8:00am-11:15am 12:30pm-1:00pm 1:00pm-7:30pm	LAP SWIM 6/9-8/9 LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM
FRIDAY	7:50am-8:50am 8:00am-11:15am 12:30pm-1:00pm 1:00pm-6:00pm 6:15pm-8:15pm	LAP SWIM 6/9-8/9 LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM RENTAL
SATURDAY	7:50am-8:50am 8:00am-11:00am 11:00am-11:30am 11:30am-6:00pm 6:15pm-8:15pm	LAP SWIM 6/9-8/9 LESSONS MEMBERS ONLY OPEN SWIM RENTAL

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

**DAILY ADMISSION RATES**

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

**POOL RENTALS**

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

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

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

2025 season

**JUNE 7TH - SEPTEMBER 1ST**

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

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



@WPDPARKS



@WPDPARKS



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



@WPDPARKS







Former Roosevelt Station

# Jack Doyle Presents The History of the “L” from Chicago to Westchester

Sunday –  
March 9, 2025  
1 to 3 pm

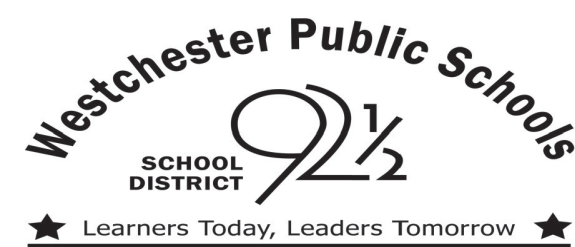
Snow Date:  
Sunday, March 23

**Wolf Road Prairie House**  
**11225 Constitution Drive, Westchester**



John F. Doyle





A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

I hope you’re staying warm as we get through these winter months! As March begins, I’m happy to reflect on the strong start to the semester for both our students and staff. Despite the chilly weather, seeing everyone staying energized, focused, and determined is inspiring.

Our students in grades 1st through 8th completed the Winter MAP assessments just before our break. As we review the results, we use the data to identify individual student needs and tailor our instruction to support continued growth and success throughout the semester.

We held our Black History Month Celebration on Thursday, February 27th. The following was important information about the event:

**Thursday, February 27, 2025, Westchester Intermediate School  
5:30 - 6:30 PM – Potluck meal & Opening remarks and Student Presentations  
6:45 PM– Cultural Celebration & Performances**

Families were asked to donate a dish to share and join for fun, food, and culture! During dinner, we had a musical performance. We hope everyone enjoyed!

The 5 Essentials survey will be open from February 18th to March 31st. The 5Essentials Survey identifies five indicators that lead to improved student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. The five indicators that positively affect school success are: Effective Leaders, Collaborative Teachers, Involved Families, Supportive Environments, and Ambitious Instruction. Please be on the lookout for a link to the survey in the coming weeks.

Please visit our website [www.sd925.org](http://www.sd925.org) for important information about our District. You can also check out past Board meetings on our YouTube channel. If you have questions or concerns, email me at [psalemi@sd925.org](mailto:psalemi@sd925.org) or call 708-670-1927.

Sincerely,  
Philip Salemi, Ed.D  
Superintendent

Westchester Primary School

Westchester Primary Students were challenged to “Leave a Heartprint” in February by using kind words, kind actions, and being the best they can be. Students read and listened to books that encouraged leaving heart prints on others by using kind words and actions and received paper hearts to document their kindness. One or two students in every homeroom were chosen to wear a heart medal each day and be the class role model for the day. In addition to promoting kindness, good attendance has been a focus at WPS. Research shows that students with 97% attendance have great success in college, and those with attendance below 95% (9 or more days of absence in a year) may not be prepared for future learning. To promote good attendance, WPS recognizes classrooms weekly with the best attendance.

To celebrate Black History Month, WPS highlighted famous Black Illinoisans and how they have made a difference in our world. We encourage our students daily to think about what they might want to be when they grow up and how learning helps them achieve their goals. Several of our students entered our District Black History Art Contest and attended the Westchester School District Black History Month Celebration held on February 27th.

Westchester Primary School

The celebrations continued at WPS in February. Students and staff celebrated the 100th Day of Counting in our Number Corner daily routine on February 14th by bringing in projects and collections of 100 and doing activities that involved making 100. The WPTC sponsored our Valentine’s Day crafts and games that were led by a parent volunteer in each classroom. On February 5th our students participated in our trimester community meetings, and commemorated our mid-year mark with Obstacle course races and popcorn popped and bagged by the WPTC. They were so grateful! Also, we celebrated Read Across America from March 3rd to March 7th.

Additionally, WPS recognized The School Citizen of the Year, or SCOTY, Award winner. The SCOTY recognizes students that their schools have chosen as "good school citizens and models for others to emulate." Grades and activities are important considerations, but only a small part of the selection process. There were two second grade students nominated from each class. This year’s nominees were: Xaniyah Diaz, Amir Meza, Ava Jones, Robin Plant, Donovan Halpin, Giada Minniti, Imani Padilla, Isabella Bucio, Jacob Herrera, Manny Barrera, Oliver Schaeffer, and Savannah Velez. We are extremely proud of their citizenship! WPS is proud to announce that Donovan Halpin was chosen from our nominees to be our SCOTY (School Citizen of the Year) winner! His teacher Mrs. Tomala reports: *Donovan Halpin is just a fantastic human being. Whether it’s supporting classmates, volunteering in class, or just offering a friendly smile, he makes a difference everyday through his humble and kind gestures without ever expecting anything in return. Donovan is super smart, athletic, hardworking, and caring. His kindness does not go unnoticed—his teachers, friends, and classmates all appreciate the way he brings positivity and support wherever he goes. We are so proud of Donovan! (Mrs. Majewski, Donovan Halpin, and Mrs. Tomala pictured below)*



**Attention all families with children that will be five years old on or before September 1, 2025!** Kindergarten Registration begins on April 8, 2025! Westchester Primary School will hold Kindergarten Pre-Registration online for the 2025-2026 school year. Please visit our school district website at <https://www.sd925.org/> and follow the following menu path:

- 1.Click on the “Registration” tab
- 2.Click on the “Kindergarten” tab

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

- 1.Complete the Kindergarten Enrollment Form
- 2.Email both of the following items to [gchayka@sd925.org](mailto:gchayka@sd925.org)
  - A. Email a copy of your child's official birth certificate. A child must be five (5) years old on or before September 1, 2025.
  - B. Email a state or government-issued photo ID with your name and current address.

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

**Parent tours are available upon request. Kindergarten screenings with a parent meeting/tour will be scheduled in May using Sign Up Genius.**



## Westchester Intermediate School

Each year, we select one Fifth Grade student as our School Citizen of the Year. Students who are nominated for this award demonstrate those attributes that we would expect from a student. They follow our behavior expectations, they work hard every day, they are kind to others, and demonstrate that growth mindset for other students around them. We had seven nominees this year. They were Quincy Ashford, Melissa Barajas, Giuseppe Fiordiroso, Caragyn Lodree, Kaya Szymaszek, and Paloma Zizumbo. We are proud of all of them for being exceptional students here at WIS. Congratulations to Melissa Barajas who was our winner this year.

We are looking forward to our upcoming STEM night. Students are going to present experiments and projects along with guest speakers sharing what they do in their work in the field of science.

Our students will participate in the Illinois Assessment for Readiness this month. This is a state assessment that looks at how our students are doing in both reading and math. It is taken over the course of five days; three days for math and two for reading. We don't get results until the fall, but our students' achievement has an impact on our school rating and report card. We will be working with them over the next few weeks so they understand how to navigate the test.

We are looking forward to spring, warmer weather, and an amazing last third of the school year.

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 January Warriors of the Month! 6th Grade: Alexander Bravo and Mateo Jacobo, 7th Grade: Lyrick Snowden and Samantha Wyckoff, 8th Grade: Itzelle Aceves and Mai-Yin Clark. 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.



## Westchester Middle School

WMS is excited to announce our School Citizen of the Year (SCOTY) nominees. A SCOTY is a student that has a positive attitude, strong work ethic, good leadership skills, and is a superb role model among their peers. All staff members are eligible to nominate students and then vote on a winner. The following students were nominated: Itzelle Aceves, Brayden Creamer, Arianna Gonzalez, Victoria Guidice, Nathan Koch, Nolan Jawor, Ayden LaFlame, Ahtziri Morales, Shea Smith, Charlie Stratis, and Chloe Washington. We congratulate all of our nominees this year!



Congratulations to Ayden LaFlame for being selected as the School Citizen of the Year. He will be recognized at the West 40 Annual "SCOTY" School Citizen of the Year Recognition Program. Ayden is the kind of student who brightens everyone's day with a simple greeting and small talk. Without fail, he says hello and asks how you're doing, often replying with his signature "decent." It seems like he is always on the go, getting to his destination quickly. Without fail, he arrives early every morning and is courteous to teachers and staff by holding the door open with a warm smile. While he is a dedicated and hardworking student, it is his kindness and genuine care for others that truly stand out. Ayden's thoughtful nature is a reminder of the impact small acts of kindness can have, and we could all strive to be as compassionate and caring as he is.



We are proud to share that we will again be having our Fine Arts Festival on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. We will be opening our time capsule on this day to share what was put in there back in 1999. Please join us for a day of celebration of the arts and music by our talented students. Contact Jason Kluge, [jkluge@sd925.org](mailto:jkluge@sd925.org) with any questions.

Join the Westchester Middle School as they perform High School Musical Jr. this spring! Performances will be May 8 (7 p.m.), May 9 (7 p.m.), and May 10 (2 p.m.). If you are interested in purchasing an ad for the musical's program or making a donation, please contact director Kierstin Terry at her email [kterry@sd925.org](mailto:kterry@sd925.org). We look forward to seeing you there!





## Westchester Chamber of Commerce

### *"We Mean Business"*

Thank you to all of our 2024 Chamber of Commerce Members!



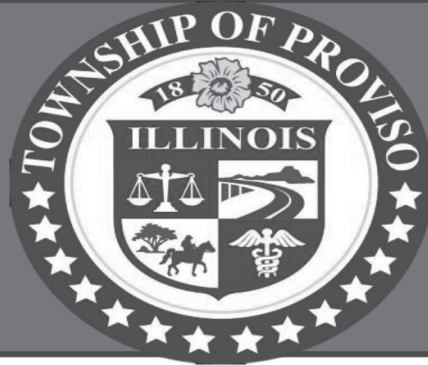
INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHAMBER? EMAIL [INFO@WESTCHESTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@WESTCHESTER.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



### CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Business Referrals
- Advertisement opportunities in WCC's E-blast promotion
- Promote your business through video or photo opportunities on social media with a Director or Past/Current President of the Westchester Chamber of Commerce
- Ribbon Cuttings
- Networking Events
- Governmental Representation
- Opportunity to host your own event to promote your business





# Proviso Handyman Department

## March 2025

Time to check the caulk around your tub and sinks! Leaky faucets and sinks mean higher water bills! Replace your furnace filter for a better air flow.

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





February raced by so quickly, it is hard to believe we are already in March!

We enjoyed Trivia Night in February, it was so nice to see everyone, and to have WIS's very own Mr. Pinkleman as our Trivia host. A big thank you to those that came out to support our schools and have some fun doing it!

Last month, students enjoyed our fun-filled Valentine's parties at WPS and WIS; they also celebrated their mid-year mark with a Popcorn Day!

WMS had their February Hangout where students were able to enjoy an ice cream treat and spend time with one another. They also were able to shop at the school store during their lunch period.

We were also so happy to see so many families come out to the Chicago Wolves game. It was a wonderful night to see some great hockey and spend time with family and friends.

We value the volunteers that make these memorable moments possible. Your support of the WPTC during our

fundraisers is greatly appreciated. We will be having a WPTC meeting March 5th in the WIS cafe. All are welcome to come and get a better understanding of what we do to support our schools and students.

WPTC will be hosting another Flying High Night in March. It is a wonderful opportunity to drop the kids off for a night of fun while parents can get an evening to themselves.

WIS will be having their Parents and Pastries in March. It is a nice opportunity to enjoy a treat with your child/children before they start their school day.

Please remember the WMS School Store has returned and will be open once a month!! Dates will be announced on our Facebook page and announcements are made during school to remind the students.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

**Important Dates:**  
**March 5-** WPTC Meeting-WIS Cafe 6pm

**March 19-** WIS Parents and Pastries 8:00-8:30 am

**March 27-** WMS School Store (Cash Only)

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



[www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com](http://www.wptc.membershiptoolkit.com) You can also reach the WPTC via email at [wptc925@gmail.com](mailto:wptc925@gmail.com).  
<https://www.facebook.com/WPTC92.5>

ENRICHMENT - AGING WELL NEIGHBORHOOD



### Aging Well in Westchester - Upcoming Event Schedule



**Mayfair Recreation Center**  
**10835 Wakefield Street**  
**Westchester, IL 60154**



**Wednesdays, 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM**



**March 12 – Tax Time Talk\***  
**April 9 – BINGO!**  
**May 14 – Wellness Topic\***  
**June 11 – BINGO!**  
**July 9 – Wellness Topic\***  
**Aug. 13 - BINGO!**  
**Sept. 10 – Wellness Topic\***  
**Oct. 8 - BINGO!**  
**Nov.12 – Wellness Topic\***  
**Dec. 10 – Holiday Party\***

\*RSVP to Gia Marie Benline [giabenline@gmail.com](mailto:giabenline@gmail.com) or [awn@agingcareconnections.org](mailto: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](mailto:awn@agingcareconnections.org)**



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One Parkview Plaza, Suite 100  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181



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## LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

<sup>i</sup>Interfaith Career Network offers **FREE** assistance - Open to all!

**Thursday, March 20, 7-9 pm**

### "Job Search Networking Techniques for Success"

**Eileen Paliakas and John Fix, Panelists**

Join us Thursday, 3/20 at 7:00 pm for an informative evening. One of the biggest job-seeker challenges is how to get your resume in front of the right decision makers to get an interview. There are ways to increase your chances by leveraging your network to overcome some of these natural concerns.

Panelists Eileen Paliakas and John Fix are two professionals who have landed great new jobs in mid-career. They will share their experiences including obvious suggestions, the less obvious, and what may potentially waste your time.

We hope you can join us at 7 pm on Thursday, 3/20, at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 S. Wolf Rd, Western Springs for a great night of learning and sharing new ideas to make your job search more successful!

We look forward to seeing you on 3/20. There is no cost to attend.  
Everyone is welcome!

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



**WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY**



**WET NOSE PANTRY**

# *Spring Fling* **ARTISAN MARKET**

**SUNDAY** | **MARCH**  
**23** | **11AM-4PM**  
**2025**

1938 S. Mannheim Road,  
Westchester IL 60154

**LOCAL ARTISANS  
HANDCRAFTED GOODS  
FREE ENTRY AND PARKING  
RAFFLES TO SUPPORT THE PANTRY  
VITALANT DOUBLE HERO BLOOD DRIVE**

**WESTCHESTERFOODPANTRY.ORG**





## GENERAL INFORMATION

# CONSOLIDATED ELECTION APRIL 1, 2025

The Village of Westchester compiled this summary of information from the Cook County Clerk's website for general information purposes. For official election details, deadlines, and requirements, consult the Cook County Clerk's Office at [www.cookcountyclerkil.gov](http://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov) or call (312) 603-0906.

### OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION

In this Consolidated Election, voters will elect candidates for various local positions, including but not limited to:

- Village President
- Village Clerk
- Village Trustees
- Library Trustees
- School Board Members
- Township Officials
- Park District Commissioners

[www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/current-elections/2025-elections](http://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/current-elections/2025-elections)

### CHECK YOUR VOTER INFORMATION

Use the Cook County Clerk's "Your Voter Information" tool to:

- Verify your voter registration status
- View a sample ballot
- Find your polling place and precinct details
- See a list of your elected officials

[www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/your-voter-information](http://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/your-voter-information)

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **Online Voter Registration Deadline:** March 16, 2025
- **Early Voting Period:** March 17 – March 31, 2025
- **Mail Ballot Request Deadline:** March 27, 2025
- **Election Day:** April 1, 2025
- **Mail Ballot Postmark Deadline:** April 1, 2025

### REGISTER TO VOTE

- **In-Person:** Register by March 4, 2025, at designated locations.
- **By Mail:** Registration forms must be postmarked by March 4, 2025.
- **Online:** Register by March 16, 2025, at [www.oiva.elections.il.gov](http://www.oiva.elections.il.gov).
- Consult the website below for information regarding the requirements and restrictions for same-day Early Voting and Election Day registration.

[www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/voter-registration](http://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/voter-registration)

### WAYS TO VOTE

- **In-Person Early Voting:** Available at select locations from March 17 through March 31, 2025.
- **Vote by Mail:** Request a mail ballot by March 27, 2025. Ballots must be postmarked by April 1, 2025.
- **Election Day Voting:** Polls are open from 6:00 AM – 7:00 PM on April 1, 2025.

[www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/ways-to-vote](http://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/ways-to-vote)




**VOTE!**





THE WESTCHESTER  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

& THE VILLAGE OF  
WESTCHESTER  
PRESENT

# CELEBRATE WESTCHESTER

A ROARING 20s CENTENNIAL SOIRÉE

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH  
6:00 PM

ALPINE BANQUET HAUS  
11141 WEST ROOSEVELT ROAD

COCKTAIL HOUR & APPETIZERS  
FULL-COURSE DINNER • LIVE JAZZ DUO  
DJ & DANCING • VINTAGE PHOTO BOOTH  
& A SPECIAL DANCE PERFORMANCE  
BY THE HONEY TAPS!

PLEASE COME DRESSED  
IN YOUR 1920s BEST!



**\$75 PER PERSON**

INCLUDES DINNER & 2 DRINK TICKETS  
CASH BAR AVAILABLE

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, VISIT  
**WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG/  
CELEBRATE**