



## From the President's Desk...



I hope you have all had a Happy Holiday Season and my wish for you is a healthy and happy New Year for 2008.

A special thank you to our Public Works Department for doing a great job with the snow we have had so far. Our streets are cleared as rapidly as possible, especially at the school crossings, and churches. Thanks to all of our workers for a job well done.

The Westchester Community Image Council took home a first place award in the annual Governor's Home Town Award recognition ceremony in Springfield on November 27. We thank the many individual volunteers and groups who have worked with the council on the various projects throughout the community.

I want to personally thank Jim Lange and the Westchester Image Council for all of their good work that they have done throughout the Village. Also Jim Lange has been chosen to be "Person of the Year" and will be honored at the Chamber dinner on January 26, 2008.

The Village of Westchester has been selected to be honored at Triton College during their Spring 2008 Village Honor Day event. Each semester Triton hosts a recognition event honoring a selected Village for their commitment to community and education. This is a great honor for our Village and additional information will be forthcoming.

We have just hired our new Public Works Director Rusty Gross. We welcome him to the Village and look forward to working with him. We also welcome two new officers, Shaun Lynam and Dan Falkenberg to our Police Department.

Just a reminder that that if any damage occurs to your lawn or curb from our snowplows, please report it to the Public Works Department at 708-345-0041.

## TAX PROGRAM

Triton College RSVP Volunteer

There will be tax preparers available between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm  
**by appointment only** on the following dates:

Monday, February 4, 2008  
Monday, February 25, 2008  
Monday, March 10, 2008

Monday, February 11, 2008  
Monday, March 3, 2008

Interested parties should make an appointment by calling the  
Triton College RSVP office: (708)456-0300, Extension 3895  
Appointments held at the Westchester Village Hall, Conference Room #1

### Food Pantry Thanks! *Judy Saraceno Swenson*

Thank You to Horst Kniesel and the Boy Scouts that collected food from all the Westchester residents and donated it to the Westchester Food pantry. To the Divine Providence School, Mac Neal School, and Westchester Public School Children for their donations and time. To the Westchester Chamber of Commerce for monetary donation and Old Glory Lodge in Westchester for the Turkeys/Food at Thanksgiving and Hams/Food at Christmas. Also, to all my friends, neighbors and family for their extra hands to help out those in need. Thank you and a healthy and happy New Year!



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## January 2008

**January:** Registration for the Winter Session of Page Turners Club begins. Reading club open to high school students and adults. Contact Library at 562-3573.

**January:** Registration continues for Youth Department's Winter Reading Club and Story Times. Contact Library at 562-3573.

**Friday, January 4:** Westchester Community Church Fish & Chicken Fry. 4:30-7:30. Call 865-1282 for more information.

**Monday, January 7:** Getting the Most From Your Digital Camera. Photographer Roger Mattingly will show how to use features of the digital camera to take great photos. 7:00pm at the Library. Contact us at 562-3573 to register.

**Wednesday, January 9:** Family Film Night at Library. For patrons of all ages. Starts at 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, January 16:** Westchester Gardens Meeting. Westchester Library – Community Room 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

**Sunday, January 20:** Westchester Community Image Council work day. 9 am –noon. For more details and locations see [www.westchestercic.org](http://www.westchestercic.org).

**Sunday, January 20:** Prairie House, Archeology of the Chicago Region. Jack MacRae, Naturalist, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. 2:00 pm Cost: \$5 per person, \$3 for Senior (Includes refreshments)

**Monday, January 21:** Village Offices will be closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Wednesday, January 23:** Family Film Night at Library. For patrons of all ages. Starts at 6:30 pm

**Saturday, January 26:** Preventing & Combating Identity Theft with Brian Vachout & Robert Przybylski of JPMorgan Chase. Sponsored by Aging Well Community Action Team. Call 562-3573 to register. 10:00 am at Library

**Saturday, January 26:** Blood Drive from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Mayfair Room of Divine Providence School

**Sunday, January 27:** Divine Providence Pancake Breakfast. 8:30 am to 1:45 pm.

## February 2008

**Friday, February 1:** Library closed until noon for staff training.

**Friday, February 1:** Westchester Community Church Fish & Chicken Fry. 4:30-7:30. Call 865-1282 for more information.

**Monday, February 4:** Kindergarten Registration at 6:30 pm at the Westchester Primary School.

**Tuesday, February 5:** Family Film Night At Library. For patrons of all ages. Starts at 6:30 pm

**Saturday, February 9:** Band & Solo Ensemble Contest at Westchester Intermediate School.

**Saturday, February 9:** The Westchester Community Image Council will hold a bowling night fund-raiser at 7:30 pm at Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont. Tickets are \$30 and include shoes, bowling, and dinner. For more information, call Cheryl at (708)-492-0693.

**Sunday, February 17:** Westchester Community Image Council work day. 9 am –noon. For more details and locations see [www.westchestercic.org](http://www.westchestercic.org).

**Monday, February 18:** Village Offices will be closed for Presidents Day.

**Tuesday, February 19:** Early Childhood Screenings. Appointments taken from Feb. 4 - Feb. 11 at (708)-450-2700, Kathy at extension 649.

**Tuesday, February 19:** Family Film Night at Library. For patrons of all ages. Starts at 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, February 20:** Westchester Gardens Meeting. Westchester Library –Community Room 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

**Sunday, February 24:** Prairie House, A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier. Roger Bohn, Historic Re-enactor, The First Michigan Engineers. Starts at 2:00 pm Cost \$5, \$3 for Seniors - (Includes refreshments)

## March 2008

**Tuesday, March 4:** Chicago on Screen. Sarah Marcus will present a history of Chicago through television and film. 7:00 pm Contact Library at 562-3573 to register.

**Friday, March 7:** Westchester Community Church Fish & Chicken Fry. 4:30-7:30. Call 865-1282 for more info.

**Sunday, March 16:** Westchester Community Image Council work day. 9 am –noon. For more details and locations see [www.westchestercic.org](http://www.westchestercic.org).

**Wednesday, March 19:** Westchester Gardens Meeting. Westchester Library – Community Room 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

**Friday, March 21:** Village Offices will be closed for Good Friday.

**Sunday, March 23:** Library Closes for Easter

**Thursday, March 27:** Page Turners Party at Library. Call Library at 562-3573 for more information on Entertainment. Starts at 7:00 pm

**Sunday, March 30:** Prairie House, Landscaping with Native Plants. Pat Armstrong Owners, Prairie Sun Consultants. 2:00 pm. Cost \$5, \$3 for Seniors (Includes refreshments)

# VILLAGE MEETINGS SCHEDULE



All meetings held at the Westchester Village Hall: 10300 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, IL unless otherwise noted.

## Regular Meetings of the Village President and Board of Trustee will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Court Room

January 8, 2008	May 13, 2008	September 9, 2008
January 22, 2008	May 27, 2008	September 23, 2008
February 12, 2008	June 10, 2008	October 14, 2008
February 26, 2008	June 24, 2008	October 28, 2008
March 11, 2008	July 8, 2008	November 11, 2008
March 25, 2008	July 22, 2008	November 25, 2008
April 8, 2008	August 12, 2008	December 9, 2008
April 22, 2008	August 26, 2008	December 23, 2008

- ◆ Regular Meetings of the Finance Committee will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room
- ◆ Regular Meetings of the Public Safety Committee will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Training Room of Fire Station #1 located at 10240 Roosevelt Road.
- ◆ Regular Meetings of the General Government Affairs Committee will be held at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #1.

January 8, 2008	May 8, 2008	September 9, 2008
February 12, 2008	June 10, 2008	October 14, 2008
March 11, 2008	July 8, 2008	November 11, 2008
April 8, 2008	August 12, 2008	December 9, 2008

- ◆ Regular Meetings of the Community Development Committee will be at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room
- ◆ Regular Meetings of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Training Room of Fire Station #1 located at 10240 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, Illinois 60154
- ◆ Regular Meetings of the Public Works Committee will be held at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #1.

January 22, 2008	May 27, 2008	September 23, 2008
February 26, 2008	June 24, 2008	October 28, 2008
March 25, 2008	July 22, 2008	November 25, 2008
April 22, 2008	August 26, 2008	December 23, 2008

## Regular Meetings of the Westchester Police Pension Fund will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Court Room

January 15, 2008	April 15, 2008
July 15, 2008	October 21, 2008

## Regular Meetings of the Westchester Fire Pension Fund will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Training Room of Fire Station #1 located at 10240 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, Illinois 60154

February 7, 2008	May, 7 2008
August 14, 2008	November 6, 2008

## Regular Meetings of the Planning & Zoning Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Court Room

January 15, 2008	February 19, 2008
March 18, 2008	April 15, 2008
May 20, 2008	June 17, 2008
July 15, 2008	August 19, 2008
September 16, 2008	October 21, 2008
November 18, 2008	December 16, 2008

## Regular Meetings of the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Trustee Room

January 14, 2008	May 12, 2008	September 8, 2008
February 11, 2008	June 9, 2008	October 13, 2008
March 10, 2008	July 14, 2008	November 10, 2008
April 14, 2008	August 11, 2008	December 8, 2008

The honor of your presence is requested at the  
Westchester Chamber of Commerce

## Installation Dinner

Saturday, January 26, 2008

6:00 pm cocktails & hors d'oeuvres

7:00 pm dinner

The Carlisle

425 East Butterfield Road

Lombard, IL

Entertainment by Bill Froula

\$75.00 per person

Reservations are required

Please RSVP by January 14, 2008.

For more information or to RSVP,  
contact the Chamber at (708)562-7747

## Senior & Handicapped Residents Discount Cab Coupon Program

- \* This program provides discount taxicab coupons that can be used in lieu of cash. Coupon books can be purchased at the Village Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 5:00PM. Books must be purchased in person- they cannot be mailed.
- \* Coupon books cost \$10.00 and have a value of \$20.00. Individual coupons have a value of \$1.00 and may be used in place of cash for taxi fares. Each resident is allowed to purchase one book per month. No refund or exchanges are available.
- \* Coupons can be used for taxi service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays. Only taxi companies the Village have contracted with will honor this program.

## Please utilize Proviso Township Senior Services

Call the Township office at 708/344-7432  
for FREE transportation to doctors,  
hospitals, banks, stores, etc



## Responsible Snow Removal

With winter and snow upon us, the Westchester Department of Public Works asks residents to consider others when clearing the snow from their driveways. **Residents are asked not to shovel, blow, or plow snow from their driveway into the street.**

Extra snow in the streets can create a hazardous condition for drivers and pedestrians. Snow pushed into the streets after the road has been cleared can cause dangerous ice patches to form. Please shovel, blow, or plow the snow onto private property or the parkway.

During the street cleaning operation, some excess snow may be pushed back into the driveway. If you have already cleared your driveway, this can be a frustrating situation. Although there is no sure-fire way to stop this from occurring, you can minimize the amount of snow pushed back on the drive by waiting until the streets have been cleared before clearing the end of your driveway. Also, cars should not be parked on the streets during snowfalls. Vehicles parked illegal may be ticketed or towed by the Westchester Police Department. The plows have to go around the cars, which means that the entire street cannot be cleared. Furthermore, in heavy snows, your car may be buried by the excess snow deposited around it by the plows. For the consideration of other motorists and the snow plow drivers, please help the Village keep the streets clear and safe.

## Springfield Bus Tour

The Westchester  
Chamber of Commerce



Invites you to join our 11th bus tour to

Springfield including

The Abraham Lincoln Museum

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

6:30AM - 8:30PM

(Return time Approximate)

Depart By Coach Bus from National City Bank

Parking lot 2121 S. Mannheim Rd.

**PROMPTLY** At 6:30AM

The cost of the tour is \$80.00 per person and  
includes snacks on the bus, lunch at the  
Capitol, dinner, and guided tours

Please make reservations early space is limited

Reservation: Bill Ernst at (708) 243-9859 or

billernst@comcast.net

# DEPARTMENT NEWS



As winter takes hold on the community, the Westchester Fire Department reminds residents that this can be a potentially dangerous season.

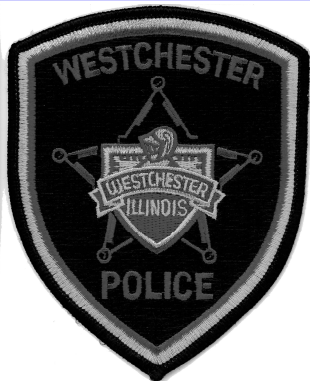
The use of heating equipment inside of the home must be handled with care and caution. Fireplaces, space heaters and even the furnace within the house can cause a disaster. Now is the time to examine your home heating devices to ensure they operate properly. Check when the last time your furnace was serviced and cleaned. This should be done annually. A dirty or faulty furnace can cause fire or the release of deadly carbon monoxide gas.

The Westchester Fire Department does not recommend the use of space heaters. If you must use them, they must be UL listed for safety and should never be left unattended. Make sure that the area near and around the space heater is free of any material that could catch fire. Never leave the space heater operating overnight. The same information is true for fireplaces, make sure the chimney and flue are clean, and the damper operates properly. Keep combustibles clear and most importantly, keep yourself and your family at a safe distance from all heat producing devices.

As we enjoy the holiday season, remember candles are a leading cause of home fires, and those can be easily prevented by using common sense, never leave them unattended and keep the area near the candles free of materials which may ignite.

Take the time to discuss with your family what to do in case of emergency, such as a fire or carbon monoxide emergencies, and please check your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors for fresh batteries and function. Remember, the law now requires that residences have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Winter can also take a severe toll on our health, with severe cold and heavy snow, please look after each other and our neighbors. Shoveling wet, heavy snow will cause muscle aches, injuries and could potentially cause a heart attack. Take your time, take frequent breaks, and if it is too much, let it go. Be careful with your footing, as icy patches are frequently difficult to see. Dress in layers and limit your exposure to the elements. The cold can kill! Please check on your family and friends during these next few months and show why Westchester is a "nice place to live".



The Westchester Police Department is pleased to announce the reinstatement of the Westchester Citizen Police Academy. This eight week informational class will be offered to residents of the village, or citizens who work in Westchester. The goal of the Citizen Police Academy is to educate Westchester citizens about the organization and procedures of their police department. Classes will be held every Wednesday night from 7-9 pm. Beginning March 5, 2008. For more information contact Officer Joe Manna at 708-345-0060, extension 208.

## Congratulations!

The Westchester Police Department is excited to announce the hiring of new employees. After several weeks of intense training administered by the Chicago Police Training Academy, **Officer Daniel Falkenberg** and **Officer Shaun Lynam** received their police officer certifications and were appointed to serve the community of Westchester. Records Clerk Mike Mellenthin and 9-1-1 Operator Tracy Celestino are also new members of the department, hired to fill other vital functions within the police department. Please join us in welcoming these new employees.



# BUILDING DEPARTMENT

We hope everyone had a very joyous and safe holiday season and would like to extend to everyone our hopes and wishes for a happy and prosperous new year.

## **Planning an addition or remodeling?**

Winter months are typically slow periods for construction. That makes this the perfect time to submit plans for your upcoming projects. Review time for plans submitted during this period typically are about half compared to plans submitted during prime construction season. So, get those plans turned in, reviewed and obtain your permits in advance and you will be set and ready to start as soon as spring weather arrives. Work must start within six (6) months of permit issuance and permits are normally good for one (1) year.

We strongly recommend that you obtain at least three (3) quotations from contractors, review them to compare equal scope and check all references thoroughly. All contractors performing work within Westchester must have current registration with the Village. A simple phone call to the Building Department can verify if your contractor is registered or we can provide you with a list of currently registered contractors.

## **Is a permit required?**

A permit shall not be required for ordinary repair work incidental to the upkeep of a building or structure. However, if such work involves any of the following a permit is required:

- ◆ Removal or installation of any external wall or the removal of any supporting wall, column, post, truss or beam;
- ◆ The installing or changing of any stair, stair-hall, fire escape, scuttle, skylight, window, door or other means of communication, ingress, egress, ventilation or the admission of natural light;
- ◆ The addition, modification or changing of the location or number of connections of the fixtures, traps, vents, waste, soil or drain pipes of the plumbing system;
- ◆ Any addition, change or modification to the electrical service or distribution system including changing of the number, location or connections of the fixtures of the lighting system or the number or location of the wall outlet receptacles;
- ◆ The changing to a different system of lighting or ventilation;
- ◆ Re-shingling or re-covering of roofs;
- ◆ Renewing or replacing exterior wood or siding of the frame portion of any building or structure;
- ◆ The installation or modification of any partition walls, or the covering of walls and/or ceilings in basements or areas partially below grade, such as the conversion of an open basement or cellar into a finished recreation room;
- ◆ Installation, modification or remodeling of kitchens and/or bathrooms;
- ◆ Installation or change of location of central air conditioning units and installation or change of location of heating units;
- ◆ Erection, replacement or relocation of fences

## **Services**

Our hours of operation are 8:30 AM thru 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The Building Department handles all new construction and remodeling along with a variety of other services including:

Home Compliance Checks  
Building Permits  
Sign Permits  
Plan Reviews

Contractor's License and Registration  
Zoning Questions  
Flood Plain Questions  
Code Enforcement

# PUBLIC WORKS



## Village Appoints New Public Works Director

The Village of Westchester is pleased to announce that Russell Gross has been selected to serve as the Public Works Director for the Village of Westchester. Mr. Gross has been involved in the public works field since 1985, most recently serving as the Public Works Supervisor for the City of Wood Dale, Illinois. Mr. Gross had previously served the communities of LaGrange Park, Walworth and LaGrange. Mr. Gross is well versed in all aspects of public works management; including budgeting, capital planning, risk management, contract management and resource allocation and will be helpful in assisting the Village in moving the Public Works Department in new directions. Mr. Gross assumed official responsibility as Director of Public Works on December 3, 2007.

The Village would like to congratulate Mr. Gross on his appointment. The Village Board and Staff are excited for the opportunity to work with Mr. Gross and envision excellent things for the Westchester Public Works Department under his leadership and guidance.

## Public Works

The Village will begin regular branch pickup on Monday, April 7, 2008. Crews will pick up branches once a month for the first full week of every month from April through November. Watch for details and a schedule in the spring issue of the Village newsletter.

Restoration of parkways that have been damaged by Village crews will resume this spring, as weather permits.

Register now for the Village's shared cost parkway tree program. Planting will begin in April 2008. If you are interested in a new parkway tree, call Public Works at 708-345-0041.

The Village also offers a shared cost sidewalk program. Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 to register.

## Street Department

The Street Department Snow Plan is in effect and plows and spreaders are ready to go on a moment's notice. Please assist crews by observing these ordinances:

- \* Place garbage cans and bins behind the curb line, not in the street.
- \* Observe "NO PARKING" and "SNOW ROUTE" signs.
- \* Do not throw or blow snow back into the cleared streets.

### **The following parking restrictions WILL be enforced:**

After a two-inch snowfall and except as otherwise posted, it is unlawful to park any vehicle, or to permit any vehicle to remain parked, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., on odd-numbered sides (south and east sides of streets) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and on even-numbered sides of the street (north and west sides of streets) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Odd sides of the street are defined as the south side of east and west streets, and the east side of north and south streets. Even sides of the street are defined as the north side of east and west streets and the west side of north and south streets.

The Street Department works long and hard to keep the Village streets clear and safe. We need and appreciate your cooperation.

**Village of Westchester**

VILLAGE PRESIDENT  
Paul Gattuso

VILLAGE CLERK  
Kathryn Hayes

**TRUSTEES**

Barbara Bailey            Neil Boyle  
Bill Buikema            Patrick Casey  
Rick Fox                 Richard L. Ryan

VILLAGE MANAGER  
Carl Goldsmith



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**POSTAL CUSTOMER  
WESTCHESTER, IL 60154**

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**MUNICIPAL NEWS**

**VEHICLE STICKERS GO ON SALE DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>.**

Newly-acquired vehicles must be licensed within thirty (30) days of purchase. If vehicle stickers are not properly displayed by February 15, 2008 the owner is subject to a fine, in addition to fees being doubled.

<u>VEHICLE</u>	<u>FEE (2/15)</u>	<u>FEE (2/16)</u>
<b>Auto</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>
<b>Motorcycle</b>	<b>\$32.00</b>	<b>\$64.00</b>
<b>Truck (B Plate)</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$120.00</b>
<b>Truck (C Plate)</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>	<b>\$140.00</b>
<b>II. Disabled Plate</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>

Seniors: \$20.00 to residents age 65 by 2/15/08. One per person.

Dog and Cat Tags are now available at the Police Department at no charge. Newly-acquired dogs and cats must be licensed within 30 days after receiving their first rabies vaccine. Rabies certification must be presented upon registration.

The Village Hall will be open for your convenience on Saturday February 2nd & 9th, 9 am to noon. Village Hall office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

**AFTER-HOURS PAYMENTS**

Use the drop box in the lobby of the Village Hall, located in the main lobby just to the left of the doorway into the Village offices after hours.

**BILLING LATE FEES**

Water and garbage fees are billed quarterly by section. If you do not receive the bill because of a post office error, you are still subject to late fees. Bills not paid by 5 pm on the due date will be charged a late fee.

**Water Rate Increase**

Ordinance 07-1743 increases the water rate from \$3.86/thousand gallons to \$4.60/thousand gallons. The increase was required in order to do repairs and improvements to the water system. The Village water fund has been operating with a deficit partly due to the fact that increases from the City of Chicago have not been passed on to the residents.