

Village of Westchester

May 2011 Newsletter



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From the Desk of The President



The month of April seemed to come and go so quickly, and I'm sure you will agree with me when I say "I can't believe it is May already." When it was 80+ degrees on April 10th I thought spring was truly here and summer was just around the corner. However, the record-setting late snowfall on April 18th was a reminder to us all here in Chicago that the calendar is never a true indicator of the four seasons. As they say, "If you are unhappy with the current weather, just wait a minute and it will change." Hopefully it will change to sunny and warm real soon.

EARTH DAY/ARBOR DAY

In conjunction with Earth Day, an Arbor Day tree planting was held on Thursday April 28th at the Westchester Primary School (formerly known as the Mary Jane Kennedy School) located at Windsor Drive and Downing Ave. This year two trees were planted on the school grounds. Staff from the Morton Arboretum was on hand and explained to all the school children and attendees the value trees have on our environment. They focused on the intake

of carbon dioxide and how the trees produce the oxygen we breathe each day. They also spoke of how the cleansing effects of the trees and the aesthetic appearance enhance our village.

A second tree was planted on behalf of all the teachers, staff, and administrators who taught at Mary Jane Kennedy School when it was a Kindergarten to 8th grade facility. During the 1960's I attended Mary Jane Kennedy School and graduated in 1967. I can honestly tell you that those days were some of the most gratifying days of my educational and social upbringing. One teacher in particular, Ms. Noreen McGinley, will always be remembered for her kind, gentle but firm handling of a freckled face transfer student who was lucky to have her as a 3rd grade teacher. Principal Dr. Raymond Alber, Gym teacher Mr. David Reid, legendary New Math teacher Ms. Rita Zdun, and a host of other teachers, who I, and everyone else who attended Mary Jane Kennedy, will never forget. This tree was dedicated to all of them, from the kids of the 60's and 70's.

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Fire Department

May, 2011

Profile



Name: Stephen Erickson (Swede)
Rank: Firefighter
Years as Firefighter: 35 Years

Was there a moment when you realized this is the job for me?

When I was in kindergarten we went on a field trip to Melrose Park F.D. I knew at that moment I wanted to be a firefighter.

Describe a good day at work:

On Sundays at Mayfair Station 2, after house duties are completed.

What is the best part about your job?

I enjoy helping residents of Westchester. It is important to me to ensure that they remain safe in their homes.

What is one downside to your Job?

Knowing that I can only help so many people in a 24 hour shift.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to follow your career path?

Study hard and get as much education as possible. This is a demanding career that requires a lot of schooling in many subject areas.

What would occur on your perfect day off?

Spending the day down by the Fox River with my family and enjoying all the great restaurants and concerts that are given in the park.

JULIE Call before you dig

You may be surprised by what's buried in your yard. That's because today, more electric, gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies are delivering utility services underground. To avoid personal injury and damage to those lines, state law requires you to contact JULIE before any digging project, regardless of the project size or depth.

When do I call Julie?

Anyone planning an outdoor project that requires any type of digging in Illinois, regardless of depth or project size, should call JULIE before they start digging. Projects such as these are examples of when to call JULIE.

Decks, Patios, Landscaping, Fences, Swingsets, Mailboxes any project that may require digging.

The call is free and so are the services. Simply call 811 or 1-800-892-0123. Call center representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Process Request On-Line <http://www.illinois1call.com/index.htm>



Helmet Safety

As a reminder with warm weather upon us more children will be bicycling, in-line skating, and participating in many activities where head injuries would be eliminated or lessened if an approved safety helmet was worn. Helmet use has been estimated to reduce head injury risk by 85%, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Require children (and adults) to wear a helmet every time they ride a bike, scooter, skateboard or in-line skate.



Westchester Open Burning

The Westchester Fire Department follows the International Fire Code regarding open burning within the Village limits. Below is the code that will be enforced. Any questions contact the Westchester Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau. 708-345-0433

2006 International Fire Code

Section 307

Open Burning and Recreational Fires

307.4.2 Recreational fires. Recreational Fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet (7620mm) of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which would cause a fire spread within 25 feet (7620mm) of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.5 Attendance. Open burning; bonfires or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

Profile



Name: Joe Manna

Occupation: Police Officer

Years as police officer: 16 years

Was there a moment when you realized this is the job for me?

No moment, just had an interest in this job.

Describe a good day at work:

When the job is accomplished without issues.

What is the best part about your job?

Being able to help when requested.

What is one downside to your job?

Working rotating shifts, and rotating days off.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to follow your career path?

Take many tests and don't give up.

What would occur on your perfect day off?

Just doing whatever seems appropriate, at that time.

Protect yourself from being a statistic

Westchester Police suggest the following Basic Door Security Products:

All your exterior doors should be fortified.

Door - a standard residential steel-clad door has 24-gauge steel with a wood lock-block core.

Stronger steel-clad doors have cores of solid-wood (Calamine), corrugated metal bracing or 12-gauge steel cladding (12-gauge is thicker than 24-gauge). If you prefer a wood door, make sure it's at least 2-inch thick solid hardwood with no recessed panels as they are too thin and weak against a forced entry.

However, you can add decorative trim that looks like paneling.

Deadbolt lock- any locks less than a deadbolt are far too weak to qualify as true security products.

Only a grade rating of 1 is recommended.

A decent deadbolt is made of hardened steel, a five-pin tumbler, and

a minimum 1-inch throw that inserts into a hardened-steel strike-plate secured by four 3-inch hardened-steel screws that insert into a reinforced door-frame.

Use a deadbolt wrap around to reinforce the deadbolt/door interface.

Reinforced door frame - reinforced on both the lock and hinge sides. A few dozen screws are the least expensive security products.

Remove the interior molding and insert wood shims in the gap between the door-frame and the (wall-frame) studs. Then drive 6-inch hardened-steel screws through the door-frame, shims and into the studs. Insert the screws 8 inches apart (4 inches nearer the strike-plate). Use 6-inch hardened steel screws on the hinges.

An additional means in reinforcing the door jamb against a forced entry by impact include placing a length of protective steel plate along the door frame adjacent to the deadbolt.

Several manufacturers offer this

product:

www.shieldforhomeinvasion.com

www.safedoorssystems.com

www.doordevil.com

www.steeldoorarmor.com

www.gosecurehomes.com

www.armorconcepts.com

www.doorsecuritypro.com

www.defenseshopper.com

www.defender-security.net.

For stronger doors, especially on a door leading to an unsecured basement or an attached garage, have a locksmith install a vertical deadbolt (a.k.a. drop-bolt) or a multi-lock deadbolt that inserts into all four sides of the door-frame.

A manufacturer has provided the department with a door jamb reinforcement plate.

For more information and additional crime prevention tips, please contact:

Officer Rob Verber
Community Relations Officer
rverber@westchesterpolice.com
(708) 345-0060 ext. 440

Police Blotter: March 18th through April 18th 2011

On March 18th at 2:53pm, a theft was reported at St. Joseph High School. A student reported that their cell phone was taken from her purse sometime during the school day.

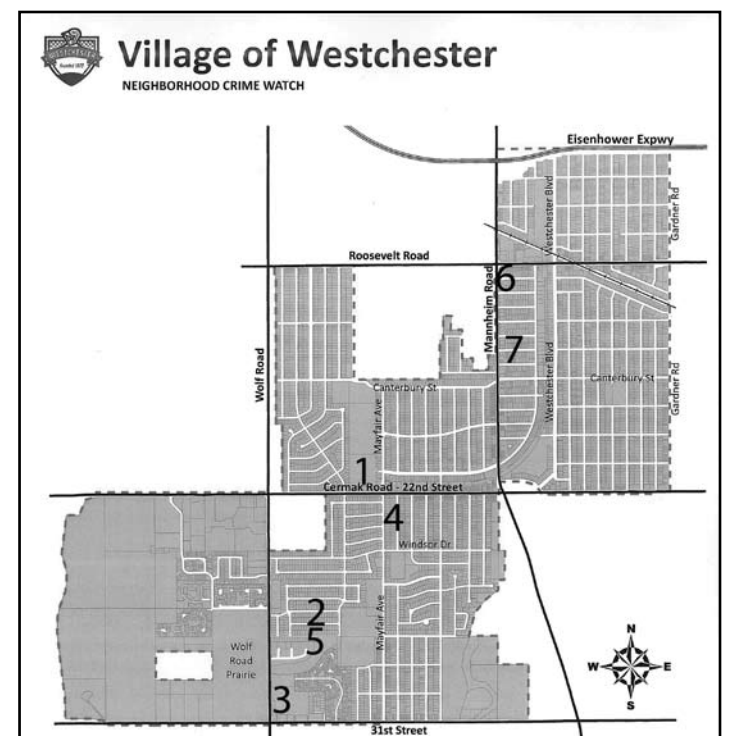
On March 22nd at 12:29pm, a residential burglary was reported on the 10900 block of Nelson. Entry was made to the house by damaging the front door sometime between 9am and 12pm. Various household electronics were taken.

On March 22nd at 5:05pm, a retail theft was reported at the Dominick's Food Store located at 3020 Wolf Road. Loss prevention agents stopped a male subject after taken disposable razor blades valued at \$71. Subject was turned over to Westchester police officers and arrested for retail theft.

On March 25th at 6:27pm, a burglary to garage was reported on the 2300 block of Kensington. Entry was possibly made through an unlocked side door to the garage. Taken were various tools.

On March 26th at 8:29 am, a criminal damage to property was reported on the 11100 block of Wakefield. The resident reported unknown person(s) damaged the rear door of their house. It was advised that this could have occurred sometime during the past week.

On March 28th at 5 pm, a retail theft was reported at the Walgreens located at 10345 Roosevelt Road. A female was stopped by employees after placing unpaid



merchandise into her purse and attempting to exit the store. The female was turned over to Westchester police officers and found to have \$82 in merchandise. The suspect was placed under arrest for retail theft.

On April 10th at 1:01pm, a theft was reported on the 10300 block of Chaucer. Taken were two garden hoses from the side of his residence.

CALENDAR

4 MAY 2011

Please see the Village of Westchester website for all meetings www.westchester-il.org

Sunday, May 1. Streetcar Aficionado Jack Doyle will be speaking on Streetcars of North America at the LaGrange Park Library. Sponsored by the Franzosenbusch Heritage Project. Free to all. 2 PM. For more information, call 708-354-5512.

Monday, May 2. Praying the Rosary -2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122.

Monday, May 2. Friday, May 6 - Grade 5 students visit and tour WMS, Westchester Public Schools

Saturday, May 7. 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Edward Jones Investments office is offering free portfolio reviews to residents. If you would like a free review of your portfolio or any of your other investments to see if they are appropriate for your long-term goals, please call to RSVP. (708) 562-0004. The office address is 10526 W Cermak Rd Ste 100 in Westchester.

Saturday, May 7. First Communion - 1:30 PM Mass at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1640 Newcastle. Contact Sr. Susan Majcen at 708-865-8086 for more information.

Car Shows

Car shows start Monday, May 9 at 31st and Wolf, 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. Fun for the whole family with unique classic cars, live entertainment, and a bouncy house for the kids. Sponsored by Paul's Pizza and Antonio's Ice Cream. Every Monday until October.

Monday, May 9. Economic Development Committee Meeting, Westchester Village Hall, Community Room 7:30 AM.

Monday, May 9. Spring Music Concert will be held at 1 & 7 PM at Divine Infant Jesus School, 1640 Newcastle. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122.

Tuesday, May 10. Praying the Rosary -2:10 PM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle. For more information,

Village Hall hours

To serve you better!

Regular hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Tuesday until 7 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

contact the school office at 865-0122.

Tuesday, May 10. Grade 2 students visit and tour WIS, 1:30PM, Westchester Public Schools

Tuesday, May 10. Grade 2 Parent Meeting at WIS, 7 PM, Westchester Public Schools

Wednesday, May 11. Scholastic Book Fair 3-6 PM. Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Wednesday, May 11. Westchester Blood Drive Program. From 2 to 7 PM in a LifeSource mobile donor coach parked near Paul's Pizza in the Westbrook Mall at 31st and Wolf. The WBP, the most productive community blood-collection group in northern Illinois, collected 122 units at its April 9 drive, bringing to 260 the number for the year so far. That's more than enough to care for the needs of 500 hospital patients. "We are confident that we will exceed our annual goal of 500 units this year," says Carl Panek, director of donor relations for the Westchester Blood Program. "We have done so nearly every year since 2000."

Wednesday, May 11. WPTC Member Meeting at WIS, 7:00PM, Westchester Public Schools

Thursday, May 12. Early Dismissal, WMS @ 11:15AM, WIS @ 11:45AM, WPS @ 11:55AM, EC & Kdt. (A.M. session) @ 11:55AM, EC & Kdt. (P.M. session) No School, Westchester Public Schools

Thursday, May 12 - Saturday, May 14. WMS Musical "Beauty & the Beast, Jr." @ 7 PM, \$6 (pre-sale) \$7 (at the door) May 13 - WMS Musical "Beauty & the Beast, Jr." @ 7 PM, \$6 (pre-sale) \$7 (at the door) May 14 - WMS Musical "Beauty & the Beast, Jr." @ 2 PM, \$6 (pre-sale) \$7 (at the door), Westchester Public Schools

Thursday, May 12. Scholastic Book Fair - 2:45-4 PM and 6:30-8 PM Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Thursday, May 12. Teetering Tots Playgroup 9:30-10:30AM. Teetering Tots is a program for parents and their

children between the ages of 0-4. Its purpose is to give parents a local activity to promote friendships while providing entertainment for the tots. We welcome Westchester families to join us for some entertainment and socialization. This will be last Teetering Tots meeting this year. Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Friday, May 13. May Crowning at 9:30 AM at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. Ribbon and Award Ceremony for graduating 8th graders following the mass. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122.

5th Annual Canterbury Garage Sale

Saturday, June 4. 9AM - 3PM Sale area is from Canterbury Street South to Dorchester and Manheim West to Mayfair. If you live in the area notated above and would like to join in the fun please contact Cheryl Rodriguez at crodriguez2020@sbcglobal.net or call 773-704-1484.

If you are a treasure hunter, SAVE THIS DATE! We will have everything and anything you are looking for. Furniture, Collectibles, Antiques, Glassware, Toys, Jewelry, Small Appliances and much, much more!!

Saturday, May 14. Open House 10:30AM -12:30PM Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Monday, May 16. Spring Band Concert & Awards at 7 PM at Divine Infant Jesus School's Langan Hall, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact Carolyn Rife, 708-865-0122

Monday, May 16-Tuesday, 20. WMS 8th Grade students travel to Washington D.C., Westchester Public Schools

Tuesday, May 17. WIS Spring Band Concert & Band Parents Meeting, 7 PM, Westchester Public Schools

Wednesday, May 18. Market Day pick-up from 5:30 - 6:30 PM in Langan Hall at Divine Infant Jesus. Orders are due by April 15th. Contact Toni Podock

at 708-865-8071 for more information.

Wednesday, May 18. 1:00-2:00 PM Aging Well Meeting. Mayfair Recreation 10835 Wakefield Street. There will also be a special singing performance by Joyce Tasch. Learn about: the NEW CPR Knox Lock Boxes First Alert File of Life - will be available Smoke Detector and CO Detectors I.C.E. In case of emergency cell phone And, all the services for seniors available through the Fire Department Refreshments will be served.

Thursday, May 19. Praying the Rosary -2:10 pm at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122.

Friday, May 20. Taize Prayer, 7:30 PM, Divine Providence Church, 2600 Mayfair

Friday, May 20. Last Day for 3 and 4 year olds Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Saturday, May 21. Market Day Pick-up 8:30-9:30AM Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Monday, May 23. Economic Development Committee Meeting, Westchester Village Hall, Community Room 7:30AM

Monday, May 23. Westchester Community Image Council, Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Village Hall

Wednesday, May 25. Pre-Kindergarten Graduation will be at 9:30 AM, at Divine Infant Jesus School's Langan Hall, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Thursday, May 26. Kindergarten Graduation will be at 9:30 AM, at Divine

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DESK

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CERTIFICATION OF NEW TRUSTEES MAY 10TH

On May 10th the results of the April 5th consolidated election in Westchester will be certified. The certification will take place at the Village Hall Board Room at 7:00 pm. The unofficial results of the election have Trustee Paul (Paul's Pizza) Gattuso returning to the board for another four years, along with new Trustees Frank (Joe's Place) Perry, and Westchester Park District employee, Thomas Yurkovich. They will be joining Trustees Novak, Sloan and Steker, who have two years remaining on their current terms. I, along with the entire board, administration, department heads, and staff would like to welcome our new Board members and look forward to working with them as we continue making Westchester a great place to live.

Along with the excitement of adding new Board members, comes the sadness of losing two experienced and dedicated public servants. Both Trustee Neil Boyle and Trustee Patrick Casey, whose terms were up this April, chose not to seek re-election. Having worked side by side with them for the past two years I have seen the exceptional work they have done on your behalf, from floods to blizzards and everything in between. I will miss them both.

Although Trustees Boyle's and Casey's service on the Village Board is coming to an end, their service to Westchester is not. Trustee Boyle will continue as my appointment on the Broadview-Westchester Water Agency Board. I have asked Trustee Boyle to remain on this Board because we are scheduled to receive an IEPA monetary grant in 2012 to replace our existing 80 year old water pumping station located at 10th and Roosevelt in the Village of Broadview, and Trustee Boyle contributions have been invaluable in the administration of this project.

Although Trustee Casey will no longer be representing us on the Village Board, he is not yet taking off his "elected official" hat. Trustee Casey is merely taking off his Village Board Member hat and replacing it with his Park District Commissioner hat. For those of you who may not know, instead of running again for the Village Board this April, Trustee



Casey ran for Westchester Park District Commissioner and won. Having worked side by side with Trustee Casey for the past two years, I have seen first-hand his work ethic and dedication to the community and am confident he will maintain the same standard of representation on the Westchester Park District Board.

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES and HELP CLEAN-UP WESTCHESTER

On Saturday, May 7th, the Westchester Community Image Council (WCIC) will be hosting their 3rd annual Westchester Clean-Up Day, from 8 am to noon. Last year's event was quite successful in removing winter debris from several areas throughout the village. This year's event is open to all volunteers (individuals, families and groups). For those students who need service hours for school this event will definitely qualify. Come lend us a helping hand, we meet at the Village Hall at 8 am.

You may have already noticed that the WCIC has begun their clean-up efforts along Westchester Blvd. The many "resident sponsored" plots of roses and other tall grass have been trimmed back and should be blooming this summer. A special thanks to the Cook County Sheriff's SWAP program for their assistance with raking the parkway.

SPECIAL PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

On Saturday May 14th, in conjunction with our Electronic Recycling Program, we will also be hosting a village-wide paper shredding event. From 10 am until Noon, Pro Shred will be on

site to shred any and all of your old papers and documents that you no longer need to keep. If you are like me, and hesitant to throw any papers away for fear the information contained on them will fall into the wrong hands resulting in identity theft, shredding those documents will lessen the chance of you becoming a victim, and also serve as a way to dispose of these documents effectively and efficiently. All documents will be shredded on site in your presence. We invite all Westchester residents to attend this free event.

2011 WESTCHESTER VILLAGE TAGS MUST BE DISPLAYED BY MAY 1

A reminder that each motor vehicle, motorcycle, and truck registered or housed in the village is required to have a current Westchester Vehicle Tag. The green colored 2011 Westchester Vehicle Tags are to be displayed and properly affixed on the lower right corner of the passenger side of the windshield. The tag and its number are to be plainly visible. Motorcycles will receive a small tag to be placed on one of the rear license plate screws and visible from the rear.

As you may remember, the Village Board pushed the display date from February 15th to May 1st to avoid having to brave the cold weather while affixing the tag. If you have not purchased your Westchester Vehicle Tags please do so as soon as possible, as the fine for not purchasing or not displaying the Westchester Vehicle Tag will increase dramatically after May 1st. Police will be enforcing the Ordinance by ticketing vehicles registered or housed in Westchester not displaying the green 2011 Tag.

ST. JOSEPH/IHM CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Village Manager Mr. Urban and I attended the 50 year Celebration of St Joseph H.S. and IHM H.S. at the Drury Lane banquet facility on April 9th. For those in attendance, I can honestly say we were all in awe when we heard the many accomplishments of both the St. Joe and IHM graduates. We were also impressed with the presentation by many of current St. Joseph students as they highlighted the accomplishments of past graduates.

Did you know that St. Joes and IHM graduated several students who are current and former employees at NASA, Doctors, Lawyers, Judges, Elected Officials at the State, County, and Local level of our government, as well as Entertainers, Business and Corporate Executives, Educators, and just about every professional occupation? Additionally, special recognition was given to those graduates who are now homemakers and those who work day in and day out to provide for their families and make our world a better place to live in the Lasallian tradition of service to ourselves and others.

A special thanks to CEO David McCreery, Gene Pingatore, Tony Rotunno, and the entire St. Joseph/IHM School Board for providing the vision and leadership necessary to keep St Joes' a First Rate School where Education, Learning, and Community Service are the cornerstones. Here's wishing you another 50 years of educational excellence in our community. Westchester is proud of you.

FROM THE BOARD

For the past several months, the Board has been discussing the 2011-2012 Fiscal Budget. If you have been following the National and State of Illinois financial status you know that we as a nation and state are in financial trouble. The Federal Debt of \$14 Trillion with a "T", is a staggering amount. I know that the cuts in programs and funding from the Federal level will have a long lasting negative impact on all of us.

Unemployment is hovering in the 8-9% range with a very good prospect that gasoline will reach \$5.00 per gallon by Memorial Day. Rising prices of basic commodities and necessities are following suit and are increasing all the time. What is even worse is that all this

DESK

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is happening as we as a Board, lobby our elected officials to pay for what I believe are necessary projects affecting each one of us. These projects include repairing/replacing the desperately needed infrastructure of streets, as well as storm and sanitary sewers. Lobbying for the millions of dollars it will take to construct a retention area for Addison Creek and other important sewer related projects while keeping the level of service from our Police, Fire, Public Works, and Administration will be a challenge. This is a challenge that I, and your entire Board welcome and accept.

At the time of this writing, the Board has not yet approved our budget and will be discussing financial options brought before us by our Villager Manager and Financial Officer. Unfortunately, continuing our current road, sewer, and water line projects come at a cost that we as a village do not currently have a revenue stream to support. As such, the prospect of increasing fees associated with creating a revenue stream is on the table.

Additionally, employee salaries, benefits, and pension obligations continue to be over 80% of our operating budget. This percentage of operating budget for employees is not unique to Westchester. All communities, not just Westchester, are in the same predicament. However, we are maintaining a bare bones operational level that allows us to continue to provide you with the same level of service that we as residents have all enjoyed in the past. Necessary cuts have been made, and union negotiations with all of the employee groups are now underway. Our goal at the end of the day, and especially during these difficult economic times, is to remain diligent and ensure that we continue to provide services to the residents in the most efficient and economical manner. Like you, all Board members are residents of Westchester, and none of us want to pay any more for anything. Difficult decisions will have to be made, but I am confident that the decisions we make to improve Westchester will be the right ones.

SENATOR KIRK MEETS WITH ADVISORY BOARD

On April 19th I, along with 40 other



Mayors and Village Presidents were invited to a sit down with our newest Senator, Mark Kirk. Senator Kirk wanted to hear first-hand what we need to improve our villages. As we introduced ourselves Senator Kirk wanted to hear the top two things that were on our minds and how he could be of assistance. I was the last to speak as I sat just to the right of the Senator. All Mayors and Presidents that spoke before me talked about infrastructure, storm water management, job stability, economic development, healthcare reform, the O'Hare expansion, unfunded mandates, Police and Fire pensions, collection of sales tax for internet purchases, immigration reform, helping small business, banking, impact aid to military families, specific stalled projects affecting bridges and off ramps that have been on the table for several years, and the new law about the replacement of signage due to their reflect ability.

As you can see, the spectrum of comments and concerns spanned a very large area of concern. As you might guess, when it was my turn I had a lot to say about the regional flooding that has had a definite impact on our village and surrounding communities. I also garnered his support for the high priced projects we cannot afford to complete without federal dollars. I discussed with the Senator the state of our infrastructure for a town incorporated in 1925. I also highlighted the financial picture of local municipal governments and our ability to survive our economic future as a nation, state, and municipal entity. Rest assured, I will be in continual contact with Senator Kirk and our two Congressmen seeking their assistance to address the needs of our community.

Senator Kirk told us he is on

the Appropriations Committee, the Banking Committee, the Health- Education-Welfare and Pension Committee, and the Aging Committee. He stated that we are currently operating in a "No Earmark" environment, and as such have to deal with a lot more government bureaucracy in order to get projects funded. He spoke about the "Gang of Six" which is comprised of three Republicans and three Democrats working on a bipartisan way to address our deficit. This Committee will be making their recommendations in the Deficit Commission Report. Senator Kirk believes these recommendations will pass in the Senate due to the bipartisan nature of the sponsorship.

Senator Kirk also spoke at length about the downgrading of our financial rating to NEGATIVE by the S&P and what affect the lowering of our AAA rating will have on our country. He was of the opinion that a spending discipline must be in place to avoid any slippage of the USA's Credit Rating.

I can honestly say the Advisory Board of Suburban Mayors and Village Presidents was a worthwhile idea. It was not only a forum in which I could share the concerns of our community with our national representative, but also is a cohesive organization that represents the common interests of a wide range of communities. There is always power in numbers, and such a forum allows us access to our state and federal leaders that we would not otherwise have.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD TAKES LEAD ON EDUCATION REFORM

I have also been in contact with our State Senator Kimberly Lightford and congratulated her on her diligent work on behalf of Education

Reform. Senator Lightford has led the charge in the State Senate to bring all groups to the table to discuss reforms that will make a meaningful impact on our children as well as the state.

LEGISLATIVE DRIVE DOWN TO SPRINGFIELD

On May 4th and 5th I along with Village Manager Urban and Village Trustees will be driving down to Springfield with other elected officials from the West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) to meet face to face with our state legislators to press our financial needs, projects, and promised money from the Capitol Bill. I am hoping that our requests will not fall on deaf ears as the State of Illinois struggles with a 13 Billion shortfall with a "B" of its own. One of the topics that is dear to the hearts of all municipal officials is the prospect of the state not distributing sales tax, motor fuel tax, and other taxes (our distributive share) back to communities. Cuts in the portions of the money we receive from the state will have a disastrous effect on municipal budgets and our ability to get things done. The Governor, as well as both the House and Senate members, will definitely hear from us on this very important matter.

CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD

The Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) met on April 13th and shared several concerns about the number of residential home break-ins over the past year. Chief April Padalik addressed those concerns and broke down the number, as statistically reported to the State of Illinois, as 44. It appears there were two main groups of break-ins. One was those break-ins committed by scam artists who gained entry by a pulling a ruse on residents (primarily the elderly) under the guise of checking some work or problem associated with their home or property. The other group of break-ins was to residences when the homeowner was not at home. This usually occurred during the daytime or possibly when the owners were out of town. Citizens Alerts were discussed and will be initiated when the Chief believes a pattern of concern based on time, location, and particular pattern is established.

Westchester is not immune to crime, and criminals usually take advantage of simply things that we as residents have control over.

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April 13, 2011

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

School District 92½



Dear Westchester Public Schools, District 92 ½, Families:

This week, representatives from the Village of Westchester, the Westchester Police Department, the Westchester Park District, and Westchester Public Schools, District 92 ½, met to discuss the annual tradition of shaving cream fights to celebrate the last day of school in June. Last year's shaving cream activity brought about vandalism, resident fear, perceived mob action, and disrespectful student behavior. The Village and the school district received many calls from unhappy citizens who had landscaping destroyed, reported loud behavior, and noted possible student injuries. The police responded to multiple calls of mob action and disorderly conduct. Groups of students were seen actively destroying property.

For those of you new to the community, for many years, 8th graders from District 92 ½ have celebrated the last day of school with a shaving cream fight at the Westchester Park District. Over the past several years or more, that tradition has grown to include our 6th and 7th grade students participating in the shaving cream activity. The situation became very dangerous and out of control the past couple of years culminating in a flood of complaints reported to the Village and to our school district last year.

While we believe it would be great for the community to come up with an alternative activity for students to participate in on the last day of school, all of our entities have staffing concerns, time issues, safety issues, and liability issues that prevent supervision of such an activity. **It is for this reason that we need to stop the tradition of shaving cream fights for students on the last day of school.** The tradition has been a fun event for many years but for a variety of reasons, needs to end this year.

Because of snow days utilized this year, the last day of school for the Westchester Public Schools' students is Monday, June 13. The Westchester Park District is beginning its day camp programs and swim lessons that day and does not have the staff or the location to allow such an activity to be held on Park District property. The last day for our 8th graders is Friday, June 10. We must keep our students safe while also protecting the property of our community residents. Any student that is caught participating in shaving cream fights may be taken to the police station and face possible charges as a consequence. Please help us keep our children safe and our community clean by helping us to end this activity.

Sincerely,

Sam Pulia
Village PresidentStan Urban
Village ManagerApril Padalik
Chief of PoliceDr. Jean Sophie
SuperintendentGary Kasanders
Executive Director

CALENDAR

Continued from page 4

Infant Jesus School's Langan Hall, 1640 Newcastle Avenue. 8th grade graduation will be at 7:00 PM, at Divine Infant Jesus Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122. For more information, contact the school office at 708-865-0122.

Thursday, May 26. Kindergarten Graduation 9:30AM Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Ave. 708-562-2258.

Friday, May 27. WPS Kindergarten Programs, 10:30AM & 2:30PM, Westchester Public Schools

Friday, May 27. Praying the Rosary -2:10 pm at Divine Infant Church, 1600 Newcastle Avenue. For more information, contact the school office at 865-0122.

May 29-30. Library closed for Memorial Day weekend.

Monday, May 30. Memorial Day No Classes, Westchester Public Schools; Divine Providence School

May 28 and May 30. Village Hall closed.

Tuesday, May 31. Library begins summer hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM, Friday 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM, Saturday 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM, closed Sundays. Summer hours in effect until Labor Day weekend in September.

Tuesday, May 31. Is the deadline to purchase tickets for the Divine Providence over 50 Club picnic on June 8. Membership is open to all registered parishioners of Divine Providence and Divine Infant. Membership is \$12. Guests are welcome for a donation of \$1. Box lunches will be catered by Cuomo's, with a choice of three (3) different lunches. Tickets will be \$7.50 for members and

Secretary of State mobile services unit

The Mobile Unit of the Secretary of State, Jesse White, will be at the Village Hall on May 25 2011. From 10AM until 2PM, state employees will be on hand to renew Drivers Licenses, Vision Screening, Corrected License, Identification Cards, and Vehicle Renewal Stickers. Proper forms of identification will be required. More information is available at the Secretary of State Web Site www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Tower's After Hours

Wednesday, June 1. 5-7 PM. Westchester Chamber of Commerce "Tower's After Hours" Business Networking Event at 2 Westbrook Corporate Center. Cost is free.

Hosted by:

The Bistro, Upscale Lunch and After Work Appetizers/Drinks Experience (708) 947-2940 www.fftchicago.com/westbrook

BookKeeping Express-"We'll Handle Your Books So You Can Get Back to Business" (708) 414-0474 www.BookKeepingExpress.com/il001

Continental Barbers and Jeannie's Hair Salon, Family Hair Care and Custom Wigs (708) 531-1991 www.conje.com

Midwest Orthopedics at Rush, Sports Medicine

(708) 236-2661 www.rushortho.com

Divine Infant Jesus School

1640 Newcastle Avenue. Westchester, IL

\$8.50 for guests. This will also be our last meeting until September. Please call Ruth @ 708-947-9020 to purchase your tickets for either of these events, If you have any other questions you may call Corrine @ 708-531-9496.

Wednesday, June 1. Registration begins for Summer Reading Programs for kids at Library. Contact Youth Dept at (708) 562-3573.

Wednesday, June 1. Registration begins for Page Turners Reading Club for adults and high school students at Library. Contact Adult Dept at (708) 562-3573.

Wednesday, June 1. Registration begins for Summer Reading Programs for kids at Library. Contact Youth Dept

at (708) 562-3573.

Wednesday, June 1. 8th Grade Graduation, 7 PM Divine Providence School 2500 Mayfair Avenue. 708-562-2258.

Friday, June 3. Bunco Night 6:30PM. sponsored by the Divine Providence Family School Association Pizza and appetizers served at 6:30 pm Bunco Begins at 7 pm. Advance Ticket purchase \$25 or \$30 at the door Prizes awarded and Split the pot raffles. Call Divine Providence at 708-562-2258 for information and ticket purchase.

Friday, June 3. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:00 AM-7:00 PM, Divine Providence Ministry Center, 2540 Mayfair.



10700 Canterbury Street · Westchester, Illinois 60154 · Phone (708) 562-3573

Election Impact on the Library's Board of Trustees

This April, four positions were up for election on the Library's Board of Trustees. On April 5th, Phyllis Kastle, Allison Muzal and Celestine T. Reda were elected to serve the 4-year terms that will be vacated this May with the retirement of Patrick Kane, Jennifer Boyle and Kathleen Schultz. Carol E. Levy was the fourth candidate elected to the board and will serve a 2-year term. The new members of the board will be sworn in by the village president in May.

The April election prompted another change to the Library's board. Library trustee Frank Perry ran and won election to the board of trustees for the Village of Westchester. In moving to the village board, Mr. Perry was required to resign from the Library's board of trustees and his unexpired term on the Library's board is up for appointment.

Congratulations to the winners of the consolidated election held April 5, 2011!

Candidates Sought for Library Trustee Position

The Westchester Public Library seeks a qualified candidate to serve as Library Trustee and fill Frank Perry's unexpired term. If appointed, the candidate will complete the remaining two years of his term which expires April 2013, the time of the next consolidated election.

If you are a Westchester resident, community-supportive, library-committed, and a registered voter, consider learning about the responsibilities and benefits of service to your library. If you are interested in serving on the Library Board, submit a letter of intent requesting consideration to the Library Board President at:

Westchester Public Library
10700 Canterbury Street

Westchester, IL 60154

The deadline for applications is Sunday, May 15, 2011.

Elections and Voter Turnout

The Cook County Clerk is the election authority for suburban Cook County, one of the largest election jurisdictions in the country. With 1,927 precincts and 1,227 polling locations, more than 10,000 election judges are needed to insure operations run smoothly at each polling location on election day and that the elections are fair, honest and accurate. Individuals interested in serving as an election judge will find information on the Cook County Clerk's website www.cookcountyclerk.com.

The Clerk's site also has complete election results for the recent April election as well as past elections. According to results posted on the site, 2,870 or 26% of 10,899 registered voters in Westchester cast their ballots in the consolidated

election. This leaves 8,029 or 74% of registered voters in Westchester who did not vote in the April election.

Library Summer Hours Begin Memorial Day Weekend

The Library will shift to summer hours starting Memorial Day weekend, May 28 - 30. The Library will be closed Sunday and Monday, May 29-30 for the holiday. Beginning Tuesday, May 31, the Library will be open Monday - Thursday, 9:30 am - 8:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm, and closed on Sundays until Labor Day weekend in September. Since several schools will be in session after Memorial Day weekend, parents should note the change in evening hours beginning June 1 in order to pick up their students before the Library closes in the evening.



Westchester Gardens Plant Sale

Westchester Gardens is holding its Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 21, 2011 from 9:00A.M. to 12 Noon at the Welcome Garden at the corner of Mannheim and Cermak Road. Annuals, Perennials, Herbs, Cacti and hanging baskets will all be available. So, come take a look and visit with our members. You can also visit us on Facebook at Westchester Gardens.

Westchester Gardens volunteers are a truly amazing group that plant and maintain not only the Welcome Gardens, but also the Westchester Public Library's courtyard and Peter

Rabbit gardens. We love "playing in the dirt", so if you also are so inclined, we would love to have you join us. We could always use an extra pair of hands!



Building the Stanley 'Cap'

When the Chicago Blackhawks won the Stanley cup in 2010, their fans celebrated in a variety of ways. Some wore jerseys of their favorite players while others purchased season tickets for the next season. One fan, Westchester resident Mike Rigitano celebrated in his own unique way by constructing a replica of the Stanley cup made entirely out of bottle caps—approximately 7,000 of them! Due to the sheer size of the Stanley cup, it took Rigitano nearly 3 months to plan the construction, collect the bottle caps from the bar he works at, and physically construct the bottle cap replica.

The cup has been displayed at several events including the Chicago Steel junior Hockey team, ABC7 Chicago News, and will be displayed at the 2011 Chicago Blackhawks Fan Convention this summer. When asked why he built the bottle cap Stanley cup, Rigitano replied, "Well, I've played hockey since I was 3 and



have been a Blackhawks fan all my life. So I guess it was just my way of paying them a tribute for all they accomplished."

Proviso student playing at Symphony Center

Russell Kerns is a senior at Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy. He has a 3.9 G.P.A. and scored a 32 on his ACT exam. Russell plays golf and tennis at Proviso West High School. He also plays the saxophone as a member of PMSA's orchestra. That is how he was offered the opportunity of a lifetime—a chance to play solo at Chicago's famous Symphony Center, home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. On May 16th Russell will perform on the big stage during Merit School of Music's 2011 MeritFest. Though he has been playing the saxophone since 6th grade, Russell says this performance is something special. "This is going to be the most important thing I've done in my life so far," said Russell. "Not a lot of saxophonists get to play there because the saxophone isn't an orchestral instrument. The Symphony is also one of the most important music halls in the world." "If I didn't come to PMSA, I wouldn't be in the music program," said Russell. "I wouldn't be able to have this experience. My music teacher here, Mr. Tracy, encouraged me to apply at the Merit School

of Music. That was when I got serious about it." Russell was recently accepted to the Northwestern University Saxophone Program—which is one of the top in the nation—and continues to play with Merit and at PMSA. MeritFest presents another opportunity for Russell to make his mark. MeritFest is an annual two-day spring celebration of the accomplishments of Merit students. Russell began learning the concert pieces with his Merit teachers in January. During MeritFest, Russell will join musical forces and peers from all over Chicago and Northwest Indiana to perform enchanting musical works in a large ensemble. He's hoping to earn money for college by giving private lessons on the saxophone to intermediate and middle school students in Westchester. Congratulations Russell! You are a vital part of Proviso Rising.



Russell Kerns

DESK

Continued from page 6

Remember to lock your doors, windows, and be very aware of the location of your property. Do not leave your personal property unattended.

Neighborhood Watch Officer Rob Verber also attended the meeting and explained the Neighborhood Watch Program he is re-energizing. He recommended that we all be aware of our surroundings, be more vigilant, and watch and report to the police suspicious persons or activity in the neighborhood. There is no one better than you to know who belongs, or what unfamiliar car is parked in front of your neighbors home when you know they are on vacation or not home during the day. We want you to call the police when you think something is out of place, or when you see a crime occur. The police need your eyes and ears to be our eyes and ears as we continue our community partnership. 9-1-1 can be dialed from any phone. Please do not be afraid to call the police. We would rather check out your suspicions and prevent a crime, than hear

about it after a crime has occurred and our residents feel violated.

Other topics discussed centered on the residents petition to have Stop Signs installed on Gardner Road. A petition was submitted to Chief Padalik and she has been completing a traffic study on the roadway. I have also appeared before the Broadview Village Board to ask for their participation, as the east side of the roadway is located in the Village of Broadview.

SECRETARY OF STATE

The Mobile Unit of the Secretary of State, Jesse White, will be at the Village Hall on May 25 2011. From 10AM until 2PM, state employees will be on hand to renew Drivers Licenses, Vision Screening, Corrected License, Identification Cards, and Vehicle Renewal Stickers. Proper forms of identification will be required. More information is available at the Secretary of State Web Site www.cyberdriveillinois.com

MEDAL OF MERIT PROGRAM

For the past two years, the Village See DESK, page 10

Westchester Electronic Waste

Recycling Program

Saturday, May 14th. 8:30 - Noon
Village Hall (Behind the Westchester Post Office)



- Based on Illinois law, no electronic waste (e-waste) will be allowed into landfills beginning in January 2012.

- When not disposed of properly, e-waste can become toxic and harmful to humans, plants, and animals

The Village of Westchester wants to become a leader in electronics recycling... but we need your help! Bring us your old electronics.

Bring these Items	Printers/ Fax/ Scanners	Peripherals- Mice/ Keyboards	All other computer parts
Monitors	DVD/ Stereos/ VCR'S	PDA/Cell Phones	MP3/IPods/etc
Laptops	Video Game Consoles		
TV's			
Printers			
Computers			

The E- Waste Program will continue every second Saturday of the month at the same location and same time.



Community Shred Day



Saturday May 14th
10:00 am - 12:00 noon
(At Village Hall)

All Westchester residents are invited to bring documents for free safe destruction.

- **Safely dispose of sensitive documents**
- **Reduce the clutter in your home**
- **Recycle old papers**

Loose paper, stapled paper, paper clipped paper, and books acceptable. Please no binders

"Help clean up Westchester one piece of paper at a time!"

For more information please visit our website www.westchester-il.org

Bring your old electronics for recycling too!



Struggling with your mortgage or foreclosure?

Are your mortgage balances higher than the current value of your home? Maybe your circumstances have changed with a loss of job/income, illness, divorce or death of spouse, adjustable rate mortgage or other event that has impacted your income. Sellers facing financial difficulty can be overwhelmed, but there are options to try before losing your home in foreclosure.

Refinance-if your credit allows for a refinance and you meet the eligibility criteria, an option is HOPE for Homeowners (H4H) a program available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) www.hopenow.com.

Loan Modification-lenders may work with distressed homeowners by reducing or rolling back interest rates, forgiving back payments or adding them to the loan amount, or recasting the loan and wrapping fees into a fixed-rate mortgage.

Sell and Bring Cash to Closing-although you may not have the necessary cash to cure deficiencies at closing, you may have to liquidate assets (ie: U.S. treasury bonds, individual retirement accounts (IRAs). Consult with your finance and tax professional before bringing liquid assets to closing.

Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure occurs

when the borrower agrees to trade property to the lender in exchange for cancellation of the note.

Short Sale is a real estate transaction in which the purchase price offered by the buyer is less than the amount necessary to pay off (a) all the claims, liens and encumbrances, including mortgages and (b) all the costs of the transaction, including title insurance, transfer taxes, broker commissions and attorney fees. This step could help you avoid foreclosure, bankruptcy and protect your credit score. Additional advantages of a short sale include: you can be a homeowner again more quickly

with a short sale than a foreclosure, you will have more time to make relocation plans and save money than with a deed in lieu, you may qualify to receive up to \$3,000 from your lender for moving expenses, and you can help your community's home values versus the negative impact of a foreclosure.

Don't face it alone. Homeowners in distress should always seek the services of qualified professionals such as a Realtor®, attorney, or mortgage specialist to help determine what options are best. The worst thing you can do is nothing.

Bob and Mary Bakas

DESK

Continued from page 9

of Westchester has sponsored high school students who have completed 100 hours of volunteer service to the community to receive the Sheriff's Medal of Merit. Last summer, three Westchester high school students volunteered their services to do clean-up work around the village hall and on specific areas of the village. All 3 of the students were awarded the Medal of Merit by Sheriff Dart at an Award Ceremony held at McCormick Place in Chicago. Over 100 students from Cook County received the prestigious award. If you are interested to volunteer your services, please contact me at the village hall.

ATTENTION: DRURY LANE RESIDENTS

As a result of last summer's flood event the village has received complaints about the amount of debris and overgrowth behind the residences along the railroad tracks. Over the past several months I have been in contact with representatives of the C/N Rail Road examining plats of survey's in order to determine whose property and responsibility it is to maintain that property. The drainage ditch behind those homes located on the north side of the street was designed to be a path for storm water to drain east bound until it enters the Addison Creek at Gardner Road. A visual inspection was done as late as April 19th. Numerous items in addition to the overgrowth of trees,

were found to be discarded into the culvert. Old grass clippings, plastic bags of leaves, cut brush, logs and other material was observed. The Village and the C/N Rail Road are presently working together to possibly clean up this area and allow it to be the drainage ditch it was designed to be. As more definitive clean up responsibility becomes known, residents will be notified of what our plan of attack will be to prevent the excess storm water from overflowing into your backyards. Please make every effort not to dispose of any items into the drainage ditch as this will affect the normal flow of storm water into the creek.

JUNK MAIL

I have been asked by several residents how we can curtail the amount of junk mail that we receive at our homes through the US Mail. I have done some research and have located an article written by Judy Hevrdejs of the Chicago Tribune back in July 18, 2010. Here are some facts: Direct Mail and Direct Credit Card Mail has increased dramatically from the last quarter of 2009 to the 1st quarter of 2010. "Consumers can contact the actual companies, usually via a toll free number, to request their name and address be removed from the company's mailing list", said Marietta Jelks who handles the Consumer Action Handbook for the Federal Citizen Information Center in Washington D.C. She also went on to say that "credit reporting agencies provide your information to companies, so they can mail unsolicited credit offers to you." You can eliminate these offers

by contacting the credit reporting agencies by phone at 1- 888-567-8688. There is no government agency Web site or phone number to call to cancel unwanted mail. Ms. Jelks suggested we contact Websites: consumeraction.gov; Catalogchoice.org; or dmachoice.org, for additional tips and information.

BASSETT LIQUOR TRAINING

Back in early December 2010, at the request of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission, the Village passed an ordinance requiring Basset Training for any store or

See DESK, page 22

Westchester Puzzle Page

Dinosaurs Word Search

Find the names of the denizens of the Jurassic age.

Z W C G P T E R O P E L Y X B S Z X X
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KOPARION
MAIASAURA
NANOSAURUS
OTHNIELIA
PLANICOXA
PTEROPELYX
SAUROPELTA
STEGOSAURUS
SUPERSAURUS
TAWA
TRICERATOPS
TROODON
TYRANNOSAURUS
VELAFRONS

by Dave Fisher ©puzzles.about.com



Westchester Chamber of Commerce

"We Mean Business"

(708) 240-8400 www.WestchesterChamber.org P.O. Box 7309 · Westchester, IL 60154

"Tower's After Hours" Business Networking Event

Date: Wednesday, June 1st Time: 5:00-7:00pm Location: 2 Westbrook Corporate Center Cost: FREE

Hosted by: The Bistro, Upscale Lunch and After Work Appetizers/Drinks Experience
(708) 947-2940 www.fftchicago.com/westbrook

BookKeeping Express-"We'll Handle Your Books So You Can Get Back to Business"
(708) 414-0474 www.BookKeepingExpress.com/il001

Continental Barbers and Jeannie's Hair Salon, Family Hair Care and Custom Wigs
(708) 531-1991 www.conje.com

Midwest Orthopedics at Rush, Sports Medicine
(708) 236-2661 www.rushortho.com

Chamber Networking Breakfast with Speaker

Tuesday, June 21st Time: 7:30-9:00am Cost: \$5.00 per person

Location: Westchester Primary School, 2400 Downing Avenue

Guest Speaker: Mary Erlain, President of Peak Marketing and Sales Inc.
"Leadership During Tough Times, Are You Working IN or ON Your Business?"

21st Annual Westchester Fest July 8th, 9th, 10th

Proudly sponsored by the Westchester Chamber of Commerce,
the Village of Westchester and Westchester Park District



watch for details: www.westchesterchamber.org

Officers: President: Rev. Joe Mills, President Elect: Bruce Horek, Vice President: Tom Dunne, Treasurer: Dr. Keith Suchy, DDS.
Immediate Past President: Marianne Bero, Parliamentarian: Rev. Joe Mills

Directors: Bob Bakas, Maria Gamino, Bill Ernst, Mike Gobber, Dave Gordon, MaryAnn Kelley, Laurie Murray, Lloyd O'Brien,
Jean Sophie, Tom Spahn, Tom Sullivan, Rev. Ted Vratny

Liaisons: Village of Westchester: Stan Urban, Westchester Park District: Gary Kasanders **Chamber Secretary:** Mary Bakas

PARK DISTRICT

12 MAY 2011

Program Highlights

SAFETY "U"

Learn the importance of being safe through this week long experience. Hands on activities and a variety of Community Helpers will inform your youngster on such topics as being safe from strangers, fire safety, first-aid, water safety, poisons and much more. Each child will learn about pedestrian safety through hands on bicycle riding activities. Your children will receive a t-shirt and will bring home many educational learning materials for the whole family. This program is offered FREE to our children in the community.



Age: 5-7 years old
 Site: Westchester Public School
 Fee: FREE - Advanced Registration is Required
 Limited spaces are available.
 Date: June 20th - 24th
 Time 9:30 - 11:30 am (code 1711-1)
 1 - 3 pm (code 1711-2)

AQUACISE

This non-impact workout is perfect for anyone who is looking to add something new to their workout. Water dumbbells, kickboards, noodles and other equipment are supplied for optimum resistance training.



Walk On Fee: Resident \$5.00 / Non-Resident \$8.00
 Age: 18 & Up
 Instructor: Janice Karosas

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Code
M-F	6/13-8/12	10:30-11:30 am	\$120/\$140	6201
MWF	6/13-8/12	10:30-11:30 a.m.	\$85/\$95	6201-1
T/TH	6/14-8/11	10:30-11:30 a.m.	\$65/\$75	6201-2
MW	6/13-8/10	5:30-6:30 p.m.	\$65/\$75	6201-3

POOL OPENING DAY & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Saturday, June 4th
Community Swimming Pool
Noon - 4 p.m.



Come help celebrate the opening of the pool with an old-fashioned ice cream social. Surround yourself with sun, fun, friends and FREE soft serve ice cream from Hershey! All ages welcome. Must possess current season pool pass or pay daily admission to attend social. Rain day reserved for Sunday, June 5th. Limit one per person. Quantities limited. All pool rules and regulations apply.

Daily Admission Rates

*cash only

Age	Resident	Non-Resident
2 - 59 yrs	\$7.50	\$10.50
Senior Citizen	\$7.50	\$10.50

Please visit our website, www.wpdparks.org or call the park district at 708.865.8200 for additional information.

Special Events

SPRING DANCE RECITAL

"The Enchantment Begins"

Saturday, May 14th

Community Center Gymnasium

10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.



6th ANNUAL 16" TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

Thursday - Sunday
 May 19th - 22nd
 Mayfair Park



Westchester Event Donations

The following events are always in need of support to keep them ongoing and cost free to the residents. The Village of Westchester is accepting donations for:

Event	Amount
Independence Day Parade	_____
Fest	_____
Fireworks Display (last night of Fest)	_____
General Special Events	_____
Memorial Fountain (corner of Mannheim & Cermak)	_____

Please indicate if you would like your donation to go to a certain event.

____ YES! Please include my name in the newsletter as a special event supporter!

NAME: _____

Make checks payable to: Village of Westchester,
 10300 Roosevelt Road, Westchester, IL 60154

Operation Common “Cents”

Every family has random pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters lying around their house. While a penny is not a lot of money, when you put a lot of pennies together and add in other loose change you quickly find yourself with a lot of money. The students at the Westchester Intermediate School (WIS) recently held a fabulous fundraiser, Operation Common “Cents” which raised over \$1700 to help the victims of the earthquakes and tsunami in Japan.

Students learned about the similarities between the destruction in Japan and the destruction the Westchester flooding caused this past summer through a PowerPoint presentation that helped kick off this very successful fundraiser. Students were asked to help other communities around the world just like other communities helped Westchester in our time of need.

Students brought in spare change and money they had at home. Each penny that was donated earned the homeroom one point. However, if students brought in nickels, dimes, quarters, or dollars that earned the team negative points. The students quickly learned to work together and strategized as a class what container their money should go into. Every morning, they anxiously awaited the results from the



WIS students contribute their spare change to Operation Common “Cents.”

previous day. The students and staff at WIS had fun during the friendly competition.

The staff at WIS, is so proud of the generosity and empathy the students showed to other communities around the world. This was an excellent demonstration of how a small contribution goes a long way when everyone works together as a team!

WMS Musical

The Westchester Middle School (1620 Norfolk Ave.) invites all to attend their Spring Musical titled, “Beauty and the Beast, Jr.” This Disney production is being performed in the school gymnasium with show times as follows:

Thursday, May 12th at 7 P.M.

Friday, May 13th at 7 P.M.

Saturday, May 14th at 2 P.M.

Advance ticket sales begin on Friday, April 29th in each of the school offices for \$6 each. Tickets will be \$7 if purchased at the door.

There are approximately 60-70 students involved in this Disney musical production of “Beauty & the Beast, Jr.” Our middle school performance promises to be enjoyable entertainment for the entire family.

MATH OLYMPIAD 2011

Westchester Middle School students participated in the

“Math Olympiad Invitational” held at McClure Junior High School, Western Springs, IL, on April 9, 2011. This competition is open to all interested students in grades 4-8. Individuals in grades 4-8 compete within their grade level. Team competition is limited to students in grades 6-8. No calculators are allowed. Questions are projected using an Elmo and timers are set! We are pleased to announce that the WMS 7th - 8th grade team tied for Second Place and the 6th grade team tied for Third Place at the competition.

The 7th - 8th grade math team members were: Jack Cross, Bella Reda, Alecia Bell, Jakub Krawczyk, and Colleen Cavanaugh. The 6th grade team members were: Garrett Allar, Stephen Majors, Brandon Sakas, Frankie Burns, Tom Wiener, and Sarah Wiener.

Congratulations to all the team members for accepting the challenge and for an excellent finish!



Students in Ms. Tomczyk’s fourth grade class listen to Jim Bloomstrand’s presentation discussing the impact of agriculture in their day lives.

Agriculture in the Classroom

Fourth graders in Ms. Tomczyk’s class at the Westchester Intermediate School were excited about Mr. Jim Bloomstrand’s visit to their school.

The “In-School Field Trip” was an awesome program that offered information about how agriculture touches lives on a day-to-day basis because many products used every day are derived from agriculture. The Cook County Farm Bureau’s program, Agriculture in the Classroom, teaches awareness and appreciation for the importance of agriculture not only in Illinois but across our country.

Our fourth graders were totally engaged throughout the presentation, asked many interesting questions, and learned concepts that meet Illinois State Learning Standards. The importance of agriculture will be remembered far beyond this program.



WPS moms and their children enjoy spending time together before school.

Moms and Muffins

WPS was delighted to have over 150 mothers, grandmothers, aunts and caregivers join their children before school on Wednesday, April 6th, for “Moms and Muffins”. The WPTC generously provided muffins, juice and coffee for this special event. The children were proud and excited to have their family come to school and spend time with them, and the staff enjoyed the positive interaction with the families. Each child will receive a special photograph with their parent of this event. Such a large, positive response shows just how much our parents value their children’s education and want to be involved in our schools. We appreciate and thank all of the WPS Moms for joining us!



CELEBRATED.
HONORED.
APPRECIATED.

4.9.11 @ Drury Lane

Dear Alumni, Friends, Faculty, Staff, Parents, Students, and Supporters of St. Joseph High School,

Thank you for all you did to make the
50th Golden Jubilee Gala
such a successful event!!

We are forever grateful for your support!

Please visit the event website to view photos and purchase the Anniversary Book from the event...

www.stjoes50th.org

For further information, email or call Stephanie Morton, smorton@stjoeshs.org and Joseph Tortorich, jtortorich@stjoeshs.org

More GOOD TIMES @ ST. JOSEPH HIGH...

Save the Date!

St. Joseph High School's
35th Annual Alumni & Friends Golf Outing

Friday, July 22, 2011

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For further information, email or call Stephanie Morton, smorton@stjoeshs.org and Joseph Tortorich, jtortorich@stjoeshs.org

THE AMERICAN DREAM - By: Bill Riley

On Wednesday, March 30th, St. Joseph High School's very own Gene Pingatore was honored to coach the McDonald's All-American basketball game at the United Center. Coach Ping requested that his Assistant Varsity Coach, Bill Riley, and Head Sophomore Coach, Daryl Thomas, join him in his adventure.

Bill Riley wrote the following about his amazing experience... Daryl Thomas and I were honored to Co-Coach, alongside Coach Pingatore, at the McDonald's High School All-American game. The game, which was played at the United Center, drew a record crowd for the annual event which has been played in every major city in the United States. The atmosphere and the crowd were electric as Illinois welcomed the All-Americans, Chicago style. I cannot even begin to express what an honor it was for me personally to be a part of an event of this magnitude. To see Coach Ping and Coach Gators honored by their selections to coach the West teams was awesome as well. It will truly be a highlight in my 27 years with Coach Ping.

Though the experience of coaching the game was incredible, having the opportunity to meet and work with these amazing athletes and their families was also an honor. One of the highlights for each of us, was the work we did with the Ronald McDonald charities. Visiting the Ronald McDonald House, we met children and their families who are facing life threatening challenges each and every day of their lives. Their stories were heartbreaking, but their spirit was awe inspiring. A favorite moment for me is when one of the All-Americans was visiting with a 14 year old, wheel chair bound boy. His personality just lit up the room, and when he was asked by one of the players what he wished for most in his life, he responded with a smile, "I wish I could be an All-American like you." With a hug and a smile this 6'10 young man, towering over the young boy replied, "You are an All-American. You are an All-American person, and I want to be more like you!" That moment for me said it all. This experience is not about basketball; rather it is about those of us fortunate enough to be a part of this basketball experience giving back to the community and honoring the great work of Ronald McDonald Charities.

Following the game, the final thoughts that Coach Ping shared with the team had nothing to do with basketball, rather he spoke with them about the importance of never forgetting where they came from and that all the fame and success they achieve can never replace family and good friends. He spoke to them about using their talents to give back to their communities and being charitable. Coach Ping also reflected on the fact that their character would be their true measure of success, not their athletic achievements or fame. You would have been proud to hear the words of advice that Coach Ping had for these young men.

It truly was a once in a life time experience, but it was an experience that we will always remember. Please remember those families served by the Ronald McDonald Charities in your thought and prayers. We went to the Ronald McDonald House to visit with them and help lift their spirits, but it was our spirits that were raised as we witnessed their courage, faith in God and hope for the possibilities the future holds for them.



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Lend a Hand...Help Japan

Raising Money for Japan

By: *Stephanie Kuecker, St. Joseph Photography Instructor*

After the tragic events that occurred in Japan, several students at St. Joseph joined together to make a banner that would help inspire people to donate to the Japanese Red Cross. The students worked over Spring break to paint the banner and create a sense of hope for those trying to rebuild their lives. Some students, including Cristina Benavides, Alisa Valderas, Samantha Meath, and Matthew Sanders dedicated their entire spring break to paint a hopeful image. Roberto Hampton wrote the message, "Lend a Hand. Help Japan."

Not only did they collect change during lunch, the students also gave others the opportunity to be involved and help fundraise for the cause by asking the members of the St. Joseph family to contribute \$1 to create a handprint and include it within the mural. Currently, the students have collected \$85 and are continuing to accept donations.

Aside from the mural, the art and photography students were given the opportunity to participate in the 1,000 Cranes for Japan Project. Tomomi Yamada visited St. Joseph on April 28th and 29th and taught the students how to make paper origami cranes that will be sent to Japan along with the money they have collected.



Pictured above from left to right: Samantha Meath, Class of 2012; Alisa Valderas, Class of 2012; and Matthew Sanders, Class of 2012.



To: St. Joseph High School's Men and Women's Leadership Board

From: Governor Pat Quinn

RE: INVITATION to Attend...

On Monday, April 25 the Men's and Women's Leadership Board were honored to attend a private meeting with Governor Pat Quinn. St. Joseph students had the opportunity to tour Governor Quinn's private offices and meet with members of his personal staff for a special presentation.

Join Today... We encourage the graduates and friends of St. Joseph and Immaculate Heart of Mary High Schools to visit www.stjoeshsalumni.org and/or www.ihmalumnae.org to become members of our alumni/friend network!



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DESK

Continued from page 10

eating establishment that sells, serves, or handles any liquor. On April 15th a Basset Training class was held at the village hall that was attended by a dozen people from several Westchester establishments to comply with the ordinance. Establishments who have not completed the mandatory Basset Training are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The Training can be completed by attending a State certified training class or done on-line. Please contact The Illinois Liquor Control Commission at 1-312-814-2206 or their web site www.state.il.us/LCC

LOYOLA HOSPITAL

As you may be aware, Loyola Hospital is being sold to the Trinity Health System. The closing is tentatively scheduled for the end of June 2011. The \$175 million offer is considered pretty solid. Trinity will provide Loyola with 100 million dollars that will be invested in Loyola's health sciences. Both factions will commit 75 million each toward the construction of a new health science research center. Loyola will maintain jurisdiction of the Stritch School of Medicine and the Marcella Niehoff School of Medicine. Trinity is the 4th largest Catholic Health Care company in the United States.

WESTLAKE HOSPITAL NEWS

I have received a flyer from

Westlake Hospital located at 1225 Lake Street Melrose Park, announcing a senior transportation program to their facility from the boundaries of Grand Ave on the north, Cermak Road on the south, I294 on the west, to Harlem ave on the east. Curb to Curb service for those 60 years and older will cost \$2 each way weekdays from 7:30 am to 4 pm. 48 hour advanced registration is required; call 1-855-511-RIDE (7433). More information is available at Westlake Hospital's web site www.wlhospital.com

FORECLOSURE ASSISTANCE

The Monroe Foundation with a grant from PNC Bank is sponsoring a FREE foreclosure prevention/intervention counseling for homeowners at risk of foreclosure. By appointment counseling sessions will take place at the Village of Hillside Town-Hall located at 425 Hillside Ave. Hillside, IL. Every Saturday morning, 9am to noon until June. For further information or to make an appointment please contact : 773-706-8915 or visit their website www.themonroefoundation.org

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Saturday, June 4. 9AM - 3PM. 5th Annual Canterbury Street Area Garage Sale. The sale area is from Canterbury Street South to Dorchester and Mannheim West to Mayfair. This is an extremely successful sale with over 80 houses participating last year. This sale attracts thousands of bargain hunters from all over the

Chicagoland area and suburbs. It is a great opportunity to clean out your house and garage, repurpose items that you no longer need, use or want, and make some extra money while allowing others to find their treasures! The cost to participate is \$3 per house to help cover the costs of advertising. Each

house is responsible for their own sign in their yard. Flyers with a map and the addresses of all participating houses are supplied to each house. If you live in the area noted above and would like to join in contact Cheryl Rodriguez at crodriguez2020@sbcglobal.net or call 773-704-1484.



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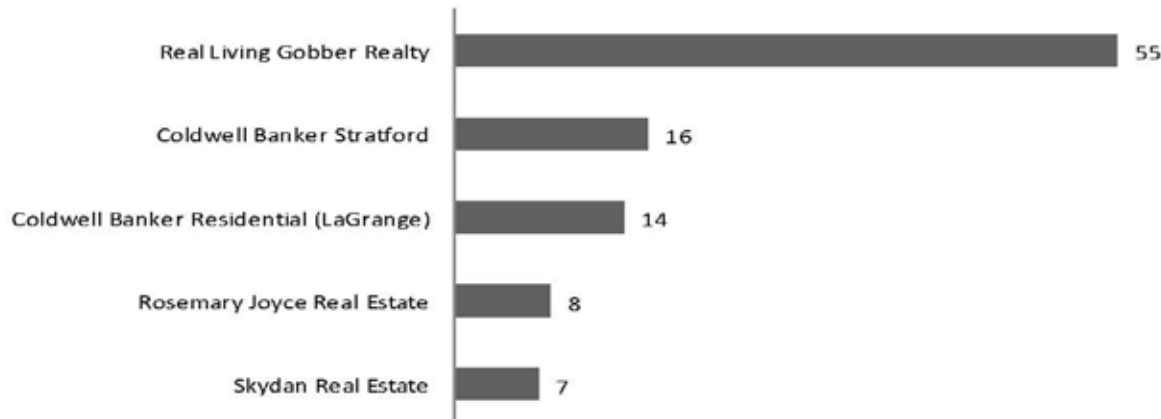
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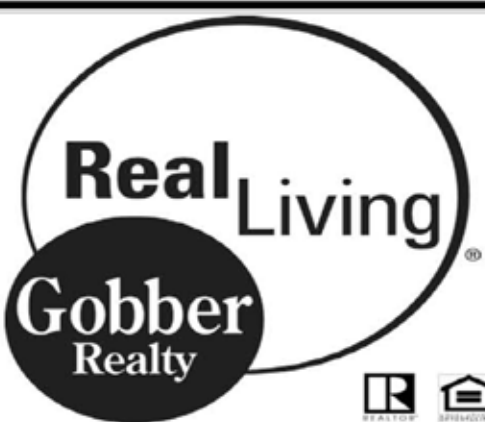
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This chart represents all detached and attached single-family homes that closed in Westchester according to MRED data between 4/1/2010 and 4/15/2011. The chart reflects offices with 7 or more deals and represents the total # of sides for each office. Data supplied by MRED may not reflect all real estate activity in the market. MRED is not responsible for the accuracy of the data supplied.



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Branch Pickup

Village branch pickup starts Monday, April 4, 2011.

Branch pickup will be the first full week of every month.

All brush must be put out on the front parkway no later than 7:00 a.m. on the designated pickup day.

Branches can be up to 7' in length and stacked with the butt ends facing in the same direction. If not stacked properly, a "restack" notice will be left.

Public Works Crews will only pass through a designated pickup area once due to time schedule.

Thursday and Friday are Open Load days for pickup this includes any brush that will not fit through the chipper, such as logs, stumps, and large limbs. These must be cut for one man to lift.

Landscaping contractors are responsible for their own brush pickup and disposal.

Pickup Schedule:

Monday -Mannheim Road West to Wolf Road

-Canterbury South to Windsor,

- both sides of Windsor Drive

-Waterford, Waverly, Camelot and Concord

Tuesday -Roosevelt Road South to Cermak Road- from Gardner West to Mannheim Road

Wednesday -Roosevelt Road North to the expressway

-Gardner Road West to Mannheim Road.

-Roosevelt Road South to Canterbury from Haase West to Heidorn.

Thursday -Bellevue West to Wolf Road

-Martindale Drive to 31st Street.

As a reminder, Waste Management will also pick up your branches, bushes, etc. as long as they are tied in bundles no more than 4 feet in length. These will be picked up on your regular garbage/yard waste day every week.

Parkway Restoration

The Village is now repairing parkways damaged by excavations and snow plow damage.

Public Works continues to repair potholes throughout town, section by section.

Concrete work and street repairs have begun, as weather permits.

As the alleys dry out from the winter weather, the Public Works Department will continue the grading process. We will try to grade all alleys once a month

New Parkway Tree Program

This 50/50 shared cost program includes the purchase and planting of the trees. Residents have a choice of four types of trees indigenous to the area. Beautify your yard and add curb appeal to your home!

The trees will be planted in the fall of 2011.

Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 for more information.

The Village offers a shared cost sidewalk program. If you would like to replace cracked or raised sidewalk squares we will share the cost with you! Call Public Works at 708-345-0041 to register.

As Always,

Village residents are asked to call Public Works at 708-345-0041 or the Police Non Emergency number after hours at 708-345-0060 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.

Residents are advised to contact the Water department at 708-345-0041 before signing a contract with a plumber to rod the sanitary line. We will check to make sure that the problem is not in our sanitary lines.



2011 Street Improvements Project

The 2011 Street Improvements project consist of Concord Avenue, Camelot Street, Waverly Avenue, Somerset Square, Pell Street, Cambridge Street from Westchester Blvd. to Newcastle Avenue, Balmoral Ave from Kitchner to Northern Terminus, and Windsor Drive from Mayfair to the terminus East of Bellevue Avenue. Underground sewer work has been completed on all these streets except Balmoral, which requires extensive sewer repairs. The curb, gutter, and aprons have been replaced on Concord, Camelot, Waverly, and Somerset. Once all the concrete work is completed, the entire roadway will be removed



and replaced with asphalt binder and surface. Restoration will consist of topsoil and sod in the parkways. Construction should be completed by July, with final project completion by September.

Water main project

The 2011 Water Main Improvement Project consists of the installation of new ductile iron water mains on Fleet Street from Mayfair Avenue to Sunnyside Avenue and on Preston Street from Sunnyside Avenue to Bellevue Avenue. The existing water mains along these streets have suffered multiple water main breaks in the past few years. The new water main is being placed "back of curb" along the North sides of Fleet and Preston. There will be new fire hydrants placed as part of the project and new valves. Multiple sewer repairs are also being made as part of this project. The project is progressing along Preston and water main has been installed from Sunnyside to Hawthorne. At the completion of the project, all removed driveway aprons will be replaced. The project will also include new sod in the construction area for restoration purposes. Any questions, please contact Hope Garrett, Project Manager, Village of Westchester, at 708-345-0020.

Sidewalk Replacement

The Village offers a shared cost sidewalk replacement program. If the sidewalk in front of your residence is in poor condition and you would like to replace it, the Village will split the cost with you 50/50.

You can call the Public Works Department at 708-345-0041 to register for the program and put in your request. A contract outlining the number of squares requested and the cost to you will be sent to you before the work begins. At that time you can sign the contract and send in your payment.

The deadline for all requests or to register is July 1, 2011 and the deadline to sign the contract and send in your payment is July 15, 2011. The work will be done in August.





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