

tower Topics

VILLAGE *of* WESTERN SPRINGS

125th Legacy Gift Campaign-Community Support Needed

By Janet Dahl, Legacy Committee

Tower History

In January 1892, Western Springs received a gift that has continued to enrich the lives of its residents. The Collins family deeded over Block A to Village officials. It was to be used for the Village's water tower, with a prohibition against other structures. The surrounding area was to be a Village Green, for gathering.

The ink was barely dry on the plat of dedication before Benezette Williams, a resident and civil engineer, contracted with an engineering firm to construct what we still enjoy today as the iconic center of our Village.

The tower held water until 1991, when a lightning induced fire caused extensive damage to the structure. In its 120 years, the building has also served as Village Hall, the police station, jail, a magistrate's court, a childrens' museum and most recently, as the home of the Western Springs Historical Society. It has been used continuously by the Village, and has stood in stately beauty for 121 years. It is the landmark symbol of Western Springs.

Perhaps its most important use is symbolic: Its sturdy walls represent the strength of this community. The green surrounding the tower provides the Village a setting to celebrate with our families and neighbors, or to simply pause and watch the world go by. Block A maintains the vision of the Village's founders.

An enduring motto for the Village is *Pride in the Past, Faith in the Future*. In the spirit of *pride in the past*, the Water Tower has been added to the National Register of Historic Places. In the spirit of *faith in the future*, the Village has repurposed the tower after the tanks failed and restored it after a fire. Over the years, the Village has tuck-pointed, re-roofed, re-wired and cared for a building whose purpose is largely inspirational. They have partnered with the 125th Legacy Gift Committee in the stairway restoration, and will be replacing

the doorway, and incrementally replacing its very expensive curved windows. Like most old buildings, the tower requires a unique dedication, and a tremendous financial commitment. The budget for these repairs is often competing with the first tier of Village responsibility, safety and infrastructure.

Volunteer Spirit

In 2011, the Village celebrated its 125th birthday, the Quasquicentennial of Western Springs. Helming this celebration was Jim Tilden, the embodiment of what it means to live in Western Springs. He grew up here, returned to the Village after college, taught at McClure, served on every conceivable committee, was a Citizen of the Year, and a Village trustee. He spearheaded the effort to allow alcohol in the Village with the vision that good food deserved a celebratory beverage, and that restaurants would attract young residents and visitors who would fall in love with his town. His love of all things, **Western Springs**, fueled our year-long party.

Jim's wish was that there be a Quasquicentennial gift to the community and thus a Legacy Committee was established. The Committee worked with residents and the Village to dedicate a "face lift" for the tower. The deteriorating stairs were replaced with beautiful curved stairs, and seating benches were added. Phase 1 was completed in December 2012, and the improvement is beyond expectation.



(Continued on Page Two)



(Legacy Gift continued)

Jim planned to “get the band together” and have Phase 2 of the makeover ready for the tower before its own Q celebration in 2017.

These improvements would add more benches, a brick walk of fame, lighting, planters and historical markers. He joked that he would reign as the “King of the Green” at a Tower Ball, where all the citizens would celebrate the 125th birthday of our seminal park.

It was not meant to be. Jim died October 3, 2012, just as the safety fencing was installed for Phase 1 of the project.

The void of his leadership and enthusiasm should not create a vacuum for his dream. The most precious resource in Western Springs is its committed, creative citizenry. Some members of the 125th Legacy Gift Committee are willing to continue Jim’s work, but we are in need of fresh ideas and new visions for funding. Please consider adding your energy to the task of preserving and improving this touchstone of our community. We need grass roots support from all of our community members, clubs, societies, businesses and school associations to go forward.

After the New Year, the Legacy Committee will hold informational discussions regarding the role of the Tower Green in the Village’s long-term downtown plan. Please join us to refine our goals, and help us plan to make them happen. If you have never volunteered here in the Village, it is an excellent way to meet people, exchange ideas, and put down roots.

Please contact Janet Dahl at janet@dahl.com, if you have ideas or are interested in joining us. We will be relentlessly pursuing community leaders to add their energy to our efforts. Please consider shouldering the volunteer spirit of Jim Tilden, and so many others who devote countless hours to Western Springs. Bring a friend! Together we will make a difference. We will improve today’s Village, and touch future generations.

Visit the Village’s web site, www.wsprings.com, for more information on the 125th Legacy Gift Campaign, which includes conceptual drawings, the April 2012 Tower Topics and a list of donors who kick started this process. The Legacy Committee recognizes and thanks Timothy and Jennifer Tomasik for their recent donation of \$100. If you have not yet made a donation to the legacy fund, donations may be sent to Quasquicentennial Legacy Fund, 740 Hillgrove Avenue, Western Springs, IL 60558.

Municipal Roundup

The President and Board of Trustees conducted the following business during the months of September and October:

Approved

- The completion of Phases 2 and 3 of the Grand Avenue Community Center re-piping project in calendar year 2013 by C.J. Erickson, Alsip, IL, the low bidder on the project. Total cost for the project is \$177,350.
- A contract for exterior painting of the Village Hall to Cosgrove Construction in the amount of \$7,995.
- A raffle license to the Western Springs Foundation for Educational Excellence for its February 1, 2014 event.
- A conditional use permit for the construction of a new children’s playground at St. John of the Cross Parish School located at 708 51st Street.
- The appointment of Rochelle Doohan to the Recreation Commission.

The meeting schedule for the Board of Trustees has been altered for the months of November and December, 2013. The Board will meet on the first and third Mondays. Beginning in January, 2014, the Board will return to meeting on the second and fourth Mondays.

Tell the Village your Concern, Complaint or Compliment

Whether you want to report a pothole, express a concern about your neighborhood, just ask a question or compliment a Village employee, the Village’s *Report a Concern* makes it easy. A new system, launched in January 2013, is available online and to smart phone users. To access the service online, visit www.wsprings.com and click the *Report a Concern* logo. The new system features a simple form, is easy to use, and allows you to track the status of your request. The system also offers an app for your smartphone. The link for your smart phone is located in the *Download Apps* section at the bottom of the home page. Of course, you may still contact the Village by calling 708-246-1800 during business hours.

You can also use the Village’s web site to:

- view meeting agendas and minutes
- watch meeting videos and other informational videos
- read news, events and Village project/resident service information
- pay for a parking ticket, vehicle sticker
- submit a vacation house watch request
- find contact information
- seek general Village information
- view licensed peddlers and solicitors

Is Your Home Address Visible From The Street?

The Village would like to remind homeowners to display home addresses properly. The Village's municipal code requires each owner or occupant of real estate to provide, place and display their street address in a manner that may be easily and distinctly read throughout the year from the roadway in the daylight, and easily and distinctly read throughout the year during darkness with the use of outside lighting provided for the persons on the roadway doing the reading.

When 911 is called, a lack of a clear and legible address will delay public safety officials when responding to the emergency. Please make sure your home address is displayed and is visible from the street. Additionally, address numbers should not be obscured by bushes or other decorative materials, and each of the numbers and letters of every address must be at least three inches high. The Village appreciates your assistance in this matter. For more information, please contact the Fire Department at 708-246-1182.



Be Safe When Hanging Holiday Lights

- Assure good ladder footing.
- Do not stand on or above the highest recommended ladder rung.
- Wear non skid footwear.
- Don't work alone. Have assistance to hold the base of the ladder and be available for emergencies.
- Remember: do not put up on a warm November day what you do not want to take down on an icy January day.

Stay Healthy—Stop Germs

The Cook County Department of Public Health offers helpful hints to avoid getting the flu and to stop the spread of germs.

Staying Healthy

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, if possible.
- Get a flu shot, if available and if recommended for your age and health conditions.

Stopping the Spread of Germs

- Cover nose and mouth with a tissue every time you cough or sneeze. **THROW USED TISSUE AWAY!**
- If you don't have tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve—**NOT INTO YOUR HANDS!**
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose, always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- Stay home when you are sick. Encourage parents not to let their child go to school if the child has a fever and/or cough.
- Do not share eating utensils, drinking glasses, towels or other personal items.

Residents that are over 65 years of age and have a serious medical condition should check with a health care provider at the first sign of flu illness. Early flu treatment can protect them. For updated information during the flu season, please visit www.cookcountypublichealth.org or call the flu hotline at 708-492-2185.

Practice the three "C's" — Clean, Cover and Contain

Christmas Tree Safety

Millions of American homes include a natural tree in their holiday festivities. Yes, the trees add a special touch to the holiday season but they also can be a fire hazard. The Fire Department would like to remind you of the following safety tips regarding Christmas trees:

Picking the tree

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles. The trunk should be sticky to the touch.

Placing the tree

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 1-2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least 3 feet away from any heat source.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand each day.

Lighting the tree

- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree light before leaving home or going to bed.

After Christmas

- Get rid of the tree when it begins dropping needles.
- Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace.
- Trees are collected at the curb during the first two weeks of January.

2013 Leaf Removal Guidelines & Schedule



The Public Works Department needs your help to insure that leaf pickup occurs in a timely manner. It is necessary that **ONLY** leaves be raked into the gutter—**NO BRANCHES, LAWN CLIPPINGS, FLOWERS or PUMPKINS**. These items have to be manually removed, placed on the parkway and slows the leaf removal process.

- The leaf removal process runs continuously Monday through Friday except for Thanksgiving week. The entire Village rotation is Field Park, Old Town North, Old Town South, Ridge Acres, Forest Hills, Fairview Estates, Springdale and Ridgewood. If the crew has passed your area and your leaves were not out, the crew will not return until the next scheduled pickup.
- The Commonwealth and Timber Trails neighborhoods do not receive the leaf removal service.
- Residents using a lawn service should make the necessary arrangements to have the work done the week before the scheduled pickup. Please notify your lawn service that only leaves are allowed in the gutter.
- Due to traffic and roadway configurations, residents on Wolf Road from Ogden to 47th Street and all of Ogden Avenue should rake leaves only to the edge of the parkway at the curb and not into the gutter.
- Residents on Wolf Road from 47th Street to 55th Street, all of Gilbert and the rest of the Village must rake their leaves into the gutter. Leaves not raked into the gutter will not be picked up.
- The last week for pick up of bagged leaves/yardwaste will be the week of November 25.
- The schedule may be affected by emergency responses by Public Works. Call the Leaf Hotline at 246-1800, Ext. 305, for updates.
- In the case of a snow event, every effort will be made to finish leaf removal once snow clearing operations have been completed.

What to Know When It Snows

Parking—Parking is restricted on Village streets for 12 hours after a snowfall of four or more inches has occurred, or until the snow has been removed, provided that the snowfall has stopped. The Village respectfully requests that residents make every effort to remove their vehicles from the street as soon as possible during any snow event. This protects your car from being splashed by salt spray, becoming plowed in, or being struck by a skidding vehicle. The more cars off the street, the better the snow removal will be.

Shoveling—Pile it up, do not push it out. It makes little sense for the Village to plow the roadway only to then have residents shovel snow from sidewalks or driveways into the streets. Yes, the plows will leave snow in the driveways; however, residents will benefit by waiting until the streets have been cleared before clearing the end of the driveway.

Fire Hydrants—The Fire Department reminds you to help keep fire hydrants near your home free of snow. In the event of a heavy snowfall or drifting, we ask all residents to assist in clearing the areas around the fire hydrants in your neighborhood. Your assistance will help prevent any delays in locating or connecting a fire hydrant, if one is needed.

Green Up Your Fall Cleanup Mulch Your Leaves

If you rake your leaves into the street, the Public Works crews will pick up those leaves and haul them away. If you have a lawn service, the lawn service hauls away your leaves. The garbage company also hauls away the leaves, after you have carefully stuffed the leaves into a yardwaste bag. Consider greening up your lawn by keeping the fallen leaves on your lawn. Chop those leaves into small pieces with a mulching or rotary mower. Passing over the leaves once or twice will do it and your lawn benefits from the nutrients you are leaving and not removing. If you like to rake, your garden or flower beds will welcome the leaves. The leaves will be a natural mulch and the plants will be protected with a blanket throughout the winter.

Enrollment in the Illinois Health Insurance Marketplace Local Help Available

Illinois residents are now able to select high quality and affordable health insurance plans through the Illinois Health Insurance Marketplace. The Marketplace is a new option under the Affordable Care Act that will make comparing, selecting and enrolling in health coverage easier. Residents should be aware that there is local help to educate and assist you with enrollment in these new insurance options. The West Suburban Cook County ACA Coverage Network is a partnership of several trusted local organizations, including Aging Care Connections, BEDS, Helping Hand, Community Nurse, Mujeres Latinas En Accion and Pillars, with trained and certified counselors to help you enroll on the Marketplace. If you would like more information about the Network, please call 708-818-0150 or visit at www.healthcoverage4u.org.

Gifts of Hope—An Alternative Gift Market

Finding a Christmas gift for someone who has everything has just gotten easier. The annual Gifts of Hope, an alternative gift market, will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday, December 8, at First Congregational Church of Western Springs, 1106 Chestnut. Shoppers can stop by Plymouth Hall to meet representatives from local, regional and international charitable organizations and learn about their mission and good works. Then choosing from “wish lists” created by the groups, shoppers can make a donation that funds a particular purchase, such as a meal, a bag of seed or a pair of gloves for a needy person. Cards will be given out that explain the donation was made on behalf of a family member or friend for a meaningful Christmas gift. An assortment of handmade, fair-trade goods organized by Ten Thousand Villages of Glen Ellyn will also be available.

The 2012 Gifts of Hope raised more than \$13,500 for the participating charitable organizations. To see the groups participating this year, please visit www.wscongo.org or for more information contact 708-217-7905.



The youth groups from St. John of the Cross Parish will be hosting a Harvest Saturday Food Collection

on Saturday, November 15. The youths will be distributing flyers on Saturday, November 8, to homes and businesses and will return on November 15 to pick up the food donations. The collection will be distributed to a Chicago food pantry that day. The youth groups appreciate the generosity from last year's collection and look forward to another blessed Harvest Saturday.



Western Springs Foundation for Educational Excellence (WSFEE) will be hosting its Biennial Dinner/Dance—one of its largest fundraisers—at the Drury Lane Theatre in Oakbrook Terrace on February 1, 2014.

Nearly 700 District 101 parents and educators are expected to attend, in order to raise funds for the organization that gives back to students. WSFEE will provide attendees with dinner, live music, and dancing, as well as a chance to bid on silent and live auction items, and high-end raffle prizes.

Our goal is to generate the funds we'll use to distribute back to the schools, while providing guests with an evening of fun, great memories, and unique auction items to take home, said Heather Locke, Chairperson, WSFEE Board of Directors.

WSFEE is a non-profit, volunteer organization that provides funding for educational programs, projects and products needed by District 101 schools, which are not covered by Parent Teacher Organization budgets. Teachers and parents submit grants for innovative educational enhancements that support classroom studies. Grants submitted support every aspect of education from the arts, science, technology and literacy, to social studies and physical education.

WSFEE has awarded more than \$980,000 in grants since its inception in 1992. Examples of programs and products funded by WSFEE include: After School Girls Self-Defense & Awareness program; kitchen mixers for Consumer Science curriculum; and SketchUp 3D Virtual Modeling & Design program.

All proceeds from the WSFEE 2014 Dinner/Dance will benefit the students of District 101. For more information, please contact Robin Carroll, Publicity Chair, RobinCarroll@WSFEE.org, or at 773-551-7218.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Happy Holidays

Please remember to shop the Western Springs' businesses throughout this holiday season. Consider a WSBA gift certificate! They are good at any WSBA event and participating businesses. Certificates are available for purchase at the Village Hall, Casey's Market and Village True Value. The business community has a strong group of local merchants who are committed to you and appreciate

your commitment to them. By supporting our businesses and buying locally, your sales tax dollars help pay for public services.

The Village of Western Springs welcomes Subway as the latest addition to the Garden Market Shopping Center. Bart Elezi is the owner of the new Subway. Mr. Elezi is well versed in the restaurant business, since he is owner of other Subway franchises. The crew at Subway is eager to serve all who enter the store whether grabbing a quick sandwich or catering for a crowd. Please extend the Village's welcome and be sure to stop by Subway at Garden Market.



Subway Grand Opening

l-r: Trustee Jim Horvath, Almir Sulejmani (store manager), Bart Elezi and Trustees Suzie Glowiak and Pat Word

Avoid Holiday Crime

The holiday season is a time to be especially alert to the possibility of crime. As the season draws near and our days get busier, we need to take extra care and precautions. Here are some simple tips that can reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime:

- Never leave valuables in plain view inside your vehicle. Always remember to lock your vehicle doors and windows.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway. Store gifts before you go away on a holiday trip.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave home, even for a few minutes.
- If you go away for a few days, have a neighbor watch your house, shovel snow, pick up the mail and newspapers.
- Drive with extra caution. Allow an impatient driver to pass rather than escalate hostilities.
- Be cautious when giving out your credit card number over the phone and the Internet. Know who has access to your information.

The Police Department offers free vacation house and home security checks. A vacation watch request form is available at www.wsprings.com and can be filled out and submitted online. For more information, please call 708-246-8540.

Join the Neighborhood Watch Program

Neighborhood Watch is a program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. The program provides many opportunities, including getting to know your neighbors and community better, information on how to recognize suspicious activity, safety information, and updates on the latest crime trends.

If you want to reduce the odds of becoming a victim in your own home or neighborhood, talk to your neighbors about joining the Western Springs Neighborhood Watch Program. Contact Deputy Chief Brian Budds at 708-246-8540 or bbudds@wsprings.com to find out if there is an active watch group in your area or learn how to start one.



The Western Springs Police Department participates in Project ChildSafe—a firearms safety program. FREE cable gun locks are available to residents to help secure their firearms. The locks can be picked up at the Police Department located at 740 Hillgrove Avenue. If you have any questions, please contact the Police Department at 708-246-8540 or visit www.projectchildsafesafe.org.

Recreation Department

The 2014 winter/spring brochure will be mailed to all homes November 13–15. If you do not receive a brochure, please contact the Recreation Department at 708–246–9070 or view the brochure at www.wsprings.com/recreation. The mail-in registration form for winter/spring programs will be due by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 5. The Recreation Department offers a variety of activities for all ages so get up, get out and recreate!

Winter Highlights

- Registration deadline for 5th–6th grade boys and girls basketball leagues is November 5.
- Men's open basketball is on Thursdays, 8:15–9:45 p.m., at the Recreation Center. Cost is \$3 per night.
- Turkey Shoot—Test your skill and win flavorful Thanksgiving items. This annual free throw basketball competition will take place on Saturday, November 23. Competition begins promptly at noon at the Recreation Center. Participants will play "Around The World" for points and win gift certificates. This is a free event with many categories for boys, girls, men and women.
- Adult fitness classes are offered on various days, times and levels to meet your needs.
- Dodgeball is on Friday nights at the Recreation Center and the cost is \$3 per person. 3rd–5th grade play from 5:30–7 p.m., 6th–8th grade play from 7–8:30 p.m. and high school and older play at 8:30 p.m.
- Snow Days with Blue Moose (formerly Christmas Capers)—Ages K–4th will enjoy mornings filled with games, arts and crafts, and sports. The program is at the Recreation Center from 9 a.m.–noon and runs from Friday, December 27, through Friday, January 3. No program on January 1.



Come Join Us at the Library!

Christmas Walk Destination—If you take a Mouse to the Library, he'll probably want to meet all the readers! Saturday, December 7, 2–4 p.m.—Meet the famous Mouse from the book series by Laura Numeroff (*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, *If You Take a Mouse to the Movies*, and more). Mouse loves to have his picture taken with new friends, so bring your camera! We'll also do some fun crafts.

Exam Cram—December 17–19, 6–10 p.m.—Parents, tell your kids! The library is available for study space. Snacks, drinks and group study space will be provided to our high school patrons. Students may stay till 10 with a valid high school ID.

Senior Activities

Seniors Club

Monday, November 11, 1 p.m., Recreation Center

What Is Going on with Medicare? will be presented by Diane Adduci, Blue Cross Blue Shield Community Relations Specialist.

Monday, December 9, Noon.

Annual holiday lunch at the William Tell. Members only event. Entertainment by the Highland Middle School Chorale. Reservations to Marion at 630-690-2053.

Senior Center

Located in the Grand Avenue Community Center at 4211 Grand Avenue, the Senior Center operates Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and is staffed from 1–3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Special events coming up are:

- **Friday, November 22, 1–2:30 p.m.—Living Literature with Barbara Rinella as Jacqueline Kennedy.** In honor of the 50th anniversary of the JFK assassination, Ms. Rinella will present "*Jackie Kennedy Remembers*." Tickets are \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Only 50 tickets will be sold. Ticket sales are by PHONE ONLY at 708–246–3299. Leave your name, phone number and number of tickets requested and you will receive a return call to arrange ticket pickup. Calls from November 6–11 will be returned after November 13. There is a 2 ticket limit until November 11, when the limits will be lifted. Tickets will be required and no tickets will be sold at the door.
- **Thursday, December 5, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.**—Veterans of any branch of service, any era (not necessarily during wartime) are invited to the Senior Center for a free lunch and social event. Pizza and treats will be provided by Home Helpers. **Let us serve you as you have served us!**
- **Friday, December 13, 1–3 p.m.**—Celebrate the holidays with our annual Yankee Gift Swap and light refreshments. RSVP required to 708–246–3299.

Please visit www.wsprings.com for complete details on events and programs available at the Senior Center.

TOWER TOPICS
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Building Department 708-246-1800 Ext. 180
Fire non-emergency 708-246-1182
Police non-emergency 708-246-8540
Public Works Department 708-246-1800 Ext. 200
Recreation Department 708-246-9070
Refuse/Recycling (Allied Waste) 708-345-7050
Village Hall 708-246-1800

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FESTIVAL OF TREES • SATURDAY • DECEMBER 7 • 2 to 5 P.M.



Join the festivities and capture the holiday spirit at the Festival of Trees (formerly the Christmas Walk), sponsored by the Business Association, in downtown Western Springs. Christmas trees decorated by families, groups and businesses will be displayed on the Tower Green. To reserve a tree to trim, email whizba@westernspringsbusiness.com no later than November 20. Also make plans to visit Santa, take a carriage ride, enjoy yummy treats and listen to the sounds of the season.

The traditional tree lighting ceremony and caroling will take place at the Tower Green at approximately 5 p.m.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR VILLAGE SERVICES
Thanksgiving—Thursday and Friday, November 28 & 29
Christmas—Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 and 25
New Year's—Wednesday, January 1
Refuse collection is not affected by the holidays

RECYCLING OF CHRISTMAS TREES
Residents may dispose of Christmas trees through their refuse collection day. Allied Waste will collect, transport and dispose of trees left curbside by all customers through January 10, 2014. Trees must be free of decorations and a sticker is not required.



Whiz-ba!

Volume 3, Issue 4
November/December 2013

www.westernspringsbusiness.com

Visit our website for a complete list of member businesses and updates on upcoming events.

Holiday traditions promote community and togetherness

by LYNN ANNE GANTT
Western Springs Business Association

The holiday season is full of traditions that help us connect with one another and express meaning. We may look forward to sitting down with friends to watch *It's A Wonderful Life*, or perhaps we make plans to cook a special dinner and exchange gifts.

Holiday traditions are all about togetherness and community.

Saturday, December 7, 2013 is special to me for another tradition, one that I look forward to as marking the start of the Christmas season: the Western Springs Business Association's annual Christmas Walk, this year called the **Festival of Trees**.

During the Walk, which has been around since I was a child, the Village is transformed into a scene that reminds me of old Norman



Many of the shops in Western Springs will offer steals, deals and treats during the Festival of Trees, this year's Christmas Walk.

Rockwell images... colorful shops are full of unique gift ideas, carolers sing Christmas tunes and a horse-drawn carriage tours Village streets. I can't imagine Christmastime without thinking of visiting our local businesses to share a treat and a cup of cheer.

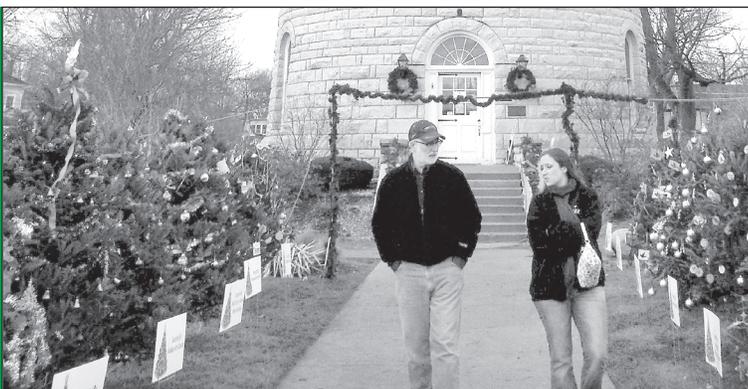
I am thankful for our town, for the people that live and work here, and for the recreation we enjoy together. I hope to see you at the **Festival of Trees** on December 7

from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Tower Green and throughout downtown.



SATURDAY
December 7
2:00-5:00 PM

See other side for more details and visit our website for updates!



FESTIVAL OF TREES...

Western Springs CHRISTMAS WALK 2013

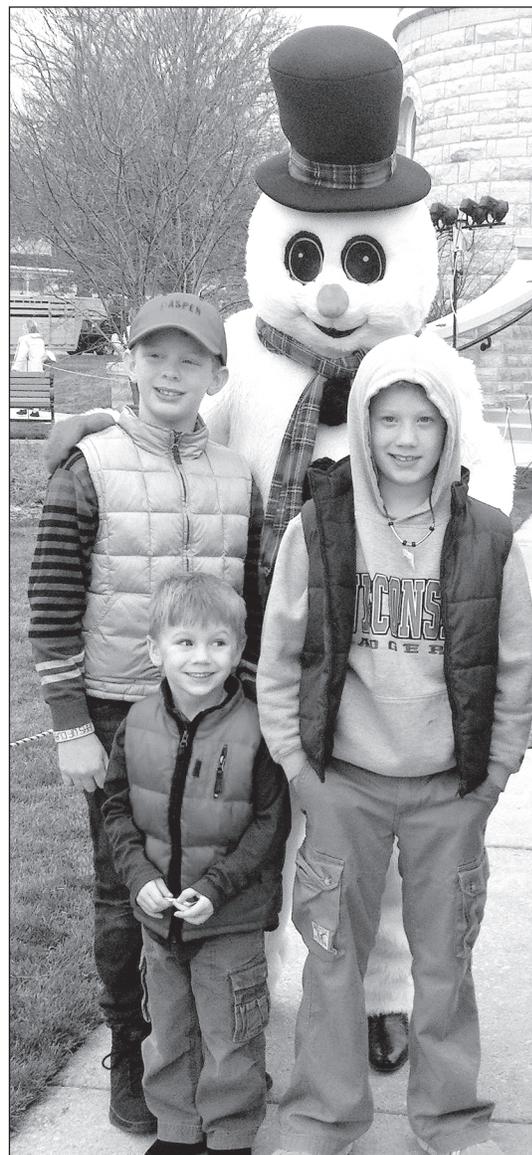
This year's Christmas Walk has a new name: the Festival of Trees. The always FUN, always FREE Festival of Trees will begin at 2:00 p.m. and run through 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 7. Christmas trees decorated by families, groups and businesses will be displayed on the Tower Green during the event. To reserve a tree to trim, email whizba@westernspringsbusiness.com no later than November 20th.

In addition to the beautifully decorated trees lining the Tower Green, make plans to visit businesses located throughout the downtown area for good deals and complimentary treats.

Along the way, enjoy carolers, hot chocolate, tasty refreshments, costumed characters, creative crafts and activities for people of all ages. If you get chilly, step into the heated "Tree of Life" tent, but don't miss the Lighting of the Community Tree on the Tower Green at 5:00 p.m.!



Kids, be sure to tell Santa your holiday wishes. You'll find him at Heartland Bank (on Wolf Road between Burlington & Elm) from 2-4:30 p.m. Parents, bring your cameras!



Three young Western Springs residents pose for a photo with Frosty the Snowman at the Tower Green during last year's Western Springs Christmas Walk.

Holiday Mail for Heroes

Let's start a new tradition

This year, our Christmas Walk falls on December 7, also known as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. It seems fitting, therefore, that we should add a new tradition in 2013... consider sending a greeting card to a soldier serving in our armed forces. It's easy through the Red Cross *Holiday Mail for Heroes* program.

Learn more by visiting:

www.redcross.org/support/get-involved/holiday-mail-for-heroes

QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?

Email us:
info@westernspringsbusiness.com

or write to us:
Western Springs
Business Association
P.O. Box 172
Western Springs, IL 60558

