

# tower Topics

VILLAGE *of* WESTERN SPRINGS

## Digital Community Engagement

The Village's website, [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com), is dedicated to helping residents engage and interact with their local government and community. May we suggest these tips to help ease your interaction with the site and help with your navigation through the website:

**Personalize Your Website Experience.** Connect to news, events and information you care about with "myConnections." If you have not created an account, please do so with "myConnections." This is the first tool in the top navigation bar. The profile you create becomes "My Dashboard" and allows you to set up a unique starting point for the tasks and transactions that you want to complete in your time on our website. "My Dashboard" gathers the information that you most care about from across our website into one central location, giving you greater control over how you connect with your community. Once you create an account, the top navigation bar will switch to "My Favorites" and "My Applications." From "My Applications," you can access "My Dashboard" and then add it to "My Favorites."

**My Favorites.** As noted above, once you are logged into your account, use the "My Favorites" tool in the top navigation bar to add pages that you are most interested in.

**How Do I?** A robust "How Do I?" section gives residents instant access to the most-requested services on the website. The "How Do I" section is located in the second row of navigation on the home page.

**Go To Search.** The "search" window is always available for you to submit what you are looking for and search results will pop up in seconds. When you find what you are looking for, add it to "My Favorites."

Feedback regarding the website is always welcome. Use the "Report a Concern" tool to contact us about the website.

## Emerald Ash Borer Infestation



D-shaped exit holes can be found on trees where the adult beetles emerged. Holes will be present on the branches and the trunk.

Treatment for emerald ash borer on parkway trees began on Monday, June 24. The application process consists of an injection of the pesticide into the base of the tree with a product known as Tree-Age.

Residents are asked to report to Public Works, 708-246-1800, Ext. 200, any ash trees showing emerald ash borer symptoms. The most common symptoms

are branch dieback, bark splits, suckering and D-shaped emergence holes.

If residents intend to treat their own parkway trees, the Village also asks that it be notified so it can keep a record of treated trees. Any tree treated by the Village or a private resident does not guarantee the tree will not be removed by the Public Works Department. Any parkway tree that is deemed a public safety hazard or a vector for the further spread of the emerald ash borer may be identified for removal by the Village forester.

Full information regarding the application process, the map of the proposed application locations and a brochure on emerald ash borer can be found at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com).

## Municipal Roundup

The President and the Board of Trustees approved the following business during the months of May and June:

- A resolution declaring a portion of the 4368 Hampton Avenue property to be surplus real property, directing that an appraisal of the property be performed and approving and authorizing the execution of a Seller Representation/Marketing Agreement with Prudential American Homes of Western Springs for the sale of a portion of the 4368 Hampton Avenue property.
- A Class "I" Special Events Liquor License to the Theatre of Western Springs "Taste of the Arts" event on July 20, 2013.
- A contract in the amount of \$19,059.85 to Limited Source Provider Stryker EMS of Portage, MI, to purchase a power-pro cot and stair-pro stair chair.
- A contract for the 2013 sidewalk program with Globe Construction of Addison, IL, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$40,000 for calendar year 2013.
- A contract with Morgan Brige & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$11,373.50 for a voicemail replacement system.
- The execution of a contract for the sale of the surplus real property at 4368 Hampton Avenue. The contact sales price is \$427,000.
- A resolution honoring George Beshilas of George's Hair Designs for 50 years in business in Western Springs. The shop opened in Western Springs on June 1, 1963.
- A contract with Sparkle Painting & Construction, of Chicago, IL, for the Grand Avenue Community Center window replacement project in the amount of \$22,033.00.
- The appointment of Brian Piper to the Recreation Commission for a three-year term.

## Open Burn Policy

While everyone loves an open fire in the backyard to either cook or socialize around, please be aware that the Village has in place a municipal code to cover such usage.

An open fire is defined as:

***any fire from which the products of combustion are emitted directly into the open air without passing through a stack or chimney designed to control air pollution emissions***

A bonfire or campfire that is of a large scale that exceeds the size of an approved container would require a permit from the Village.

The above definition does not include fires for the use of barbecuing, fires in private indoor fireplaces or fires in outdoor approved containers using approved combustible materials.



### Back to School Movie in the Park Saturday, August 17, at 8 p.m. Spring Rock Park

Grab a blanket and come see Thor, Iron Man, and the Incredible Hulk save Earth on a 25-foot screen in *The Avengers* (edited version)! This is a FREE event provided by your Western Springs Park District, and a fun way to celebrate the end of summer before school starts. Refreshments will be available. **NOTE** that the date of Saturday, August 17, is different from what was previously announced.

### Field Park Playground

This summer the play lot at Field Park will receive new equipment. The new equipment will include a variety of pieces appropriate for children of all ages.

### In-Line Skating Rink

Attention all hockey and skating enthusiasts! The Park District will replace Spring Rock Park's in-line skating rink this summer. Thank you to the many volunteers who have donated their time and energy to advocating for the timely replacement of the rink, and to their continued willingness to assist with the installation of the new equipment.

### Park Permits

Park use permits are required for groups of 25 or more people for all activities including picnics, family gatherings and sporting events. Park use permit fees begin at \$60. If you would like to host a gathering at one of your Western Springs Parks, please visit [www.wsparks.com](http://www.wsparks.com) for more information and instructions for obtaining a permit.

Please follow these rules when making your next open fire:

- Use only approved wood such as seasoned dry firewood of appropriate size for the container.
- Green or fresh wood, construction material, leaves, grass, bushes, roots or other similar materials that produce excessive smoke are not allowed.
- Fires shall not be permitted to create excessive flames, odors, flying cinders or smoke that travels across the property boundary.

Please use common sense and respect your neighbors. Be aware that smoke travels and plan accordingly. Contact the Fire Department at 708-246-1182 should you have any questions.

## Blue Star Memorial Garden

One of the many civic projects for the Western Springs Garden Club is to maintain the Blue Star Memorial Garden, which is located at the corner of Wolf Road and 43rd Street, near the downtown area. This location is important to the Village because it also contains other significant points of interest. These include the Blue Star Memorial Marker and an 1887 home that was restored and preserved by the Historical Society. This home once served as the Village post office and cobbler shop and is maintained as the Ekdahl House museum. With this park

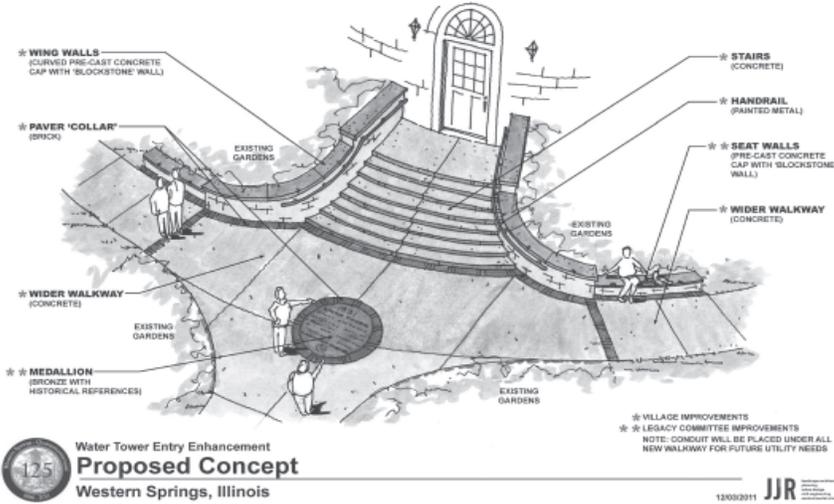
adjacent to the Village fire station, it also contains a memorial to the firemen who have served our Village. These items of interest are connected with a winding path and benches that invite people to rest and reflect.

Each year the Blue Star Memorial Committee, a branch of the Western Springs Garden Club, creates a unique design to highlight this garden area. Because the club believes in supporting local businesses, planting materials are purchased at a nearby family-owned nursery, which has been serving our community for generations. The

Committee works with the nursery owners to determine the best planting material for the design.

This garden exists because of cooperation between the ladies of the Garden Club, the Village of Western Springs which pays for the plant materials and annually rototills the planting bed, and the local nursery that provides quality plants at a discount and also delivers the materials, including mulch, to the site. The club recently received "Award 18A Blue Star Memorial Landscaping Marker" from the Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc. for the memorial garden.

## 125th Legacy Gift Campaign Donations Still Being Accepted



The 125th Legacy Committee continues to solicit funds to complete the above proposed concept for the historic Water Tower entrance. The Village improvements were completed in December 2012 with funding from the Village; however, the Legacy Committee improvements are still not funded. These improvements include seat walls, decorative brick edging and a bronze medallion honoring the Quasiquicentennial year. The Legacy Committee thanks all who have donated to the project. If you have not had the opportunity to donate and would like to support a legacy gift in honor of the 125th Birthday of the Village of Western Springs, you may do so by sending a check made out to *Western Springs Legacy Gift*. Please send your donation to:

Western Springs Legacy Gift  
c/o Village Hall  
740 Hillgrove Avenue  
Western Springs, IL 60558

The Legacy Committee thanks Mr. & Mrs. William White for their recent \$100 donation.

## Appointment of POC Assistant Fire Chief Announced



The Village is pleased to announce that Captain David Ogren has been appointed to the rank of POC (paid on call) Assistant Fire Chief.

Captain Ogren has been a distinguished member of the Fire Department since November 1982. Over those 30 plus years of service, he has risen through the ranks of the department to captain. He is a state certified Fire Officer, as well as an Instructor II. He is also licensed as an emergency medical technician. He has been heavily involved in the past with the fleet maintenance as well as providing input on specifications for newer apparatus and training.

Chief Ogren was officially sworn in at the June 24, 2013 Village Board meeting.

## *The Village of Western Springs is Accepting Applications for the Position of Police Officer*



Online applications and downloadable release forms are available at [www.publicsafetyrecruitment.com](http://www.publicsafetyrecruitment.com).

Online applications and all required documents are due to Public Safety Recruitment, 1127 S. Mannheim Road, Suite 203, Westchester, IL 60154, before noon on Monday, July 15, 2013.

This process is being conducted in order to establish a police officer eligibility list in February/March of 2014. There are no current vacancies or openings for the position of sworn police officer.

If you have questions, please call 1.800.343.HIRE or email [info@publicsafetyrecruitment.com](mailto:info@publicsafetyrecruitment.com). Visit [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) for more information on the process.

The Village of Western Springs is an Equal Opportunity Employer

## *Controlling the Mosquito Population*

The mosquito population is controlled by the Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District, which conducts surveillance to locate and control or eliminate mosquito breeding sources. This is accomplished by applying chemical agents directly in areas of open water sources, such as large ponds and catch basins.

### **Spraying Notification**

If necessary, the district may utilize spraying as a means to control adult mosquito populations. Residents with a disability requiring reduced pesticide exposure may request a "no spray" area. Details on obtaining the request are available at the District's website at [www.desplainesvalleymad.com](http://www.desplainesvalleymad.com). Please note that the Village receives a 24-hour advance notice about spraying; however, the district now provides this information on their website for residents to check on adult mosquito control plans. The district also posts a recorded message after 3:30 p.m. on their main phone line at 708-447-1765. Residents can call this number to see if any adult control operations are planned for that evening. The Village will also post spraying activity on the Village website and the cable channel.

### **Basic Steps to Control the Mosquito Population**

Residents can assist the District in their efforts to control the mosquito population by following these basic steps:

- Empty plastic wading pools weekly or store upside down when not in use
- Change water every few days in bird baths and plant saucers
- Water bowls for pets should be emptied and refilled daily
- Keep weeds and grass cut short
- Be sure screens in homes are in good repair and tight fitting
- Keep gutters around your home clean and in good repair

Finally, to protect yourself from exposure to adult mosquitoes:

- Limit time outdoors when mosquito activity is heaviest (dusk to dawn)
- If outside, wear socks, shoes, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Loose-fitting, light colored clothing is best
- Use repellents containing 25-35% DEET (N,n-diethyl-meta-toluamide)
- Protect babies and small children by using mosquito netting over strollers

If you have any questions or require additional details on the specific mosquito control measures within our Village, please feel free to contact the District directly at 708-447-1765.



### ***Ogden/Woodland Pedestrian Crossing***

The pedestrian crosswalk across Ogden Avenue at Woodland Avenue provides a safe crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists to Bemis Woods. Flashing yellow lights are activated by pedestrians/bicyclists and will alert traffic on Ogden Avenue that someone is in the crosswalk and to come to a complete stop. Please do not assume that traffic will obey the signal and stop. Do not enter the roadway until you are certain all vehicles in all four lanes of traffic have come to a complete stop.

## Friendly Reminders

### Block Parties

Planning a block party? A consent form must be submitted at least two weeks before your party. The form is available at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) or Village Hall.

### Call Before You Dig

All projects outdoors, including the smallest task, require a call to JULIE. Just dial 811. One call does it all to protect you from digging where utilities are buried—it's simple, it's safe and it's the law.

### Check Before You Build

Many of those summer projects on your home or yard will require that a building permit is first obtained from the Village. The Village of Western Springs uses the building permit as a tool to ensure that established standards for design and construction are followed. The building design and construction standards have been created to protect the public health, safety and welfare. Guidelines and the building permit form are available at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) or call the Community Development office, 708-246-1800, Ext. 180, if you are unsure if you need a permit.

### Curfew Law

Parents are reminded that it is unlawful for anyone less than 17 years of age to be at or upon any public place, unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other responsible companion at least 18 years of age, after curfew. Curfew hours are between midnight and 6 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday. These curfew hours are not the same curfew hours for a minor driving a motor vehicle. Please refer to [cyberdriveillinois.com](http://cyberdriveillinois.com) for details on the hours and restrictions.

### Fireworks Safety

Residents are advised to leave all fireworks displays to the professionals. Fireworks are illegal in Illinois. However, certain novelty fireworks such as sparklers, snakes, and party-poppers are not regulated by the State of Illinois and must be used with great caution. Sparklers burn at temperatures of up to 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit and remain extremely hot long after the sparks have stopped. Children playing with novelty fireworks must be closely supervised by adults to prevent injury.

### Lawn Maintenance

Grass is not permitted to grow to a height exceeding eight inches. If you notice a property that needs attention, please contact Community Development at 708-246-1800, Ext. 177. When mowing your lawn, remember grass clippings should not be blown in the streets. The clippings clog the storm sewers, which can cause street flooding.

### Noise Restrictions

Motorized lawn maintenance equipment can only be used during the following hours:

- Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

### Penalty Fee

Vehicle license stickers purchased after June 1 will cost \$70. This includes \$35 for the sticker and the remaining \$35 is the penalty fee. Vehicle stickers expire every March 31 and new ones must be displayed by April 1.

### Pet Peeves

Pet owners, please be considerate of others by not allowing your pet to be shut up or tied in a yard, house, or other place in the Village which by barking, howling, or other noises shall disturb the peace and quiet of any individual, family or neighborhood. Violators will be subject to a fine.

When walking your pet, do not allow your pet to defecate upon the property of your neighbors, churches, schools, parks or any public property. Also have in your possession a device for the immediate removal of any excrement from your animal.

### Please Be Pedestrian Friendly

Western Springs is a village on the move—especially when it comes to residents who enjoy walking, jogging or rolling along our sidewalks. Please remember to not block sidewalks with vehicles, which causes pedestrians to go around vehicles. Also low branches are a hazard to a pedestrian. The Village makes every effort to keep branches trimmed away from the parkway; however, it is the resident's responsibility to trim trees standing on private property abutting on any sidewalk. Branches must be trimmed at the height of not less than ten feet above the sidewalk. If you notice areas that need attention, please contact Public Works at 708-246-1800, Ext. 200.

### Yard Waste Disposal

Yard waste includes brush, grass clippings, leaves, plants, weeds, roots and twigs. These materials must be placed at the curb in a biodegradable bag with a sticker on collection day.

Yard waste that is too bulky to be placed in a bag, such as branches or brush, must be securely tied and bundled. Bundles may not exceed 4 ft. in length, 2 ft. in diameter or 60 pounds in weight. Each bag or bundle of yard waste materials must have a sticker affixed for collection. The Public Works Department does not collect yard waste and will only pick up branches that have come down from a storm.

# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Welcome New Businesses!

During the month of May, two new businesses held grand openings in the Village. President Rodeghier and trustees were on hand to welcome them to the community.

**iima productions** is a marketing and design agency focused on assisting small to mid-size businesses with their marketing needs. With over 15 years of combined experience in marketing strategy, business development, graphic and multi-media design, the company has the expertise to assist your business in all facets of your marketing strategy, from implementation to interacting with vendors and creating a cohesive look and feel for your business.

**Tropical Sno** will be serving up some of the highest quality and best tasting shaved ice in the area, offering dozens of delicious flavors and combinations. A refreshing oasis from the summer heat!



iima productions • 823 Burlington Avenue • 630-248-3620  
www.iimaproductions.com



Tropical Sno • 1062 Hillgrove • 708-505-9766

## Coterie Club

COTERIE CLUB OF WESTERN SPRINGS is a social and philanthropic club that was established in 1953. Activity groups include bridge, games, book club, breakfast club, movies, gourmet lunch, ethnic dining, as well as fundraising events that generate contributions to local charitable organizations. These groups meet monthly from September to June. New members welcome! For information please contact Kathy Doles at 708-246-7893 or kadoles1@gmail.com.

### Summer Concerts

July 11  
Tower Green  
7 p.m.

Big sounds, big crowds and a big time for everyone with  
The Grand Avenue Big Band

July 18  
Ridgewood Park  
6:30 p.m.

West Suburban Community Band

## It's Vacation Time

Regardless of whether your activities will take you away from home for one month or one day, it can be a tempting time for a burglar to strike—unless you take precautions. The Police Department offers the following suggestions:

**Stop Deliveries.** A pile of newspapers or mail is like hanging out a sign telling others that no one is home.

**Use Timers.** Placing one of these inexpensive devices on each floor to turn a light on and off makes it appear as though someone is home.

**Give a Key to a Person You Trust.** That person can stop in every so often to make the house look “lived in” by moving the car in and out of the garage, opening and closing drapes and bringing in deliveries that were not stopped. Also make sure your grass stays cut.

**Never Hide a Key Outside.** You're not the only one who knows about fake rocks and other tricks for holding a spare key.

**Vacation Watch.** This service is a great addition to other security steps. The police check your house while you are away. To obtain this service, fill out the online form at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) or visit the Police Department.

## Recreation Department

Kids bored? Nothing to do? Encourage them and their friends to sign up for fun with the Recreation Department! There are plenty of programs open and waiting for them to enjoy. May we suggest. . .

- Lacrosse camp (July 9-25)
- Learn to bowl (July 15-19)
- Late summer tennis and camps (July 22-Aug 10)
- Youth soccer training camps (July 15-19 and July 29-Aug 2)
- Volleyball camp (July 29-Aug 2)
- Young Rembrandt camps (Aug 7-9)
- Dodgeball (Fridays through Aug 30)

Program details are listed in the summer brochure and can be found at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com). Stop in at the Recreation Center, 1500 Walker, and sign up for a program or fill out the registration form and mail it in. Any questions, please call 708-246-9070.

The fall brochure will be mailed out the week of August 7 and will be posted to [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) the week before. Mail-in registration for fall programs will be due August 22.

### Helpful Hints for Filling out the Program Registration Form

To avoid any delays in processing your registration form, the Recreation Department offers these helpful hints:

- Print legibly and fill in all of the application form including signing the waiver form.
- Register only one person/per class for each line. Do not use the 2nd Choice line for 1st choice classes.
- Indicate payment method and fill in the appropriate information. Credit card information is shredded after processing. If paying by check, make check payable to Western Springs Recreation.
- If your child has special needs or allergies, please check the appropriate box and indicate which child.

## Summertime Fun at the Library



### Café Ford Open Mic—July 12 at 7 p.m.

Teens can showcase their talents at this afterhours gathering. Perform music, poetry, stand-up—or enjoy watching friends perform. Snacks and drinks provided. Sign-up appreciated.

### Special Summer Sunday Program—July 21 at 3 p.m.

Family Concert with the Fox Valley Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet featuring local clarinetist, John Norton, and principal woodwind players. The concert will include a narrated performance of *Peter and the Wolf* and an opportunity for youth to conduct the quintet!

Be sure to earn prizes while you read with the Library's summer reading clubs for young readers, teens, and adults.

And don't forget. . .

The Library is **Now Open** on **Summer Sundays 1–5 p.m.** Stop in, call 708-246-0520, or visit our website, [www.fordlibrary.org](http://www.fordlibrary.org) for more information.

## Senior Services

### Senior Center

The activities at the Senior Center at Grand Avenue Community Center, 4211 Grand Avenue, never stop, so come out this summer to meet new people and have some fun. The center operates Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drop-in business hours (services available) are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. All residents age 55 and older are welcome. The activity calendar is available at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) or you may visit the center at 4211 Grand to pick up a copy. Any questions regarding the center may be directed to Mic at 708-246-3299.

### AARP DRIVE SAFETY PROGRAM

The Police Department will be hosting an AARP Driver Safety Program at the Village Hall on September 3 and 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Registration is available at [55alive@wsprings.com](mailto:55alive@wsprings.com) or call 708-246-1800, ext. 155. More information on the program is available at [www.aarp.org/drive](http://www.aarp.org/drive).

**TOWER TOPICS**  
Village of Western Springs  
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**FOR SERVICES CALL:**

Ambulance/Fire/Police emergency . . . . . 9-1-1  
Fire non-emergency . . . . . 708-246-1182  
Police non-emergency . . . . . 708-246-8540  
Public Works Department . . . . . 708-246-1800 Ext. 200  
(parkway trees, streets, sewers, water)  
Recreation Department . . . . . 708-246-9070  
Refuse/Recycling (Allied Waste) . . . . . 708-345-7050  
Village Hall . . . . . 708-246-1800

*Visit the Village at  
www.wsprings.com*

**VILLAGE BOARD**  
President William Rodeghier  
708-246-1800, Ext. 120  
wrodeghier@wsprings.com

**POSTAL CUSTOMER  
WESTERN SPRINGS, IL  
60558**

**TRUSTEES:**

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pword@wsprings.com

**Village of Western Springs  
Water/Sewer Bill Auto Debit Program  
AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT**

The Auto Debit Program offers you the convenience of paying your water/sewer bill automatically to insure no late payments or ensuing penalty charges.

**1. Yes, I wish to participate in the Auto Debit Program and pay my water/sewer bill automatically:**

Water/Sewer Bill Account Number (10-digits)

Name

Phone Number

Service Address

**2. Please pay from my: (check one)**       Checking       Savings

Account Number

9-Digit Routing Number

Name of Financial Institution

\* Amount of payment will be the account balance of your water/sewer account. This amount will automatically be deducted from your financial institution on the due date.

**Auto Debit Program Terms & Conditions**

- This agreement will remain in effect until you notify the Village either in person or in writing to cancel it allowing the Village reasonable opportunity to act.
- Auto Debit payments will not be applied to final water bills. Final water bills must be paid by cash, check, or credit card.
- If there are insufficient funds in your account on the specified payment dates, the Village will send you a notification requesting the payment to be made in full via cash or a money order. A \$20 charge will also be attached to your account and the Village reserves the right to remove your account from the Auto Debit Program.
- Requests to participate in the Auto Debit Program will not be honored without a signature.

By signing below, you authorize the Village of Western Springs to initiate automatic payments from your designated checking or savings account to make payments to your water/sewer bill. Your signature also indicates your agreement to the terms and conditions of the Auto Debit Program.

Name (Please print)

Signature

Date

**Return this form to:** Village of Western Springs • 740 Hillgrove Avenue • Western Springs, IL 60558