

tower Topics

V I L L A G E *of* W E S T E R N S P R I N G S

Holiday Tree Wanted

Do you have a large, magnificent evergreen tree on your property that you'd like to donate to the Village of Western Springs? The Village is seeking a donation of a very large, well-shaped tree to light up the Tower Green for the 2013 holiday season. Removal and placement of the tree will be courtesy of the Village in mid-November. The tree will be featured at the tree lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 7, 2013, during the annual Western Springs Business Association Christmas Walk.

If interested, please contact Matt Supert, Director of Municipal Services at 708-246-1800, Ext. 205 or msupert@wsprings.com.



The French Market will continue to operate every Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m. until October 24, 2013.

Shop the market for the produce and goods of the wonderful fall season. Thank you for another successful French Market season and we look forward to the 2014 season opening the first week of May.

Village Achieves Solid Financial Performance

In July, the Village Board reviewed and accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012. The CAFR is the end result of the audit process and presents balance sheets and income statements for all of the Village's accounting funds. A single audit was also performed, which is a federal requirement when a municipality expends in excess of \$500,000 in federal grants.

The report prepared by Sikich, Gardner & Company was presented to the Board by Brian LeFevre. In his presentation, Mr. LeFevre reported that the Village was issued an Unqualified Opinion on both the CAFR and single audit. This is the highest level of opinion that the Village can receive on its financial statements. Less than 2% of governments in the country with less than 25,000 in population receive an Unqualified Opinion. The complete CAFR is available for review at www.wsprings.com.

The Village also received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the year ending 2011. The Village has received this award from the Government Finance Officers Association for 18 consecutive years and it is the highest level of award. Upon acceptance of the 2012 CAFR, the Village will apply for the 2012 award.

After review of the report, President Rodeghier commented:

The report indicates the Village is living within its means. In spite of difficult economic times in the past few years, which required the Village to take some painful measures including letting some people go, the residents have continued to receive essential services they have come to expect and certainly deserve. Staff reined in expenditures and performed within their means.

Municipal Roundup

The President and the Board of Trustees approved the following business during the months of July and August:

Approved

- A temporary use permit for the Aces Bike Ride on August 25, 2013.
- A contract with AC Pavement of Elgin, IL for the 2013 micro-surfacing project at re-negotiated bid price of \$105,695.30.
- The disposal of a Law Enforcement Services 2007 Ford Expedition vehicle.
- Budget transfers over \$10,000 to the operating budgets in the Recreation, General and Water Funds. Transfers will fund plumbing repairs to the Grand Avenue Community Center, retirement benefits in the Fire and Emergency Services department and street patching and overtime costs associated with water main breaks.
- Change order numbers 13, 14 and 15 to the contract for the construction of the RO Water Treatment Plant for a total cost of \$65,827.52.
- An ordinance authorizing the vacation of the 50th Street right-of-way adjacent to 4947 Central Avenue. The purchase price was \$48,246.
- An ordinance authorizing the vacation the right-of-way immediately adjacent to 4055 Spring Street. The purchase price was \$12,324.

Awarded

- A bid to CJ Erickson Plumbing Company of Alsip, IL for Phase 1 2013 work on the Grand Avenue repiping project in the amount of \$71,350.
- A base bid and an "Alternate A" bid to Chicagoland Paving Contractors, of Lake Zurich, IL for the 2013 asphalt patching project in the total amount of \$27,599.

League of Women Voters to Honor Village Clerk Jeanine Jassica



The LaGrange Area League of Women Voters has announced that Village Clerk Jeanine Jassica will be one of the award recipients of its 2013 Persons of Impact Award. Clerk Jassica is being recognized for her outstanding commitment of time, talent and integrity as the Village Clerk since 1987 and for her unsurpassed dedication as a community leader in the management of the election

process and other protocols of local government that impact residents of Western Springs. The awards event will be on September 12, 2013.



Planning for the Future

The Park District of Western Springs is engaged in establishing a five-year strategic plan to ensure that our parks continue to be maintained, and that future resources are allocated in ways that best meet the needs of our community. To that end, this fall, the Park District will be asking for residents' opinions about the relative value of our park resources, and where future resources should be allocated. Opinions will be gathered via an on-line survey. We urge you to make your opinions known by completing this survey once it becomes available. More information will be available at www.wsparks.org in October.

Field Park Playground

The District is pleased to announce the completion of the new playground equipment at Field Park. It is now open to the community, just in time for the start of school!

In-Line Skating Rink

Attention all hockey and skating enthusiasts! The Park District has replaced the Spring Rock Park's in-line skating rink, and it is scheduled to open September 3, 2013. Please do not use the rink until all "Area Closed" signs have been removed, as premature use will damage the surface, delaying the ability of the Park District to officially open it.

Staying Safe in Stormy Conditions

Spring Rock Park's lightning prediction system is in place to warn park patrons of the threat of lightning within a fifteen mile radius of the park. The system issues visual and audible warnings in the form of flashing lights and a horn to alert residents to potential threats. If you are in the park when the lightning prediction system activates, please vacate the park and seek shelter immediately. When the threat of lightning has abated, the system horn will sound three times, letting patrons know that it is safe to return. This system is in place to keep park patrons safe.

Park Permits

Fall is a delightful time to host a gathering in one of the many parks in Western Springs. Please remember a permit is required for groups of 25 or more people. Park use permit fees begin at \$60. If you would like to host a gathering, please visit www.wsparks.com for more information and instructions for obtaining a permit.

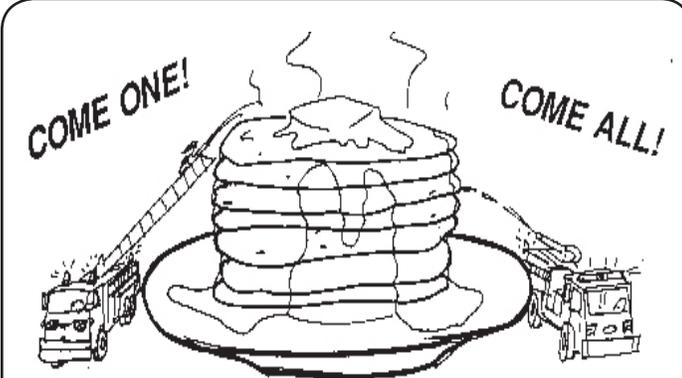
Hydrant Flushing

Hydrant flushing will begin the first full week of September. The purpose of this annual procedure is to ensure there is adequate water pressure to every fire hydrant in the Village. The flushing will be done from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The schedule is below and is subject to change, if there are emergency calls to respond to.

Old Town North	Sept. 9-11	Ridge Acres	Sept. 23
Old Town South	Sept. 12	Fairview Estates	Sept. 23
Commonwealth	Sept. 12-13	Springdale	Sept. 24-25
Forest Hills	Sept. 16-17	Ridgewood	Sept. 26
Field Park	Sept. 18-20		

Residents may notice discoloration of the water when the flushing takes place. If you experience discoloration, run the cold water from a fixture that is located in the lowest level of the house until the water runs clear. Avoid doing laundry or using the dishwasher until the water runs clear.

Due to the water mains being "looped" or interconnected, there is no control over sediment or discoloration in the water in areas not being directly tested. If you notice discolored water in your area, please refrain from using the water until it runs clear. If any further information is needed, please call Public Works at 708-246-1800, Ext. 200. For daily schedule updates, please call 708-246-1800, Ext. 305.



COME ONE! **COME ALL!**

FIRE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Fire Station, 4353 Wolf Road
\$4 per person



Fight the Bite

As we approach the end of mosquito season, the Cook County Department of Public Health wants to remind you that the threat of West Nile virus (WNV) transmission is not over. The department offers these basic, easy precautions to **Fight the Bite**:

- Use insect repellents with DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus when you go outdoors.
- Wear long sleeves and pants during dawn and dusk.
- Install or repair screens on windows and doors.
- Empty standing water from items outside your home such as gutters, flowerpots, buckets, kiddie pools, and birdbaths. Water that is allowed to stagnate for three or four days becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes.
- Keep weeds and grass cut short and keep gutters clean and free of debris.
- Use mosquito netting if taking an infant out in a stroller.

Most people infected with WNV have no symptoms of illness and never become ill. But illness can occur 3–15 days after an infected mosquito bite and cause symptoms of fever, headache and body aches. People over the age of 50 are at a higher risk for serious complications from encephalitis or meningitis. For that reason, people who experience high fever, confusion, muscle weakness, severe headaches, or a stiff neck should see a doctor immediately. For more information on the West Nile virus, please visit www.cookcountypublichealth.org.

Consider a Volunteer Job



BEDS PLUS has provided emergency overnight shelter, meals and other

essential services to the homeless people in our community since 1988. Right now, BEDS is recruiting new volunteers from the local community to help in our shelters this coming fall and winter.

CAN YOU HELP? Join the corps of friends and neighbors who help those in need. You'll make a difference, make lifelong friends and have a rewarding, unforgettable experience!

Visit www.bedsplus.org or phone 708-354-0858 to volunteer or for more information.



Firearm Concealed Carry Act

Public Act (PA) 98-63, the Firearm Concealed Carry Act, became state law on July 9, 2013. An informative resource for individuals with questions about the act, is available at the Illinois State Police web site, www.isp.state.il.us/firearms/ccw/ccw-faq.cfm.

Child Safety Seat Check Event

On Sunday, September 15, 2013, the Western Springs Police Department will be coordinating and hosting a special child safety seat check event. The event will take place from 1–3 p.m. at the Police Department, 740 Hillgrove Avenue. This event is free of charge. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to have their child safety seats inspected by certified child passenger safety technicians to ensure that their children are secured properly in an appropriately sized car seat.

For additional information about this event, please contact Officer Arthur Hull or Mike Belcastro at 708-246-8540.



Happy Halloween—Be Safe Trick-or-Treating Hours are 3–8 p.m.

From carving pumpkins and adorning your home with spooky decorations; to dressing your kids in costumes and taking them trick-or-treating; Halloween is a fun and exciting time for the whole family, but it can also be equally dangerous. Use the following Halloween safety tips to ensure that your scary celebrations are safe.

Remain on sidewalks—From filling an entire bag or pillowcase with candy, to staying out past their bedtimes, Halloween is a thrilling night for kids, and their excitement leaves them more likely to run into the street. Although it would be comforting to think that every driver on Halloween is a safe driver, the truth is that you can never be sure, so it's best to keep children on the sidewalk to ensure their safety.

Travel in groups—The bigger the group—the better. Travel in groups with neighbors and friends on well-lighted streets. Always being sure to avoid spaces in between cars and cutting through yards.

Inspect all candy—Although your child may be anxious to begin eating goodies as soon as he/she begins collecting them, it's important to conduct a thorough inspection of the candy before allowing your child to consume it and dispose of anything suspicious.

Keep your house well-lighted inside and outside—A well-lighted home will protect against damage to your property and allow trick-or-treaters to safely walk to your doorstep. Keep your pets inside and away from the excitement. There is always a possibility your pet could bite a visitor. Sometimes, pets get excited and run away.

Don't be easy targets—When you step away for some trick-or-treating fun, make sure you lock all windows and doors and shut your garage door. Lock your vehicle even in your own driveway. An unlocked vehicle many times contains a garage door opener.

Keep an eye on your neighbor's house—Do not hesitate to report any mischief or suspicious activity to the Western Springs Police Department immediately by calling 708-246-8540 or in an emergency dial 9-1-1.

Trick-or-treating hours on Halloween are from 3 to 8 p.m. Halloween is a favorite holiday among parents and children alike, and keeping these Halloween safety tips in mind will allow your family to have a fun, exciting, and most importantly, safe evening. The Western Springs Police Department will be providing additional visible patrol.

Back-to-School Safety Tips for Drivers

With more distractions in traffic, it is critical, while operating a motor vehicle, to slow down and pay attention. The Western Springs Police Department would like to remind drivers to take extra precautions at the beginning of this school year.

- Come to a full stop at stop signs and red lights. Crossing guards and pedestrians of all ages have the right of way before you proceed through the intersection.
- Watch for school bus stop signs and, when a school bus stops with its red brake lights flashing or its stop sign raised, motorists must stop until all children have safely crossed the roadway.
- Don't rush. The first few weeks of the school year are extra busy, so leave yourself extra time to travel to your destination. Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully and watch for children and other pedestrians.
- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings. Remember, it is against the law to use a cell phone in a school zone or to text while driving.

All drivers need to recognize the special safety needs of pedestrians, especially those that are children.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE • MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 • 6–8:30 P.M.

It's time for Fire Prevention Week, and from October 6-12 the Western Springs Fire Department is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind local residents to "Prevent Kitchen Fires." During this year's fire safety campaign, firefighters and safety advocates will be spreading the word about the dangers of kitchen fires—most of which result from unattended cooking—and teaching local residents how to prevent kitchen fires from starting in the first place.

According to the latest NFPA research, cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Two of every five home fires begin in the kitchen—more than any other place in the home. Cooking fires are also the leading cause of home fire-related injuries.

Among the safety tips that firefighters and safety advocates will be emphasizing:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food.
- If you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- When you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you.
- If you have young children, use the stove's back burners whenever possible. Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the stove.
- When you cook, wear clothing with tight-fitting sleeves.
- Keep potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper and plastic bags, towels, and anything else that can burn, away from your stovetop.
- Clean up food and grease from burners and stovetops.

The Western Springs Fire Department will be hosting an Open House on Monday, October 7, 2013 from 6–8:30 p.m. at Station 1 on 4353 Wolf Road. The Open House will feature educational, family-oriented activities and allow residents to learn more about fire safety in the home. The kids can slide down our fire pole, take a ride in a fire engine, learn kitchen safety tips in the safety house and visit with Sparky.

For more information on Fire Prevention Week or the Open House contact: Lt Chuck Lichtenauer at 708-246-1800, Ext. 306.

Stanley Cup Visits Village Hall

Chicago Blackhawks strength and conditioning coach Paul Goodman, a Village resident, made a special trip to the Village Hall for staff to see the Stanley Cup and have their photos taken. A memorable photo was one taken with Lt. Dick Jacobson, Paul Goodman, and Lt. Jacobson's sons, Andrew and Arturo. Lt. Jacobson is a member of the Fire Department, who battles with ALS, and is a loyal Blackhawk fan. Dick was an active member of the department until his diagnosis in September 2011. Although he no longer can perform his firefighter functions, due to being confined to a wheelchair, he is still volunteering and doing important support work for the department and remains a valuable member of the department.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Welcome New Businesses!



Elements Therapeutic Massage opened in the Garden Market Shopping Center. Greg and Sarah Clark, a father and daughter team, invite you to experience the rejuvenating benefits of massage therapy and discover the positive effect it can have on your body and your well-being. The clinic operates Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Appointments are accepted at 708-505-4513 and more information is available at www.elementsmassage.com/westernsprings.

Music Makers of Western Springs National Music School of the Year



A special presentation was held at the Village Hall on July 23 to present **Music Makers of Western Springs** with the 2013–2014 National Music School of the Year Award. Trustee James Horvath is shown above congratulating Director Jeremy Michor after the presentation by Marty Fort, Director of Columbia Music Academy and Music Academy Success. This is a national award and recognizes **Music Makers of Western Springs'** success and longtime involvement within the community. Jeremy and Gwenn Michor have worked very hard to provide an outstanding school to the Western Springs and surrounding community area, as well as a fantastic place to work for faculty and staff.

Evolve Health to Wellness—Dr. Matthew Peahl and Dr. Devon Acou are pleased to announce the opening of their new practice at 1052 Hillgrove Avenue. Their practice will offer chiropractic services, acupuncture, applied kinesiology and nutritional guidance. Visit www.evolve2wellness.net or call 855-386-5838 for more information.

Aristotle Circle Peer Tutoring is a unique education service company which recently began servicing the western suburbs. AC Peer Tutoring is a network of peer tutors from local schools such as Lyons Township, Hinsdale Central and Nazareth Academy. Hilary Remijas, a resident of Western Springs, is leading the west suburban Chicago operations as its Regional Education Advisor. For more information, visit www.peers.aristotlecircle.com.

My Reading Garden is now open at 822 Hillgrove, Suite 500. Director Demi Clamp, a resident of Western Springs, offers a nurturing environment filled with great learning opportunities for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. For more details about **My Reading Garden**, please visit www.myreadinggarden.com.

Senior Activities

Seniors Club

Monday, September 9, 1 p.m., Recreation Center

Regular meeting followed with entertainment by Kym Franoveigia, one of West Suburban seniors' favorite entertainers.

Wednesday, September 18, 9:15 a.m.

Day trip to the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe with lunch at Buca di Beppo in Wheeling. Reservations to 708-784-9488.

Monday, October 14, 1 p.m.

The monthly meeting will feature Lou Curotto with his "9,000 mile drive in the west," his fantastic international coin collection, and Kit Halberstadt's coin jewelry made from her worldwide travels.

Wednesday, October 16, 11:30 a.m.

Seniors are going by bus to Tommy Gun's Garage in Chicago for a sit-down lunch with "Vito and Gloves." Reservation to 708-784-8966.

Senior Center

Welcome Back Milk & Cookies (Oreos!) Party

Friday, September 6, 1–2:30 p.m.

A free social event with entertainment by Music Makers' Izzy and Jeremy.

The center is open Monday–Friday from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and is staffed from 1–3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For the activity and events schedule, please visit the Senior Center or www.wsprings.com. For questions, please contact mic at 708-246-3299.

Recreation Department

Fall classes begin the week of September 9 with new programs and special events available. The fall program guide is available at www.wsprings.com/recreation and registration is still open. Browse through the program selections and find a program for yourself or someone in your family. If you have any questions, feel free to call the department at 708-246-9070.

Fall Highlights

- The Lacrosse program begins Sunday, September 8, for boys and girls of all levels of interest. **PLEASE NOTE** that information for the Boys Travel Program has changed and is updated in the online brochure and at www.wsprings.com/lacrosse.
- Girls Volleyball Clinic begins Saturday, October 5, for 3rd–6th grade levels.
- Sign-up for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls basketball leagues is due by November 5. Players and volunteer coaches are needed. Coach's meeting is November 5 at 6:30 p.m.
- Blazers and Wildcats traveling basketball team tryouts are September 7 or 21. If interested, please call 708-246-9070, Ext. 418.
- Youth dodgeball on Fridays at the Recreation Center from 5:30–7 p.m. for elementary school, 7–8:30 p.m. for jr. high and 8:30–10:30 p.m. for high school and older.
- Adult Open Basketball on Thursdays beginning October 3 at 8:15 p.m.
- Fly Fishing: Casting & Strategy on Sundays from October 6–27 at 1 p.m.



Come Join Us at the Library!

September is National Library Card Sign-up Month. It's a great time to apply for a card, if you don't already have one—and use yours if you do!

As a thank you to the community for its support, the Library is offering two Member Appreciation Concerts in September:

Sunday, September 22, 2 p.m. Macaroni Soup will present a program for children of all ages. Come sing, laugh, hop and stomp. This program is generously underwritten by the Thomas Ford Library Foundation.

Sunday, September 29, 2:30 p.m. The Convertibles, a doo wop/barbershop quartet will entertain with music from the '50s and '60s.

Friends of Library Fall Book Sale will be October 18–20. There is a preview night for Friends only on Friday from 6–8:30 p.m., Saturday's sale, 8 a.m.–2 p.m. is open to everyone and on Sunday, from noon–2 p.m., there is a half-price bag sale. The sale is sorted by topics to make shopping easier and includes books, paperbacks, music, audio books and videos. The Friends welcome your donations of books, music and videos.

New Programs

- Little Hooper's Basketball at McClure Jr. High on Saturday mornings, October 19–November 23 for ages 3–5.
- Soft & Silly Volleyball at the Recreation Center on Thursdays, September 19–October 24 at 1 p.m. for ages 3–5.
- Yoga for Seniors—new level/day added! Classes are held at the Grand Avenue Dance Studio from 10–11:15 a.m. on Tuesdays for Level 1 and on Fridays for Level 2.



Halloween Hoopla

On Monday, October 28, from 5–7 p.m., treat your kids, yourself, friends and family to an evening of Halloween fun. The Recreation Center, 1500 Walker, is the place and costumes are the ticket to a night of spooktacular fun.

Newcomers Club

Newcomers Club is open to all residents interested in becoming acquainted with both their community and their fellow villagers. You need not be “new” to Western Springs to join. Activities are planned from September to June. The membership is open to men, women, singles and families. For more information, please contact westernspringsnewcomers@gmail.com.

Solicitation Regulations

Peddlers or solicitors are not allowed to operate in the Village without first having obtained a permit from the Village Clerk's office and can only operate between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. The permit issued is a badge that must be worn while soliciting in the Village. If a peddler or solicitor is not wearing the badge, please ask to see it and, if he/she does not have one, please contact the Police Department's non-emergency number at 708-246-8540 to report the violation.

NO SOLICITORS INVITED decals are available at the Police Department for residents to display. With a decal in place, a peddler or solicitor is restricted from knocking on your door. Please report any solicitation violations to the Police Department's non-emergency number at 708-246-8540.

TOWER TOPICS
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Ambulance/Fire/Police emergency 9-1-1
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

Explore and Stay Informed
www.wsprings.com

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First Congregational Church Rummage Sale

The First Congregational Church of Western Springs, 1106 Chestnut Street, will hold its annual fall rummage sale on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 22 & 23. The sale opens with a 20% mark-up from 6–8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, and will continue from 10-noon on Wednesday, October 23. The sale concludes with a half-price bag sale from 6–8 p.m. on Wednesday evening, October 23. Shop and save on gently-used clothing, books, toys, housewares, sporting equipment and more. Local checks will be accepted. All proceeds will be donated to local, national and international charities.

2013 Leaf Removal Program

The Village’s annual leaf removal program will begin the week of October 21. The schedule will be mailed in October to every residence in the Village and will be posted at **www.wsprings.com**. Residents may also use the leaf hotline, 708-246-1800, Ext. 305, for schedule updates. Please refrain from raking the leaves to the curb before the removal process begins. If you need to dispose of leaves before October 21, then it will be necessary to bag them as yard waste.

Mulch leaves—benefits the environment and your lawn!

FALL FESTIVAL

Friday, October 4 • 5 to 9 p.m. • Tower Green



Fall Festival begins with the distribution of *FREE* pumpkins on Saturday, September 28, from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Tower Green. Use your imagination and bring it back decorated on the following Friday night, October 4, for judging and enjoy an evening filled with *SPOOKY* fun. The festival is sponsored by the Western Springs Business Association.