

tower Topics

VILLAGE *of* WESTERN SPRINGS

Water Plant Reconstruction Project Update

The reconstruction of the water plant into a reverse osmosis system is proceeding according to schedule as the Village enters the final phases of the project. Over the next several months, the Village will begin the process of bringing the equipment at the plant online. Several points, including the ComED switch over to the new transformer and the transfer to the new reverse osmosis equipment, are critical construction paths. Outlined below are the major milestones in the project moving forward:

Early August	Transformer installation
Early September	ComED switch over to new service
Mid-September	Demolition of old transformer
Early October	Amiad iron removal equipment startup
Mid-October	Reverse osmosis startup and testing begins
Late November	Reverse osmosis system online
December	Demolition of west filters
January—March	Final architectural and punchlist items

Updates to the project, will continue to be posted at www.wsprings.com. Any questions regarding the project, may be directed to Matt Supert, Director of Municipal Services, 708-246-1800, ext. 205, or msupert@wsprings.com.



Fall Festival

Calling all ghosts, goblins, witches or anyone else who enjoys the celebration of fall! The annual WSBA (Western Springs Business Association) Fall Festival begins with the distribution of FREE pumpkins on Saturday, September 29, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Tower Green. Use your imagination and bring it back decorated on the following Friday night, October 5, for judging. The winning pumpkins will be displayed all fall in the windows of local businesses.

On Friday, October 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., come join your neighbors and friends at the Tower Green for the Fall Festival. Events will include hayrides, a children's storyteller, food and other SPOOKY surprises!



School is Open Obey Crossing Guards



Please be observant of the many crossing guards that assist your children going to and from school. Slow down and obey the crossing guards. When entering a school zone, reduce your speed to 20 m.p.h. Motorists in particular need to watch out for the safety of children on foot and bicycle, to slow down to 20 mph in

school zones and stop for crossing guards, as well as pedestrians of any age crossing the street.

Municipal Roundup

The President and Board of Trustees conducted the following business in July and August:

Appointments

- William Plunkett to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
- Nancy Elwert and Michael Wilkins to the Transportation and Safety Commission
- Paul Karas, Craig Wright, John Devona and Thomas Kelleher to the Infrastructure Commission
- Deb Smith to the Plan Commission

Approved

- The execution of a residential real estate sales contract for the property at 4368 Hampton Avenue in the amount of \$560,000. The property is adjacent to the Recreation Center and will be subdivided with a portion being used for recreational purposes and the house and remaining standard size lot resold.
- The execution of an agreement with Allied Waste Services for the collection and disposal of solid waste for the period January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2015.
- A Class J license to sell package wine and beer at the French Market to Hillgrove Cellars and also approved the extension of hours for their Class H license (outdoor

café) until 11 p.m. during the week and midnight on the weekends.

- A temporary use permit to Active Transportation Alliance for its 24th annual Four Star bike ride.

Awarded

- A bid for the 2012 micropaving program to A.C. Pavement Striping Company of Elgin in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.
- A bid for the 2012 micropaving patching work to A.C. Pavement Striping Company of Elgin in the amount of \$75,000.
- A bid for resurfacing Franklin Avenue from 52nd Place to Howard and Ernst Court, Howard Avenue to 53rd Street and 49th Street from Fair Elms to Wolf Road to Crowley Sheppard Asphalt in the amount of \$229,960.
- A bid for the rehabilitation of the historical water tower stairs to Schaeffges Brothers in the amount of \$115,775. The project includes replacement of the stairs, widening the walkway and the addition of seat walls that will extend from the outside of the stairs.

Police Explorer Post 740

2013 Entertainment Books For Sale

Explorer Post 740 was started in 1977 and offers young people from high school age up to 21 years of age an opportunity to learn about police work and gain hands-on experience. Currently, the department is taking applications for both girls and boys. If you know of someone interested in joining, please contact Officer A.J. Hull at 708-246-8540 or ajhull@wsprings.com.

The Post is now conducting its annual fundraiser selling the "Entertainment 2013" coupon books for \$25. The coupons in the book allow you to dine out, enjoy movies, attend sporting events and other activities at a significant savings. The books can be purchased at the Police Department, 740 Hillgrove Avenue.

HOLIDAY TREE WANTED

The Public Works Department is soliciting Village residents for the donation of a large, magnificent tree to light up the Tower Green for the 2012 holiday season. If interested, please contact Matt Supert, Director of Municipal Services at 708-246-1800, Ext. 205 or msupert@wsprings.com.

Fall Leaf Removal Program

The Village's annual leaf removal program will begin the week of October 22. 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 22, then it will be necessary to bag them as yard waste.



THANK YOU!! The 2012 French Market season will end on Thursday, October 25; however, there are plenty of weeks left to shop every Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m. for your fall favorites! The Village thanks you for another successful season. The 2013 season will kick off on the first Thursday in May.



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

If you woke up to a fire in your home, how much time do you think you would have to get to safety? One-third of American households thought they would have at least six minutes before a fire in their home would become life threatening. Unfortunately, the time available is often less. That’s why the Western Springs Fire Department is teaming up with NFPA during Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13, 2012, to urge residents to “Have Two Ways Out!” This year’s theme focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice.

In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to 369,500 home structure fires. These fires caused 13,350 civilian injuries, 2,640 civilian deaths and \$6.9 billion in direct damage. “One home structure fire was reported every 85 seconds in 2010, says Lt. Chuck Lichtenauer of the Western Springs Fire Department. Fire is unpredictable and moves faster than most people realize. Having a tried and true escape plan with two ways out is essential to ensuring your family’s safety should fire break out in your home.”

The Fire Department recommends the following tips for planning your family’s escape:

- Make a map of your home. Mark a door and a window that can be used to get out of every room.
- Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This is where everyone can meet once they’ve escaped. Draw a picture of your outside meeting place on your escape plan.
- Write the emergency telephone number for the fire department on your escape plan.
- Have a grown-up sound the smoke alarm and practice your escape plan with everyone living in your home.
- Keep your escape plan on the refrigerator and remind grown-ups to have your family practice the plan twice a year or whenever anyone in your home celebrates a birthday.

Residents are invited to visit the firehouse at 4353 Wolf Road to experience educational, family-oriented activities and learn more about the power of prevention and available technologies to protect their own families from fire.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Western Springs, please contact the Fire Department at 708-246-1182. To learn more about “Have Two Ways Out!” visit NFPA’s web site at www.fpw.org.



“Firefighter Jim” to Retire

When the Fire Department responds to an emergency call, they are often approached by a little boy or girl and asked “Where’s Firefighter Jim?”

As Director of Public Education for the Western Springs Fire Department, Jim Reynolds has become a beloved figure in town to every boy and girl. Jim has taught safety lessons in all of the schools plus attended block parties and hosted birthday parties at the firehouse. He was also instrumental in planning and administering Fire Prevention Week open houses, coordinated and attended Safety Village and ran the “Remember When” program for seniors. In addition to all these administrative duties, Jim is also a firefighter and responds to emergency calls within the Village. He is truly the face of the department to many children and parents in Western Springs.

Now after almost 12 years of service to the Village, “Firefighter Jim” will be retiring in December of this year. You will still see him responding to calls and helping out at some events but come January of 2013 when that little boy or girl asks “Where’s Firefighter Jim?” the answer will be “He’s gone fishing!”

The Village wishes Jim all the best in the future and thanks him for the years of dedicated service to the Village and its residents.



You Belong Here!

Get a Card; Use a Card = Prizes in September!

Get a Card—September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Help us reach our goal of 80% of Western Springs residents having their own library cards during our 80th Anniversary year! Don't have a current card? Register for a new library card or renew an expired card in September, and get a small gift on the spot. You will also be eligible for a prize drawing. Unsure if your card has expired? Just flip it over and check the back for the renewal date. Don't forget your children! They love to have their own cards and belong to something special, and it's a great way to teach them responsibility for the items they check out. Getting your library card is quick and easy. Stop in with two types of ID with your current Western Springs address (driver's license, current utility bill, etc.). There is no cost to residents.

Use a Card—Each time you use your Thomas Ford Library card at our library or attend a program in September, you are eligible to enter our prize drawing to be held the first week in October.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FALL BOOK SALE — OCTOBER 19–21



Fight the Bite

The continued hot and dry weather has created a very low population of mosquitoes; however, that has not stopped the high levels of WNV (West Nile virus) in the area. The Cook County Department of Public Health encourages residents to take basic, easy precautions against the virus and offers these suggestions:

- The best way to prevent West Nile virus is to avoid mosquito bites:
- 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, please visit the web site, www.cookcountypublichealth.org. At this site, West Nile virus numbers are updated Monday through Friday at noon.

Coexisting with Coyotes

Coyote sightings have become more prevalent within the Village and surrounding communities. Although you may be shocked to see a coyote running through the Village, it is not unusual. The Cook County Department of Animal and Rabies Control advises us that the public can co-exist safely with urban coyotes and recommends the following measures to avoid conflicts:

- Do not feed coyotes. Keep garbage can lids closed so as not to attract rodents which are the coyote's main source of food.
- Do not let your pets run loose. Stay outside with your pets because your presence is the major deterrent to coyotes.
- Do not run from a coyote. When you encounter a coyote, shout or throw something in its direction.
- Do not let bird feeders overflow with seed.
- Fencing and lighting your yards can act as repellants.

Coyote sightings alone need not be reported; however, please report aggressive, fearless coyotes to the Police Department at 708-246-8540.

For more information on coyotes, please visit the county's web site at www.urbancoyoteresearch.com.

Newcomers Club

Newcomers 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.

Recreation Department

Fall classes begin the week of September 10 with new programs and special events available. The fall program book is available at www.wsprings.com 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

- Girls Volleyball Clinic begins Saturday, October 6, for 3rd–7th grade levels.
- Youth basketball at McClure Jr. High on Saturday mornings, October 6–November 17 for 1st–3rd and 4th–6th grade levels.
- Sign up for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls basketball leagues is due by November 6. Players and volunteer coaches are needed.
- Blazers and Wildcats traveling basketball team tryouts are September 22 or 29. If interested, please call 708-246-9070.
- Youth dodgeball on Fridays at the Recreation Center from 5:30–7 for Elementary School, 7–8:30 for Jr. High and 8:30–10:30 for high school and older.
- Adult Open Basketball on Thursdays beginning September 27 at 8:15 p.m.

New Programs

- Fly Fishing: Casting & Strategy—October 7–28, 1 p.m.
- Blue Moose Sports Camp (formerly known as TNT) is run by District #101 teachers and is for Kindergarten–1st grade from 3:30–5 p.m. at your child's school.
- Clayapalooza—Mondays, 4:30–6 p.m. at the Recreation Center for ages 8–14 yrs.
- Yoga for Seniors—Fridays, 10–11:15 a.m. at Grand Avenue Community Center Dance Studio. \$10 per class.



Halloween Hoopla

On Monday, October 29, 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.

Back-to-School Safety Tips for Drivers

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

Senior Activities

The **Seniors' Club** schedule for September and October is:

Monday, September 10, 1 p.m., Recreation Center
Singer Kym Frankovelgia will entertain à la Bette Midler, Liza Minnelli and Barbara Streisand.

Thursday, September 20—Day trip to enjoy *42nd Street* at the Theatre at the Center in Munster, Indiana.

Monday, October 8, 1 p.m., Recreation Center
Tea party with Patricia O'Brien, certified tea consultant.

Wednesday, October 10—Day trip to Italian Fest at Villa Brunetti in Franklin Park.

For further information about day trips, please call 708-784-8966.

Events at the **Senior Center** at the Grand Avenue Community Center include:

- Movie Afternoon on September 27 and October 25.
- Monthly Wellness Check on September 10 and October 8.
- David Druckman's Churchill as Elder Statesman on September 20.
- Western Springs History with John Devona on September 30.
- Eat for your Health on October 16.

Questions regarding the Senior Center may be directed to Mic at 708-246-3299.



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 area.

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 Police Department Neighborhood Watch Program. Contact Deputy Chief Brian Budds at 708-246-8540 to find out if there is an active watch group in your area or learn how to start one.

COTERIE CLUB

Coterie Club of Western Springs is a social and philanthropic organization 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 organizations. These groups meet monthly from September to June. New members welcome! For membership information please contact Kathy Doles at 708-246-7893 or kdoles@ameritech.net.

Voting Information for Presidential Election

The 2012 presidential election is Tuesday, November 6. Is your voter registration up-to-date? Did you know you can now vote by mail? The Cook County Clerk’s web site at www.cookcountyclerk.com can help you with all your voting questions. Important dates and information to be aware of are:

- Voter registration closes Tuesday, October 9. If you have moved or changed your name, you must re-register. Registration is available at the Village Hall or you may download the form at the Clerk’s web site.
- Regular registration ends October 9 but there is a “grace period” from October 10 to November 3 when you can register and vote IN PERSON at the downtown County Clerk’s office. Check the Clerk’s web site for additional locations.
- Vote early! You do not need a reason to vote early and you can do it from October 22 to November 3 at various locations. Bring photo ID (current driver’s license, state-issued ID card, university/college ID or another government-issued ID with a photograph). Locations for early voting are available at the Clerk’s web site.
- Vote by mail—For the first time in a presidential election, Illinois voters can vote by mail, with no excuse needed. The mail-in application is available at the Clerk’s web site and you can expect to receive your ballot one week after mailing in your application. You will also be able to track the status of your ballot at the web site. November 1 is the last day to request a mail ballot, including military and overseas voters.
- Before you vote, visit the Clerk’s web site to verify your polling place, confirm your registration and view your virtual ballot.

WESTERN SPRINGS

medical
reserve
corps



FLU VACCINES

By Greg Ozark, MD, Co-medical Director for MRC

The fall season brings out the colors in the leaves as well as the flu vaccines. It appears that the 2012-2013 recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are not changing from last year, so here is your “Flu Vaccine 101” course:

Who should get the flu vaccine? Everyone who is at least 6 months of age should get a flu vaccine this season. It’s especially important for those considered at high risk for complications of influenza infection. These include people who have certain medical conditions (including asthma, diabetes, and chronic lung disease), pregnant women, people older than 65 years, and people who live with or care for others who are high risk of developing serious complications.

When should I get vaccinated? The CDC recommends that people get vaccinated against influenza as soon as 2012-2013 flu season vaccine becomes available in their community. Influenza season can begin as early as October. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop to provide protection against the flu.

What strains of flu are covered by the flu vaccine? The strains included in flu vaccines include influenza B viruses, influenza A (H1N1) viruses, and influenza A (H3N2) viruses.

Why do I need a flu vaccine every year? A flu vaccine is needed every year because flu viruses are constantly changing. The flu vaccine is formulated each year to keep up with the flu viruses as they change. Also, the body’s immunity to influenza viruses declines over time. Getting vaccinated each year provides the best protection against influenza throughout flu season.

For more information, please consult your physician or see the CDC website at: www.cdc.gov.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Pinnacle Financial Group celebrates their move from 55th and Wolf with a recent ribbon cutting ceremony at their new address, 823 Burlington Avenue. Pinnacle has been serving Western Springs residents and businesses for 16 years, offering independent financial planning, investment management services, retirement, estate, insurance and tax planning.

www.mypinnaclefinancial.com
708-246-6262



L-R: Gary Young, Karen O'Donnell, Larry Uitermarkt, Jeanne Nortier, Jim Stork, Lisa Tang, Trustee Suzy Glowiak, President Bill Rodeghier and Trustee Deb Lyons

Water Bill Payment Made Easy

The Village would like to assist you in simplifying your busy life. Below is the direct payment application for water bills. If you are interested in utilizing this convenient service, please complete the form below and send it, along with an unsigned and voided check to the Village of Western Springs, 740 Hillgrove, Western Springs, IL 60558, Attn: Water Department.



Direct Payment Application

I (we) authorize Village of Western Springs, hereafter called "Village", to initiate debit entries to my (our) account indicated below. I (we) authorize the financial institution named below, hereafter called "Institution", to credit the amount of such entries to my (our) account to correct any errors, and the Institution to deposit any such corrections to my (our) account. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until I (we) revoke the agreement as hereafter provided. Any revocation is effective only after Village has received written notice from me (us) to terminate this agreement in such manner to afford a reasonable opportunity to act upon the notice. I (we) have the right to stop payment of a debit entry by notification to Institution in such time and manner to afford a reasonable opportunity to act prior to charging the account. A copy of this authorization will be provided at your request.

Please allow 30 days from date of receipt of this form for activation. If you have any questions, please contact the Water Department at 708-246-1800, Ext. 126.

Signature

Bank Account #

Name

Bank Name

Address

Bank Address

City, State, Zip

Bank Phone #

Phone #

Payment Amount: **Amount of Bill**
 Starting Date: **Village Will Notify You**

TOWER TOPICS
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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*

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POSTAL CUSTOMER
WESTERN SPRINGS, IL
60558

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 23 & 24. The sale opens with a 20% mark-up from 6–8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23, and continues from 10–Noon on Wednesday, October 24. The sale concludes with a half-price bag sale from 6–8 p.m. on Wednesday evening, October 24. Shop and save on gently-used clothing, books, toys, housewares, sporting equipment and more. Local checks will be accepted. Come rain or shine. Stroller parking available. All proceeds will be donated to local, national and international charities. Seeing is believing! This is a sale you won't want to miss.

Garden Club

The Western Springs Garden Club meets monthly between the months of September and May. Meetings are on Mondays at the First Congregational Church, 1106 Chestnut, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Programs for September and October include:

September 17—*“Fall Garden Care for Ensuring Spring Success.”*
October 15—*“Why Every Gardner Should Use Yogurt, Vinegar, Molasses & Ammonia.”*

For membership information, please contact Cindy Tyley, 708-579-0589, or visit www.westernspringsgardenclub.org.



Happy Halloween

Wednesday, October 31, is the official Halloween “Trick or Treat” day in Western Springs. Suggested “Trick or Treat” hours are 3 to 8 p.m.