

# tower Topics

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

## ***Outdoor Watering Restrictions No Watering between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.***

Residents are reminded that the use of outdoor water is restricted until September 30. While under rehabilitation, the water plant has limited output capabilities and the use of outdoor water must be restricted in order to maintain an adequate supply of potable drinking water and adequate reserves for fire protection. The restrictions are as follows:

- No water from the public water supply system can be used outdoors between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on any day of the week for sprinkling and irrigation of lawns and gardens, car washing or other non-potable uses.
- Residents are permitted to use outdoor water, based on an even/odd system, before 10 a.m. and after 5 p.m. The last digit of an address determines the day. If an address ends in an even number, you can water on even calendar days; if the address ends in an odd number, you can water on odd calendar days. Zero is considered an even number.
- A watering container or hose may be used at any time to water gardens, trees or shrubs if the watering device is used by hand and is not unattended.

To report violations, please contact the police nonemergency number at 708-246-8540. Any questions regarding the water restrictions may be directed to the Department of Municipal Services, 708-246-1800, Ext. 200.

## ***Why Is My Water Cloudy?***

Cloudy water conditions in the Village have increased over the last few months. Some residents have it occurring on occasion while others have not experienced cloudy water at all. While the Village cannot pinpoint a specific cause to the cloudy water, there are several factors leading up to the water issues that some residents are experiencing:

- **Use of Well #1.** The extremely hot and dry weather has created a high demand on the water distribution system. Even with watering restrictions in place, the Village has had to increase the use of well #1 to keep up with the demand of the water distribution system. Well #1 is a shallow well that has naturally harder water with higher levels of mineralization.
- **Water Main Breaks.** The Village is experiencing higher than normal levels of water main breaks with 2–3 per week compared to our average of 2–3 per month this time of year. A few have been confirmed to be related to the water plant reconstruction, but the majority are caused by the weather or other factors. Neighboring communities are also experiencing higher than normal water main breaks. When a water main breaks, it stirs up sediment in the pipes and is a likely cause for most of the cloudy water issues. Updated information about water main breaks is always posted to the Village web site at [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com).

*(Continued to Page 3)*

## Municipal Roundup

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

### Appointments

- Steve Baldwin and Peter Kosanovich were reappointed to the Transportation and Safety Commission.
- Daniel T. Madigan was appointed the Village Prosecutor.
- A contract with J&J Newell Concrete Contractors, Inc. for the 2012 Sidewalk Replacement Program. Contract price is \$38,130.

### Approved

- A raffle license to Blue Kids Foundation for an event on June 2 at The Corral.
- Two Special Events Class I liquor licenses: One to St. John of the Cross for an event on May 18 and one to the Theatre of Western Springs for the Taste of the Arts Event on July 21.
- A Class J liquor license and a temporary use permit to Mécénat for the Springfest Wine and Music Festival on May 18 and a Class L license to Mécénat to operate a wine/beer tasting and packaged sales booth at the French Market.
- A contract with Davey Tree Expert Company for the treatment of the emerald ash borer in parkway trees. Contract may not exceed \$33,000 for 2012.
- A contract with Safe Step for the 2012 Sidewalk Shaving Program. Contract amount is \$20,000.
- A resolution expressing support for the submission of a 2012 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program application for the extension of a bicycle path along Wolf Road north of Ogden Avenue, connecting to the Bemis Woods bicycle path.
- A three-year contract with Civic Plus for the redesign of the Village's web site. The cost will be \$9,988 for each of the first three years and \$4,650 for the fourth year and beyond.
- The installation of stop signs on Rose Avenue at Maple Street.

### Meeting Schedule Modified

The Village Board will only meet once in July. The combined workshop and regular meeting will be on Monday, July 16, at 7 p.m.

## Hard Water Frustrations

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Due to the heat and the dry weather, the Village has increasingly needed to bring Well #1 into production to meet the water distribution system demand and maintain reserves for fire protection. Well #1 is a shallow well and is contributing to the increased hardness of the water. The Village recognizes the concerns and frustrations in dealing with the effects of hard water during the rehabilitation of the water plant. Many residents have asked the Village for advice about what they can do to make the hard water more acceptable. While the effects of the hard water during the rehabilitation should not have a substantial impact on your plumbing or appliances, there are some things you can do to make it more tolerable.

**Hot Water Heater.** Flushing sediment from the tank will help. This will remove loose debris from the bottom and will keep the hot water tank running more efficiently.

**Dishwasher.** If you are noticing "spotting" or "cloudiness" on your dishes, there are various dishwashing additives available. Here are some of the products that residents have found to be successful:

- LEMI SHINE—Use it along with your dishwashing detergent.
- FINISH ALL IN 1 GEL PAC along with a ½ package of unsweetened Kool-Aid lemonade.
- CITRIC ACID—Use it along with your dishwashing detergent. Citric acid also works well to clean the hard water spots from stainless steel sinks and the shower/tub.

**Small Appliances** (coffee maker, iron, dehumidifier). For items that do not require a lot of water, use bottled water.

**Water Softening System.** This is the most effective solution and available as a rental. Contact a local provider for details on a system that will work best for your home.

Any questions regarding the water plant rehabilitation project may be directed to Ken Hayes at [khayes@wsprings.com](mailto:khayes@wsprings.com) or 708-246-1800, Ext. 215.



Pinnacle Financial Group  
823 Burlington • 708-246-6262  
www.mypinnaclefinancial.com

The partners at Pinnacle Financial Group are excited to announce the company’s move from their longtime location at 55th and Wolf Road to 823 Burlington. While new to downtown Western Springs, 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, as well as divorce counseling and mediation services.

Each of Pinnacle’s partners, Jim Stork, Larry Uitermarkt and Lisa Bayer Tang, have over 25 years of industry experience and have been designated as a Certified Financial Planner and/or Chartered Financial Analyst. Jim and Larry are both current Western Springs residents, and Lisa Bayer Tang was a resident for 18 years until she graduated from LTHS in 1981. Executive Assistants Jeanne Nortier and Karen O’Donnell are also area residents. Please stop by any time to say hello, introduce yourself, and enjoy Pinnacle’s Fine Art gallery.



### MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

**Friday, August 3**  
**Dusk at Spring Rock Park**  
**Hosted by the Park District**

*(Cloudy Water - Continued from Page 1)*

- **Road Construction.** The road construction on Woodland Avenue includes the installation of a new water main. The installation requires certain valves and hydrants along that line to be opened and closed for testing. This is likely the cause for cloudy water reports in the Old Town area. The water main work is expected to be completed in July.

In almost all of the reports that the Village receives, cloudy water has cleared up within a few hours of the first reports. If the water has discoloration, this is the result of sediment, which is sand, calcium and some iron. Residents are advised to run the lowest coldwater fixture in their home until the water runs clear to clean out sediment. The water is safe to drink. The Village has been out to homes to test the water and in all cases the water has been confirmed safe to drink. If you have persistent cloudy water or concerns, please contact the Water Plant at 708-246-1800, Ext. 215.



### SUMMERTIME IS BY FAR MY FAVORITE SEASON

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

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), accidents are the leading cause of death in persons aged 1–44 and can be prevented. Here are some summer-related safety reminders:

**Wear a Bike Helmet.** Bike helmets should be worn by all persons riding a bicycle. This includes children in bike seats or riding carriages. Make sure all helmets are Consumer Product Safety Commission certified. Children and young adults are more likely to wear helmets if they are worn by their parents. Since most of us did not grow up wearing a bike helmet, this is not an easy transition. The helmet not only protects you from falls; it also protects you from a distracted driver. All it takes is one traumatic brain injury to negate all of that hard work in school and career.

**Use Mosquito Repellent.** The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and CDC recommend children older than 2 months of age to use 10% to 30% DEET. 10% DEET concentration provides protection for about 2 hours and 30% protects for about 5 hours. Choose the lowest concentration that will provide the required length of coverage. The concentration of DEET varies significantly from product to product so read the label of any product you purchase. Remember to wash off products upon returning inside.

**Respect Your Lawnmower!** Each year emergency rooms see countless injuries from lawnmowers ranging from burns due to gasoline fires on dirty, dried-grass littered mowers to amputations from trying to unclog chutes of running mowers. Be especially careful running a mower over mulch, branches, or stones as these typically become dangerous projectiles.

**Learn to Swim.** You are never too old to learn. The CDC and AAP recommend all children learn to swim. From 2005–2009, there were an average of 3,533 fatal unintentional drownings (non-boating related) annually in the United States—about ten deaths per day.

For more information on summer safety, please visit the web sites for the Centers for Disease Control ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) or the American Academy of Pediatrics ([www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)).



## ***New Firefighters Sworn In***

The Western Springs Department of Fire and EMS began a recruitment process in the fall of 2011 to recruit residents to become firefighters. The process began with an orientation attended by over 50 interested persons and, after multiple interviews, the number was reduced to 18 candidates. These 18 candidates continued on to the firefighter academy.

The 5 Town Academy Firefighter II class began in January 2012 and the recruits attended class every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday for 3½ months. The

course included classroom instruction and practical training. The class culminated with a live burn at the LaGrange Fire Department training facility and a state written exam. The new firefighters were sworn in at the June 25th Village Board meeting and are now on active duty. The Village welcomes Paul Barry, Brian Byrne, Robert Cattin, Mark Crist, Ryan Dudek, Kevin Gay, Richard Griffith, Karl Hammond, Patrick Hynes, Chris Langstaff, John Larson, Matt McMillin, McHale Nelson, Robert Papineau, Geoff Pender, Mia Scavuzzo, James Walsh and Matt Wieringa to the Department of Fire and EMS!

## ***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...

- Late summer tennis and camps (July 23-August 11)
- Youth soccer training camp (July 16-20)
- Volleyball camp (July 23-27)
- Young Rembrandt Camps (August 7-9)
- LaCrosse camp (July 10-26)
- Learn to bowl (July 9-13)
- Dodgeball (Fridays through August 26)
- Make Your Own Back Pack (August 16)

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.

Fall brochure will be mailed out the week of August 9 and will be posted to [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com) the week before. Registration for fall programs will be due August 23.

### ***125th Anniversary Legacy Gift Campaign***

The Legacy Committee wishes to thank the following individuals who have made donations since the beginning of April 2012. If you forgot to contribute, please do not hesitate to send a donation to the Quasquicentennial Legacy Fund at Village Hall, 740 Hillgrove Avenue, Western Springs, IL 60558.

#### **TOWER (\$1,000)**

Amrit Mittal, New York Life Group

#### **GRAND AVENUE (\$500)**

Jack Lynch

#### **FOUNDER (\$250)**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Whitton

#### **PIONEER (\$100)**

The Bober Family  
 Lou and Rita Bourjaily  
 Francis and Julie Burns  
 Carol and Kurt Heerwagen  
 Paul and Beverly Pearce  
 The Roman Family  
 Anne and Peter Shannon, Jr.



#### **LEGACY (\$50)**

Virginia and John Gannon  
 The Haeske Family  
 Margaret Hilgendorf  
 The Locke Family  
 Diana and Michael Marshall  
 Marietta Moore  
 Lynn and Harry Philips  
 Robert Piccirillo  
 Edward and Joanne Sefara  
 Craig and Sue Welbourne

#### **BENEFACTOR (<\$50)**

Alex and Amy Flueck  
 Marlene Groeneveld (Mrs. R.)

## Sustainability-How Does it Affect Western Springs?

By Richard Fisher, Infrastructure Commission Member

The Infrastructure Commission will be producing a series of articles on Storm Water Management. This is the first of three articles and will discuss sustainability as it relates to storm water runoff and infrastructure in Western Springs.

Sustainability is a word that has become more prominent over the last five years because of rapid population and economic growth and consumption of our natural resources. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

Sustainability is based on a simple principle: everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. Sustainability creates and maintains the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations. Sustainability is important in making sure that we have and will continue to have, the water, materials, and resources to protect human health and our environment.

The first question to answer is what sources of storm water runoff are in the Village. You may be thinking storm water comes from the sky. For this discussion, let us skip that fact and look at what happens after the water falls from the sky. It lands on the earth, and our earth is covered with two basic kinds of surfaces, impervious and pervious. Impervious surfaces include paved areas such as roads, driveways, roofs, patios and walks. Pervious areas include areas with grass, trees and bushes.

Impervious areas just carry storm water downhill. They also increase the amount of storm water runoff and degrade water quality by adding pollutants like oils, metals, sediment and salts.

Pervious areas can also carry storm water downhill; however, unlike impervious surfaces, storm water can be absorbed, recharging groundwater. Storm water can be slowed enough on pervious surfaces that evaporation occurs. Transpiration, the process by which water that is absorbed by plants, usually through the roots, is evaporated into the atmosphere from the plant surface, such as leaf pores, occurs in pervious areas.

Another source of water runoff is sump pump discharges. Village ordinance requires that all sump pumps discharge

to the surface. Sump pumps are not to be connected directly to the sewer. The reason for this is to promote infiltration and to not take up the limited capacity of our sewer infrastructure with sump pump discharges.

Western Springs is a mature, developed community. The storm water/sewer infrastructure was designed and constructed a long time ago and the Village was a different place then. We cannot increase the load the infrastructure must carry and expect it to perform as it has in the past. How the infrastructure performs does impact the value of the Village as a whole. When flooding occurs, because the storm water/sewer infrastructure is overwhelmed, our value is impacted.

Surrounding municipalities have/are already taking formal steps to address the issue of limited storm water/sewer infrastructure capacity. LaGrange requires underground dispersion systems be constructed for new homes and additions. These systems can cost tens of thousands of dollars. Clarendon Hills and Hinsdale require storm water runoff to be evaluated for pre- and post-construction conditions of new homes. Downers Grove is in the process of establishing a "Stormwater Utility" that will require all property owners to pay a fee based on the property's impervious area starting in 2013. The "Stormwater Utility" is being implemented to:

- Create a system in which properties pay for their portion of the storm water system's expenses, since all properties benefit from the system.
- Increase awareness about the Village's storm water management system.
- Encourage property owners to reduce the amount of storm water runoff from their property.
- Provide a predictable and sustainable funding source to properly maintain the storm water system.

Western Springs is faced with these same challenges. How we address the sustainable needs of our storm water infrastructure will impact our land values as a whole.

Future articles from the Infrastructure Commission will be: "Where does our storm water go and how does it get there?" and "What can we do to improve the sustainability of our storm water infrastructure?"

## Summer Reading 2012

Thomas Ford  
Memorial Library



For all ages! Read for prizes such as eReaders, gift cards, museum passes and more! Adults will enjoy antique appraisals with Rex Newell, etch a glass vase and listen to local authors Earl Gorman and Paul Virant discuss their newly published books. Teens will like

hair chalking, making survival food. creating meme shirts and night of the living text message. Children and families will have family storytimes, a professional puppet show, sandcastles, Lego challenge, book clubs, Camp Thommy Ford, Little Miss Ann from Old Town and the mascot of the Chicago Bears “Staley Da Bear.”

All programs are FREE but registration is limited and required so please stop by the Library, surf to [www.fordlibrary.org](http://www.fordlibrary.org) or call 708-246-0520 for more details. Register now!



## Summer Concerts

July 11  
Grand Avenue Community Center  
7 p.m.  
The Grand Avenue Big Band

July 18  
Ridgewood Park  
6:30 p.m.  
West Suburban Community Band



## Fireworks Safety

The Department of Law Enforcement Services would like to ensure a safe summer by encouraging residents 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.

## 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.

## Ogden/Woodland Pedestrian Crossing

The existing pedestrian crosswalk across Ogden Avenue at Woodland Avenue has been improved to provide a safer crossing for pedestrians and bicylists to Bemis Woods. The updates to the crosswalk include new signage and the installation of flashing yellow lights. The lights are activated by pedestrians/bicylists and will alert traffic on Ogden Avenue that someone is in the crosswalk and to come to a complete stop.

## Friendly Reminders

### 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.

All yard waste materials must be placed at the curb in a biodegradable bag with a sticker. Yard waste sealed with plastic or duct tape will not be collected. Items cannot be placed at the curb any earlier than 6 p.m. the night before the pickup and no later than 7 a.m. the day of the pickup.

Yard waste that is too bulky to be placed in a bag, such as branches or brush, must be securely tied (with biodegradable twine) 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### Call Before You Dig

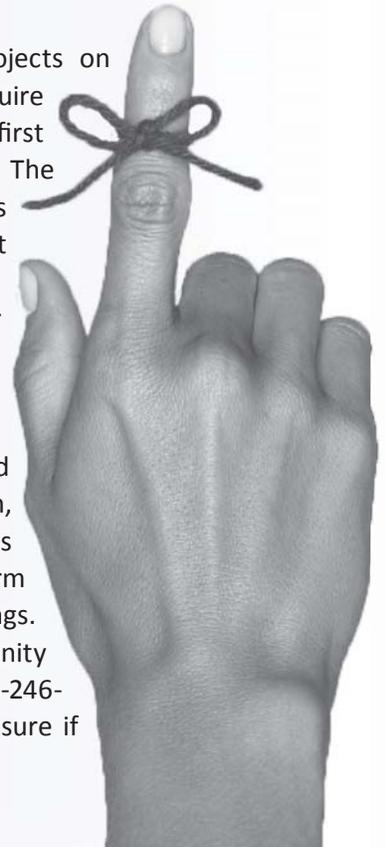
All projects outdoors, including the smallest task, require a call to JULIE. Just dial 811. One call does it all to protect you from digging where utilities are buried—it's simple, it's safe and it's the law.

### 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.

### 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 assure 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.



**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

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*Visit the Village at  
www.wsprings.com*

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**POSTAL CUSTOMER**  
**WESTERN SPRINGS, IL**  
**60558**



In 1910, the Village Club of Western Springs was founded and is one of the few remaining clubs to survive the dark days of the Great Depression. Celebrating their 102nd year, the Village Club of Western Springs continues to thrive according to the same, simple theme:

*Building community, meeting new people and bringing family and friends together through social interaction.*

The Club has accomplished this through supporting and partnering with local businesses and residents of Western Springs and runs family and adult events which are 100% run by dedicated volunteers. Members have the opportunity to rent the space for private events. All funds received go right back into the club. If you have not heard of the Club or visited in awhile, please take a moment to visit the new web site at <http://thevillageclub.com>. You will find a number of changes as the Club continues to grow and improve. In the spirit of friendship and relaxation, the Club invites you to become a part of this 102 year old tradition. Let the fun prevail!

**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.

**Western Springs Fill the Boot Drive**



On August 24 and 25, the Fire Department will be at local businesses and the Wolf Road railroad crossing accepting donations for MDA. All donations stay in the area to help out those who are struggling with this debilitating disease.