

Where history and progress meet.



# WINDOW

## TO WEST CHICAGO

Winter 2017

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Jan 2**  
City Hall Closed
- Jan 3 – 13**  
Christmas Tree Collection
- Ends Jan 20**  
Holiday Light Recycling
- Jan 21**  
Police Presentation  
(see page 2)
- Jan 28**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- Feb 25**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- March 12**  
Daylight Saving Begins
- March 25**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- March 25**  
Christmas Lights  
Removal Deadline

## ReThink Your Drink this New Year

**T**he start of the New Year is an excellent time to rethink the choices we make on a daily basis - especially those decisions that have far-reaching health impacts. Healthy West Chicago Director Andi Cooper wants you to know that one of those things to “re-think” is what we drink. The following is her New Year’s message to the community.

Healthy West Chicago strives to make the healthy choice the easy choice. We know for the first time in 200 years, children in America may have shorter life expectancies than their parents. Medical research shows that people who drink too many sugary beverages are likely to suffer from Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and cancer and are at greater risk for being overweight or obese. Sugary drinks are a leading cause of obesity.

These sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) increase the health risks mentioned above. Sadly, the City of West Chicago is no exception to this heart-breaking trend. One of every four kindergarteners in DuPage County starts school already overweight or obese. Plus, West Chicagoans buy more soda than 60-80% of communities all around the country.

The people of West Chicago deserve better. This New Year, Healthy West Chicago is partnering with local organizations to educate our community how to make healthy beverage choices, and to make sure that healthy drink options are available.

To live a long healthy life, the American Heart Association recommends we consume only 6-8 teaspoons of sugar daily. But did you know that an average 12-ounce juice or soda contains around 8 to 10 teaspoons of sugar?

### You can follow these tips to decrease SSBs that you and your family drink:

- Treat sugary beverages like dessert. You wouldn’t eat dessert for every meal.
- Drink more water. Drinking tap water can reduce cavities and dentist bills.
- Try drinking fruit-infused water.
- Eat the whole fruit instead of drinking the juice.
- Babies less than a year old shouldn’t have juice unless recommended by a physician.



Vendor Applications  
now available.

[www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org)



**West Chicago City Hall**  
475 Main Street  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
[www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org)

ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 60  
West Chicago, IL  
60185

FROM THE

# Mayor



Last month, I had the great pleasure of hosting a “breakfast for champions” - representatives of 2016’s Brilliance in Business Awards winners. Among those esteemed guests were: **Dave Laboda and Joe Shad** of Wise Plastics Technologies; **Kent Jean, Michael McCord and Brian Fujii** of Evo Exhibits; **Gloria Perez and Edward Perez** of Gloria’s Jewelry; **Dr. Hiren Patel and Mukesh Pipaliya** of Salud Dental; and **Juan Chavez and Simon Richards** of Jel Sert.

I’d like to share some of the reasons these businesses were chosen by a panel of their peers and economic development professionals this year:

**Wise Plastics Technologies for Outstanding Growth:** The addition of Plant 2 at 1601 Hawthorne Lane not only brought the construction of an innovative production facility and double-digit revenue growth for the company, it also brought the creation of nearly 100 jobs to West Chicago. The City recognizes this as a great milestone to an overall trajectory of growth, and wishes Wise Plastics Technologies continued success.

**Gloria’s Jewelry for Outstanding Small Business:** This award-winning business at 178 West Washington Street is a quintessential example of how a small, family-owned business can build a loyal customer base through quality products and exceptional service. Its success has also contributed to the revitalization of downtown West Chicago.

**Evo Exhibits for Outstanding Growth:** Over the past seven years, this business has exemplified remarkable growth in the niche area of consultative services for trade show programs and exhibit design. Evo Exhibits, at 399 Wegner Drive, has progressively expanded internal operations to accommodate for client needs and increased its professional workforce, while consistently being named one of Inc. Magazine’s fastest-growing firms.

**Salud Dental for Outstanding Downtown Entrepreneurship:** We commend Salud Dental, located at 334 South Neltnor Boulevard, for its excellent service and for attracting over 500 patients since opening its doors earlier this year. The investment this business has made in our community contributes to the overall quality of life for residents, visitors and other local businesses.

**Jel Sert for Legacy Award:** Celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Jel Sert is a family-owned business in its third generation of ownership and has consistently met its corporate goals while having a positive impact on our community. For the last 45 years, the company has been located at 310 Spencer Street. Jel Sert is the City’s largest employer. A large percentage of its employees reside in West Chicago.

The City congratulates all 2016 Brilliance in Business Award winners, and recognizes the critical importance a vibrant business community plays in the quality of life for all of us. When possible, please support our local businesses so they may continue to grow and thrive.

Respectfully,  
**Ruben Pineda, Mayor**

## ✓ TAKENOTE

### Understanding Police Use of Force

Community members are encouraged to attend a **presentation by staff of the West Chicago Police Department** on *Understanding Police Use of Force* on Saturday, January 21, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at West Chicago City Hall, located at 475 Main Street.

Join Police Chief Michael Uplegger and members of the West Chicago Police Department for this timely and important presentation — and have your questions answered.

Learn about:

- What is force?
- What is deadly force?
- How much force can the police use?
- What are the rules for using use of force? Who makes them?
- Who makes sure the rules are being followed?
- What tools/equipment does the West Chicago Police Department use?

### Winterize Your Home

Take time to winterize your home to avoid potential household headaches like frozen pipes. Protect any exposed pipes and meters from freezing by insulating them and keeping sufficient heat around them, especially in crawl spaces, garages and under sinks. Remember, frozen meters mean being without water, as well as incurred fees for replacement. When temperatures plunge, let water drip from faucets that are served by exposed pipes and, if cabinet child-proofing is not an issue, leave sink cabinet doors open so room air can help warm pipes. Set thermostats to a temperature no lower than 55 degrees Fahrenheit when travel takes you away from home. To the extent possible, weatherproof your home by adding weather-stripping, insulation, insulated doors, and storm windows or thermal-pane windows.

### Rental License Applications

Did you know an annual license is required for residential rental units? Additionally, per City ordinance, residential rental properties are required to be inspected on an annual basis to help ensure the health, welfare and safety of the City’s residents. You may find applications for new and renewal rental units at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org) under Forms. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact staff in the Community Development Department at (630) 293-2200 x141.

# Art & Culture

“We have a river, not a river in the natural sense of water, but a river of steel wheels, of people and freight. A river that flows in both directions, moving things that build our country, feed our people and feed our curiosity for faraway places. It is our heritage, our identity, something to be celebrated.”

—Buddy Plumlee



## Call for Art

Inspiration for the theme of the 2017 Community Banner Art Project, sponsored by the West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission, should be abundant for resident and area artists who are familiar with West Chicago's history and natural beauty. **Rails & Trails** is the name of the spring/summer outdoor exhibit which will hang along Main Street within sight of actual rail lines and bicycle trails. Full details and an online submission form are at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org), under Forms.



## Public Art Dedication

A sizeable crowd came out to witness and celebrate the unveiling and dedication of a new piece of public art at Sesquicentennial Park in October. *Signa Rotae* (Latin for Wheel Signs), the name for the historic train wheel which sits atop a mosaic mural base created by local artist Buddy Plumlee, is a vibrant homage to West Chicago's industrial past, as well as its affinity for the arts. Read all about it from concept to finished work of art in the new, expanded Arts section on the City's website, [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org).

## Creative Registries

The Cultural Arts Commission would like to develop an **Artist Registry** to track the number of artists living in West Chicago in order to identify the diverse creative talent pool residing in the community, share Calls for Art, solicit input on cultural initiatives and communicate about community projects related to the arts. The information gathered is intended for use only by the City of West Chicago and the West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission and will not be shared. Also, the Commission is taking stock of existing public art in the community through a **Public Art Inventory** process and needs your help. If you know of a piece of art in one of our public spaces, please let us know by completing a brief form on City's website that identifies its location. The Commission wishes to use the information to better promote our art assets, as well as begin development of a Public Art Master Plan for strategic placement of future installations. Forms for the Artist Registry and Public Art Inventory may be found at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org) under Forms.

**Gallery 200**, now temporarily located at 103 W. Washington Street, will exhibit **Art is the Heart of the City** in recognition of National Youth Art Month. The exhibit will feature the work of students of seven West Chicago elementary schools. The **Opening Reception**, to which the community is invited, will be held on **Friday, March 3, 2017 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** This will be a month long exhibit and

visitors may stop in during regular Gallery 200 open hours, Thursdays and Fridays, 12:00 - 8:00 p.m. or Saturdays and Sundays, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. to enjoy *Art is the Heart of the City*, as well as view and purchase other artwork exhibited by member artists.

## Winter Hours at Museum

Please keep the City Museum's seasonal hours of operation in mind when planning a visit.

### December – February:

Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Saturdays closed

### March – November:

Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Visit [www.wegohistory.com](http://www.wegohistory.com) for the Museum's free eBook and more.



**Turner School 2<sup>nd</sup> graders visited downtown West Chicago** on a Cultural Walking Tour, organized by the West Chicago City Museum. They visited City Hall, City Museum, the Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce, and West Chicago Public Library. By participating in a variety of activities, students learned about the government, history, and the economy of West Chicago, and became familiar with all the Library has to offer to them and their families. The kids really enjoyed this experience.

## GALLERY 200

103 W. Washington Street • (630) 293-9550 • [www.gallery200.org](http://www.gallery200.org)

## WEST CHICAGO CITY MUSEUM

132 Main Street • (630) 231-3376 • [www.westchicago.org/museum](http://www.westchicago.org/museum)

# THINGS TO DO Around Town

## JANUARY

**15 Free Indoor Walk**  
West Chicago High School Fieldhouse  
326 Joliet Street, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**27 Closing Reception for Pamela Hamilton**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 9:00 P.M.



**Late Night at the Museum**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Family Art Night**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.



## FEBRUARY

**3 Opening Reception for Andy!**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**5 Free Indoor Walk**  
West Chicago High School Fieldhouse  
326 Joliet Street, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**17,18 Gallery Theater Production**  
*Tuesdays With Morrie*  
7:30 p.m. - Location TBA  
www.gallerytheaterstudio.org

**19,26 Gallery Theater Production**  
*Tuesdays With Morrie*  
3:00 p.m. - Location TBA  
www.gallerytheaterstudio.org

**24,25 Gallery Theater Production**  
*Tuesdays With Morrie*  
7:30 p.m. - Location TBA  
www.gallerytheaterstudio.org

**24 Late Night at the Museum**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Family Art Night**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

## MARCH



**3 Art is the Heart of the City Opens**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**5 Free Indoor Walk**  
West Chicago High School Fieldhouse  
326 Joliet Street, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**16 Historiography Book Group**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**28 City Museum at the Library**  
West Chicago Public Library  
3:00 – 4:00 P.M.

**31 Late Night at the Museum**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Family Art Night**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The West Chicago City Museum offers a **FREE mobile walking tour** you can take at any time using your smart phone. Visit 15 historic sites in downtown, learn the history of each spot, and see historic photos. The tour starts at the City Museum and covers about 1.4 miles along Main, Fremont and Washington Streets and Turner Court. Go to: <http://westchicago.toursphere.com>.

## NUMBERS TO KNOW

### CITY COUNCIL

#### Ward 1



Lori Chassee  
(630) 231-8709



James Beifuss  
(630) 231-0584

#### Ward 2



Jayme Sheahan  
(630) 330-7972



Currently Vacant

#### Ward 3



Laura Grodoski  
(312) 925-9241



Alton Hallett  
(630) 254-7112

City Hall (630) 293-2200

Fire Administration (630) 231-2123

Police Administration (630) 293-2222

Police and Fire Emergency 911

Ruben Pineda, Mayor

Nancy Smith, City Clerk

Michael Guttman, City Administrator

#### Ward 4



Sandy Dimas  
(630) 293-5170



Melissa Ferguson  
(630) 621-0128

#### Ward 5



Kurt Meissner  
(630) 235-4725



John C. Smith, Jr.  
(630) 293-3802

#### Ward 6



Rebecca Stout  
(630) 293-7335



George Garcia  
(630) 842-1645

#### Ward 7



John Banas  
(630) 762-9762



Noreen Ligino-Kubinski  
(630) 762-9929