



# Friends Newsletter

FRIENDS OF THE  
WEST CHICAGO CITY MUSEUM

**DATES TO  
REMEMBER**

- November 2 Late Night at the City Museum
- November 10 Carry Nation Speakeasy Event
- November 15 Historiography
- December 1 Frosty Fest
- December 7 Late Night at the City Museum Holiday Open House

## CARRY NATION-THE FAMOUS AND ORIGINAL BARROOM SMASHER



Join the Friends of the West Chicago City Museum on **Saturday, November 10th at 6pm** for an event that will transport you back to the time of prohibition. During the engaging event, Ellie Carlson will portray Carry Nation, the famous and original barroom smasher. Once referred to as the Wicked Witch of the West, Carry was a loving, caring mother and grandmother who cared deeply about the evils of intoxication and tobacco and publically proclaimed her opposition to those evils. She was lauded by reformers, damned by politicians and often courted by saloon owners who knew a “smashing” by Carry could bring acclaim to their establishment.

Attendees are invited to start at the City Museum and “protest” to a secret location (within walking distance) where

Carry will enact one of her famous smashings! Food will be served and a cash bar will be available.

Tickets for the event are \$20 a person, or \$35 for a couple, and can be purchased at the City Museum prior to the event. Tickets can also be reserved by contacting the museum at [wegohistory@gmail.com](mailto:wegohistory@gmail.com) or (630) 231-3376. Please contact the museum with any questions. All proceeds benefit the work of the City Museum.



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## FROSTY FEST

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Join the City Museum for another great **Frosty Fest on Saturday, December 1st from 4-7pm**. The City Museum will again be just one location offering a variety of holiday festivities that evening in downtown West Chicago. Stop in to make an historic craft while enjoying the start to the beloved season! While you are here, check out our newly revamped second floor, including our updated local history exhibit and research area. *Photograph includes carolers from the Methodist Church.*

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE & ANNUAL MEETING

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As part of First Fridays in West Chicago, the City Museum will host a Candlelight Christmas during our December Late Night at the City Museum on Friday, December 7th from 6-8pm. Friends members and the public are invited to enjoy historic traditions by candlelight as well as refreshments. A special silhouette artist will also be on hand producing silhouettes for guests who have made a reservation, to do so contact the Museum at [wegohistory@gmail.com](mailto:wegohistory@gmail.com) or (630) 231-3376.

The Friends of the West Chicago City Museum will hold its annual meeting at the end of the open house at 8pm. All members are invited to attend and any person or persons interested in joining the Friends of the Museum Board of Directors are invited to inquire for more information. This is a great opportunity to help support our city's history.

## TURNER TOWN HALLS

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For the past two years, the City Museum has been hosting Turner Town Halls at the Museum and throughout the community. These community sharing events start with a 15 minute history presentation and then invite attendees to share their own experiences in West Chicago or with the topic. Help the Museum pick topics for 2019 by contacting us at [wegohistory@gmail.com](mailto:wegohistory@gmail.com) or (630) 231-3376. Past topics have included trains, Campbell Soup Mushroom Farm, Indian Knoll School, Reed Kepler Park and General Mills. Let us know if there is something you'd like to learn more about!

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMISTICE DAY

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When we honor Veterans Day in 2018 it will also be the honoring of the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day which brought an end to World War I on November 11, 1918. The Great War, which World War I was called, ended on the western front of the war through an armistice between the Allied nations and Germany that took effect on “the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.” The War broke out in 1914, but the United States did not officially enter the conflict until 1917. The War killed over 15 million, with at least half of those civilians, and wounded at least 23 million more soldiers. Four West Chicagoans paid the ultimate price during their service in World War I.

Following the end of the War, the United States celebrated Armistice Day with the rest of the western world until 1954 when it was renamed Veterans Day. Congress voted to change the name to Veterans Day in June 1954 and President Eisenhower issued a proclamation explaining that the day should honor veterans of all wars, especially since by 1954 the United States had taken part in World War II and the Korean War. The United States and European countries will honor the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day at 11am on November 11, 2018, through a remembrance of the end of the first great war and a call for peace worldwide.



**WWI soldier leaving at West Chicago depot**

SUPPORTING YOUR  
COMMUNITY'S HISTORY



FRIENDS OF  
THE  
WEST  
CHICAGO CITY  
MUSEUM

132 Main Street  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
City Museum Hours  
Thursdays 10:00a.m. - 6:00p.m.  
Fridays 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.  
Saturdays 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m. (November only)

Phone: 630-231-3376  
[www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org)  
[www.wegohistory.com](http://www.wegohistory.com)  
E-mail: [wegohistory@gmail.com](mailto:wegohistory@gmail.com)

The Friends of the West Chicago City Museum  
serve to assist the West Chicago City Museum in  
fundraising by encouraging museum membership,  
donations and community awareness.

## ORNAMENTS NOW AVAILABLE

The Friends of the City Museum 2018 ornaments are now available at the City Museum. Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Indian Knoll Elementary School and the 25th Anniversary of the West Chicago Public Library's building at 118 W. Washington Street, the ornaments are the latest installments to the Historic West Chicago Ornament Series. Support our city's museum and own your very own piece of history by purchasing a commemorative ornament for \$9 during Museum open hours or at Gallery 200 during their open hours of Thursdays noon-6pm, Fridays noon-8pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm and Sundays noon-4pm. For a full list of the Ornament Series see our website at [www.wegohistory.com](http://www.wegohistory.com).

