

Where history and progress meet.



“THE PERFORMANCE WAS SUPERB. THE VENUE WAS COMFORTABLE AND INTIMATE. THE PRICE IS VERY REASONABLE AND LOOK FORWARD TO FUTURE PLAYS. WELL DONE.”

“THIS WAS NOT MY FIRST SHOW, AND I WILL BE BACK FOR MORE. THE RECENT SHOW WAS LIVELY AND WELL DONE.”

“THE GALLERY THEATER IS A DYNAMIC SPACE FOR AN INTIMATE THEATER EXPERIENCE. FROM THE MOMENT WE WERE GREETED AT THE DOOR, WE FELT AT HOME. IT WAS OUR PLEASURE TO WATCH *GRACE AND GLORIE* IT WAS PHENOMENAL.”

WINDOW TO WEST CHICAGO Spring 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 1 – 5**
Free Leaf Collection
- April 1 – November 29**
Yard Waste Collection
- April 2 - 29**
Spring Hydrant Flushing
- April 3**
Coffee with a Cop
- April 13**
Active Shooter Response Training
- April 27**
Coffee with the Mayor
- May 1**
Coffee with a Cop
- May 6 – 10**
Citywide Collection Event
- May 6 – November 4**
Brush Pickup
- May 18 (at Blooming Fest)**
Coffee with the Mayor
- May 18**
Blooming Fest
- May 20**
State of the City Address
- May 27**
City Hall Closed
- June 1**
On-site Paper Shredding & Rain Barrel Pickup
- June 5**
Coffee with a Cop
- June 19**
Read with a Cop
- June 29**
Coffee with the Mayor

Visit the Community Calendar at www.westchicago.org for community-wide events you won't want to miss.

Theater is Life, that's according to volunteer members of Gallery Theater of West Chicago who are on a mission to *nurture, grow, and educate* and fill a creative niche for residents and visitors on both sides of the curtain. In fact, growing and nurturing local talent for the performing arts, scripting, directing and staging is as important to them as is the resounding applause at the end of a production.

Gallery Theater of West Chicago was established as a volunteer organization in the fall of 2009, and leased part of the basement of the 200 Main Street building during its early years. With an entrance on Turner Court, the tiny space had limited seating, and quick sell-out performances meant some were left disappointed.

Today, Gallery Theater is part of a West Chicago not-for-profit arts organization, People Made Visible, and functions under its 501 (c) 3 status. The seven-member Theater Board includes **Gail Cannata** (West Chicago), **Patti Kozlowski** (Batavia), **Carolyn Larsen** (Wheaton), **Rich Nagel** (West Chicago), **Howard Raik** (Oak Park), **Tom Tawney** (West Chicago), and **Carol Townsend** (West Chicago). Since March of 2017, Gallery Theater moved to its current location at 129 Main Street across from the iconic City fountain. The current venue is air conditioned and has comfortable seating for 35.

Small in size but large in providing a creative outlet for both actor and audience, the Theater produces five plays a season from September through early June, choosing both drama and comedies. It includes well known plays and original works. Open auditions give anyone interested in performing a welcome opportunity to do so, and has rewarded the Theater with talented actors from all corners of the Chicago Metro, providing fresh and enthusiastic performances for each of its productions. Four West Chicago residents have been cast in the upcoming show, *The Dining Room*, by **A.R. Gurney**, directed by **Tom Rieser**. They are **Maureen Navadomskis**, **Carol Townsend**, **Mark Fortman** and **Thomas Tawney**. Additional performers in the cast of ten come from Maywood, Downers Grove, Chicago, Winfield, Maple Park, and Palatine.

Performances are scheduled for April 5, 6, 7 and 12, 13, 14, 2019. Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.gallerystudio.com, by contacting gallerytickets@gmail.com, or by calling (630) 234-5919.

The final offering for the Theater's 9th season will be, *Suite Surrender* by Michael McKeever, directed by Gail Cannata. Performances are scheduled for May 31, 2019, June 1, 2 and 7, 8, 9, 2019. Currently, the play reading committee is busy reading scripts for Gallery Theater's 10th season line-up. Volunteers are needed in many capacities whether on stage or behind the scenes. The list of rewarding opportunities is long.

Gallery Theater provides a wonderful entertainment option for those who prefer an evening of live theater close to home, an affordable ticket price, and a chance to enjoy the ancient art of storytelling through the performances of those who live in and around the immediate community.



West Chicago City Hall
475 Main Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
www.westchicago.org

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Mayor

This January, City staff hosted the first class of the West Chicago Local Government Academy (LGA). A total of nine participants attended the weekly classes held in the City Council Chambers. The participant pool ranged from students in the 6th grade to freshmen in college. For some, this was their first visit to City Hall, but all decided to participate in the program because they wanted learn about their community, City government, and how to get more involved.

The eight-week course has thus far introduced students to the history, origins and types of local government; the history of West Chicago; and the role of the City Manager/Administrator, the City Council, and the Administrative Services Department.

Students were quickly introduced to the challenges facing many local communities in Illinois due to the financial crisis at the State level. They participated in a budget activity to cut services or increase taxes/fees to fill a \$100,000 revenue shortfall - a scenario that has become all too familiar for government agencies, including West Chicago.

During the sessions, students were asked to reflect on questions such as:

- *How do you define community?*
- *Is community important to you?*
- *What is the responsibility of an individual to a community?*

The overall theme of their responses was that people need to come together to improve the lives of others. This is such an inspiring message from our future leaders.

The purpose of the LGA and programs such as this one is to bring the community closer together — to learn *about* and *from* each other in order to create and build relationships so that when we face new challenges we will be ready to find common solutions together.

The LGA supports the vision of **One West Chicago**, a priority of the West Chicago Strategic Plan, to establish long-term relationships through engagement efforts and to encourage broader participation in community leadership opportunities.

A new session of the LGA begins in June, please be sure to contact Adrian Marquez for details at (630) 293-2200 x123.



Our diversity is our strength.

Respectfully,
Ruben Pineda

✓ TAKENOTE

Brush Pickup – Brush should not be placed at the curb any sooner than the weekend prior to the monthly pickup. Brush pickup does not begin until the first full week of the month. Note that you could be issued a \$50.00 fine for placing brush at the curb too early.

Tall Grass and Weeds – Whether you own your home or rent, please help keep your grass trimmed to a height of less than eight inches. Dandelions grow very quickly this time of year and more frequent cuttings might be necessary. Also, if you are out of town for an extended period, please make arrangements to have your grass cut in your absence. Finally, if you do receive a Notice of Ordinance Violation for tall grass and/or weeds, please mow your grass within seven days to prevent further enforcement action, such as fines. Contact the Community Development Department at (630) 293-2200, x 141 if any extenuating circumstances exist.

Driveway Improvements or Modifications – Keep in mind that a building permit is always required for any driveway work (with the exception of maintenance sealing of an asphalt driveway), whether it's paving, concrete or interlocking pavers. Before you apply for your permit, track down a copy of your property's plat of survey and make a copy for the City. The permit application fee is \$80 and will be reviewed within three to five business days. City inspectors will need to see the layout before work starts and to approve once the work is completed. **Work in the right-of-way** (the area between the sidewalk and the street) may require a cash bond. The amount will depend on the work's impact to the street. The bond amount will be returned once work is completed and approved. Call the Community Development Department at (630) 293-2200, x141 with questions or for clarification.

2020 Census Fast Fact – Participating in the 2020 Census is a civic duty and good for your community. The very first responsibility of the federal government under the U.S. Constitution is a count of all persons living in the United States to allocate seats in the U.S. House of Representatives among the states. But your participation in the Census impacts a much broader range of decisions, from how legislative districts at all levels of government are drawn, to where roads and transit are built in the future, to how more than \$800 billion in federal funding is distributed annually across the country.

Healthy West Chicago is excited to announce a partnership with **Midwest Strength and Performance Gym** to provide all West Chicago residents free weekly bilingual community group fitness classes. Midwest Strength and Performance Trainer, Kevin Martinez, will lead a weekly upbeat group exercise class designed to increase fat loss, improve muscle definition, and reduce pain in all major joints. These weekly Community Workouts will be held at Midwest Strength and Performance Gym at **245 W. Roosevelt Rd, Building 2, Suite 9, every Saturday morning at 7:00 am**. No registration is required.

In the wake of recent tragedies involving gun violence, the West Chicago Police Department will provide certified **Active Shooter Response Training** and information about how to recognize the signs of potential violence which may occur anywhere, as well as what to expect after an active shooter incident takes place. This training and the information provided have become the preferred response, versus the traditional lockdown approach. The training takes place on **Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the West Chicago Firefighter Training Academy located at 320 Kress Road.**





Banners, butterflies, and botanicals will create a lush summer scene throughout town beginning in early May as West Chicago celebrates its vibrant arts community, rich heritage, and affinity for natural beauty. *The Butterfly Effect*, a public art project of the **Cultural Arts Commission, West Chicago Garden Club, People Made Visible** and the **America in Bloom Committee**, will add 36 artist-designed butterflies to public gardens throughout the City. Please visit www.westchicago.org for all the details, including a map to find all 36 and to read about the artists who designed them. Plan to enrich the experience by attending a free showing of *The Guardians*, a conservation-focused film about Monarch butterflies and their migration pattern. The free presentation takes place at **7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 17, 2019 at Gallery 200, 103 West Washington Street.**

Raise your eyes to the skies while walking along Main Street to enjoy the **2019 Community Banner Art Exhibit**, which includes 21 unique works of art transferred onto hanging street banners along Main Street and West Washington Street. They will amaze and delight as they depict the artists' view of *Love*. An interactive map, available in May at www.westchicago.org will enhance the downtown art experience.

Residents, businesses and organizations can participate in *The Year of the Butterfly* celebration by purchasing their own smaller wooden butterfly to decorate and design for the home, office, yard or garden. Raw wood butterflies may be purchased at Gallery 200. The cost is \$16 for one or \$30 for two. Contact People Made Visible at peoplemadevisible@gmail.com with any questions.

City Museum

The City Museum will be hosting the traveling exhibit *Dairies to Prairies* through **April 27, 2019**. This exhibit which tells the story of Elgin's dairy heritage was produced by the Elgin History Museum. During its display in West Chicago it will be supplemented by the rich history of dairies in our community. As part of the City Museum's **Late Night at the Museum, on Friday, April 5, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**, visitors will have a chance to make their own butter and view the exhibit.

TownHall Share meets on **Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.** with the topic being **dairies of West Chicago**. The evening starts with a 15-minute history presentation followed by attendees sharing their own experiences in West Chicago or on the topic.

The City Museum will open its new exhibit **Home on Saturday, May 18, 2019** during Blooming Fest. *Home* pairs contemporary artists with stories of those who have called West Chicago home throughout the history of the community. This exhibit **will run through April of 2020.**

Historiography Book Club meets at the City Museum on the third Thursday of each month, March through November, at 1:00 p.m. Non-fiction books that relate to history are chosen for discussion. The group will discuss *Sin in the Second City* by Karen Abbott **on April 18, 2019**; *Never Caught: The Washington's Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar **on May 16, 2019**; and *Bootleg: Murder, Moonshine and the Lawless Years of Prohibition* by Karen Blumenthal **on June 20, 2019.**

Gallery 200

West Chicago Community High School students will be displaying their exceptional artwork at Gallery 200 during the month of April. Throughout the school year, students have grown in their mastery of materials, tools, techniques, and concepts. The students' artwork is not only a demonstration of their technical skills, but also an invitation to explore the worlds of their imagination.

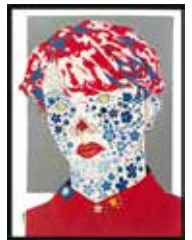
People Made Visible sponsors a free family event, *Art in the Park* on **Friday, June 21, 2019, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** at **The Shell, in Reed-Kepler Park**. The event will feature hands-on art activities for the entire family, as well as **live painting to music by artist Lew Achenbach** who is founder of *The Jazz Occurrence*. Bring a picnic dinner and wear clothes that are suitable for art-making (to include painting).

Gallery-goers will enjoy a wide range of artwork from traditional to contemporary. Media will include drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, digital photography, graphic art and 3D Design.

Art teachers Megan Dulkyns and David Exner, will be available, along with some of the student artists, during the **Free Opening Reception for the public on Friday, April 5, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.** Refreshments will be served during the reception. **The art will be on display until Friday, April 25, 2019** during Gallery 200's normal hours of operation.

The arrival of spring brings the blossoming of art to Gallery 200 **through the month of May**. Eleven Gallery artists will show nature's awakening, beauty in flowers and butterflies, garden art and more through a wide variety of media. The opening reception for *Art in Full Bloom* will take place on **Friday, May 3, 2019 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

Artist **Shari Hohl** has been making visits to Door County for 23-years and is continually amazed by its beauty. She has been painting there for as long as she has visited. Shari paints plein air (outdoors), or if she is there for some weeks at a time, sets up an easel wherever and paints on location, whether that be a room or a porch at the place in which she is staying. Her exhibit, *Door County Memories*, will be at Gallery 200 for the **month of June**, with a **public Opening Reception scheduled for Friday, June 7, 2019 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.**



Art by Cielo Cabaal-Castro.

APRIL

- 1-27** **City Museum Exhibit**
Dairies to Prairies
City Museum, 132 Main Street
(630) 231-3376
- 5** **Late Night at the City Museum**
City Museum, 132 Main Street
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 5** **Art Opening & Reception**
Community HS D94 Art Students
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- 5** **First Friday Art Exhibit**
Kindred Coffee, 148 W. Washington Street,
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 5, 6, 12, 13** **Gallery Theater**
Presents: *The Dining Room*
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 7:30 p.m.
- 7, 14** **Gallery Theater Presents:**
The Dining Room
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 3:00 p.m.
- 10** **TownHall Share**
Dairies of West Chicago
City Museum, 132 Main Street,
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 11** **Timeless Tales Story Time**
City Museum, 132 Main Street
10:15 – 11:00 a.m.
- 18** **Historiography Book Club**
City Museum, 132 Main Street, 1:00 p.m.

MAY

- 3** **Art Opening & Reception**
Art in Full Bloom
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 3** **First Friday Art Exhibit**
Artéculture All Month
Kindred Coffee, 148 W. Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 3** **Late Night at the City Museum**
City Museum, 132 Main Street
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 9** **Timeless Tales Story Time**
City Museum, 132 Main Street
10:15– 11:00 a.m.
- 16** **Historiography Book Club**
City Museum, 132 Main Street, 1:00 p.m.
- 17** **Free Film Documentary**
The Guardians
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 18** **City Museum Exhibit – Home**
(through April 2020)
City Museum, 132 Main Street
(630) 231-3376
- 18** **Blooming Fest**
Downtown West Chicago
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- 31** **Gallery Theater Presents**
Suite Surrender
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 7:30 p.m.

JUNE

- 1** **Touch a Truck**
Turtle Splash Parking Lot,
129 W. National Street
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- 1, 7, 8** **Gallery Theater Presents**
Suite Surrender
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 7:30 p.m.
- 2, 9** **Gallery Theater Presents**
Suite Surrender
Gallery Theater, 129 Main Street, 3:00 p.m.
- 7** **Art Opening & Reception**
Door County Memories
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 7** **First Friday Art Exhibit**
Kindred Coffee, 148 W. Washington Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 7** **Late Night at the City Museum**
City Museum, 132 Main Street
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 13** **Timeless Tales Story Time**
City Museum, 132 Main Street
10:15 – 11:00 a.m.
- 20** **Historiography Book Club**
City Museum, 132 Main Street, 1:00 p.m.
- 21** **PMV's Art in the Park**
Free Family Art Event
The Shell at Reed-Keppler Park
129 W. National Street
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

NUMBERS TO KNOW

CITY COUNCIL

Ward 1



Lori Chassee
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James Beifuss
(630) 231-0584



Jayme Sheahan
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Heather Brown
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Ward 2



Michael Ferguson
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Alton Hallett
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Ward 3



Sandy Dimas
(630) 293-5170



Melissa Ferguson
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Christopher Swiatek
(630) 217-5885



Matt Garling
(630) 791-0575

Ward 4



Rebecca Stout
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Jeanne M. Short
(630) 293-2200

Ward 5

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 6

Ward 7



Bonnie Gagliardi
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Noreen Ligino-Kubinski
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