



# WINDOW TO WEST CHICAGO Winter 2020

## IMPORTANT DATES

- January 1**  
City Hall Closed
- January 6 – 17**  
Free Christmas Tree Collection
- Through January 17**  
Holiday Light Recycling
- January 25**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- February 29**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- March 8**  
Daylight Saving Begins
- March 25**  
Deadline for Holiday Lights Removal
- March 28**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- March 30 – April 30**  
Spring Hydrant Flushing

Visit the Community Calendar at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org) for community-wide events you won't want to miss. Once there, bookmark it on your favorite device and check it often.

Follow the City on social media.



**Vendors Wanted for West Chicago's Blooming Fest and Food Fest.**

Applications are available on the City website. Apply early as space is limited.

**M**ake your presence in the community count. The 2020 United States Census is right around the corner, taking place on April 1, 2020.

The Census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for everyone in our community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

A complete and accurate count is critical for the West Chicago community because the results of the 2020 Census will affect our community funding, congressional representation, and so much more. By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding: online, by phone, or by email. The 2020 Census marks the first time you'll have the option to respond online. You can even respond on your mobile device.

The City is actively working to promote and assist with the Census through its established Complete Count Committee. Regardless of age, country of origin, or citizen status, everyone living in our community counts and everyone should be counted in the 2020 Census.

Participating in the Census is required by law, even if you recently completed another survey from the Census Bureau. The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. For more information on the 2020 Census, please visit [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov).

*Information courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau*

CENSUS 101

## Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"






**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

As the curtain comes down on an eventful year, I'd like to reflect on a couple of notable milestones that occurred late in the year.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of West Chicago Sister Cities, the international exchange program established to foster and promote friendship and mutual understanding between the people of West Chicago and Taufkirchen (Vils), Germany, was recognized at the City Council meeting on September 16, 2019. Since 1999, West Chicago Sister Cities has sought to achieve its mission through educational and cultural partnerships, and people to people exchange visits. The Proclamation commemorating the occasion, read by City Clerk Nancy Smith who is also a member of West Chicago's Sister Cities, included the organization's call to action for "... our citizens and the world to come together and show how powerful humanity can be when we unite to promote



peace, progress and prosperity for a better world." The City is grateful for the work of West Chicago Sister Cities over the past 20 years in building this solid international bond of friendship, and for its commitment to creating **Peace through People**.

A second exciting milestone for West Chicago occurred in November and became a defining moment for West Chicago determination, pride and resilience. **Community High School's Wildcats Boys' Soccer Team** set its sights on a State championship at its very first game of the season where it tied the three-time State championship team Naperville North. The rest, as they say, is history. The team made it happen, bringing the trophy home on November 9<sup>th</sup> with all the regalia of a police escort. A celebration coordinated by Community High School District 94 on Sunday, November 10, 2019, brought out students, faculty, residents and others to share their love and admiration for a team that rose to the occasion. As reported by the Daily Herald, High School senior Moises Morfin summed up his feelings. "It's just something crazy. We did it for our town and we did it for ourselves. We talked about it since Day One and look at us now with the State title".



That type of individual, team, and community pride represents the biggest win of all.

I wish you all a happy, healthy new year and look forward to more great moments in 2020.

Respectfully,  
Ruben Pineda

## ✓ TAKENOTE

During this winter season, please take note of the following garbage and recycling collection reminders and other precautions to avoid common code violations.

**Placing Garbage/Refuse and Recycling at Curb for Collection.** Please wait to place your garbage and recycling containers at the curb until *after 6:00 PM* on the evening prior to your scheduled pickup day.

**Reminders** - Bulk items placed at the curb for pickup require you to purchase and affix a Universal Sticker. Examples of bulk items are:

- Any items too large to fit in an approved refuse container or that exceed 50 lbs.
- Furniture such as sofas, tables, dressers, chairs, mattresses, etc. require one Universal Sticker per item.
- Carpeting (up to 5 rolls, no longer than 4 feet in length and 18 inches in diameter) requires one Universal Sticker.
- Construction-type debris may be put in bundles or containers (not to exceed 4 feet in length nor weigh more than 50 lbs.). Each bundle requires one Universal Sticker.

**Electronics may not be placed at the curb for garbage collection.** However, electronics recycling is provided to residents free of charge, provided they are dropped off at the local e-waste facility located at 1995 Powis Road on Saturdays from 8:00 to 11:00 AM. Contact Groot at (877) 775-1200 with any questions.

### Garbage Stickers/Totes New Rates

Item	As of 1/1/2020
Stickers	\$ 2.30 each
35-gallon cart (seniors)	\$ 9.00
35-gallon cart	\$13.33
95-gallon cart	\$18.95

**Snow Removal and No Parking Reminder** – It is illegal to remove snow from your property and place it onto City sidewalks or streets. A parking ban is enforced on all streets after a two-inch snowfall until the street has been completely plowed. For more snow-related information, visit [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org).



# Art & Culture

## GALLERY 200

103 W. Washington Street • (630) 293-9550 • www.gallery200.org

## GALLERY THEATER

129 Main Street • (630) 234-5919 • www.gallerytheaterstudio.org

**T**he new year promises many exciting opportunities to engage with the arts and the artists of West Chicago.

For those who love experiencing live stage performances, West Chicago's Gallery Theater has you covered. The small boutique theater at 129 Main Street brings *Skylight*, an intensely clear-sighted and compassionate play about a love affair, written by David Hare and directed by Justin Schaller. Run dates are February 14, 15, 16, 2020 and 21, 22, 23, 2020. Then, in March, on a set staged as a quiet night at Lou's Bar, two kindred spirits seek solace as they navigate changing times and past relationships. *Stella & Lou*, by Bruce Graham, is an intimate exploration of friendship, forgiveness, and the longing for companionship that grows with the passage of time. Performances are scheduled on March 27, 28, 29, 2020 and April 3, 4, 5, 2020. More information about Gallery Theater's 10<sup>th</sup> season may be found at gallerytheaterstudio.com.

2020's Featured Artist series begins with a Community Art Show in January. The artwork displayed may be offered for sale to the public with a 5% commission charged on any sales to support future art events at Gallery 200. Please contact Sara Phalen at peoplemadevisible@gmail.com

for more information. The public may browse, buy, or simply admire the local art that is part of this show all month, and is invited to a celebratory reception scheduled on Friday, January 10, 2020 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Artist Joanne Barsanti is February's Featured Artist though her Opening Reception is scheduled for January 31, 2020 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. After she retired from a career in technology, Joanne re-directed her energies towards art. What began as a photography-based hobby



Artwork by Joanne Barsanti

slowly morphed into an Encore Career. Her aim is to take the photographic and digital world to a new level, where it can bring a sense of tranquility and calmness. She combines Western subjects with a style that is reminiscent of and inspired by traditional Asian art, with its simple subjects and meditative moods. To complement her artistic style and subject matter, she loves printing on Japanese silks and papers as

well as other media. Pushing the artistic envelope a little farther, she has been known to crinkle her paper, or add paint or layers of hot wax (encaustic) to bring additional dimension to her images.

School District 33 will exhibit student art at Gallery 200 for the month of March, which is designated Student Art Month nationally. *Art is the Heart of the City* will begin March 5, 2020, and the community is welcome to attend the Open House between 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. All elementary ages and each District school is represented in this show which showcases the wide variety of art work produced in the art educational programs. This show gives the students a chance to exhibit their work in a real gallery setting and gives the community an opportunity to appreciate the fine work of these young artists.



Resident Megan Siarkiewicz Czach wrote to City staff about her experience visiting each of the 36 butterflies of *The Butterfly Effect* public art project with her children. "We loved our time butterfly hunting and all the memories we made along the way." She shared many of the photographs taken at each location, all of which were selfies, but for one taken at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. "That picture is thanks to a gentleman that came out of the Church and offered to take the picture for us. He also welcomed us in and offered us some water since it was a hot day. We stayed for a bit and he gave us not only the history of the Church but also some West Chicago history. It was very nice and we really appreciated it. The whole time was a positive and we are so happy the City did this." **Editor's Note: The Czach family purchased First Star Art's Cosmic Butterfly (pictured top left) at the Silent Auction held at the West Chicago Food Fest to benefit future art projects. The City thanks them, and all those who bid on butterflies, for their support.**

THINGS TO DO

# Around Town

## JANUARY

**10** Art Opening & Reception  
*Community Art Show*  
Gallery 200, 103 West Washington Street, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**31** Art Opening & Reception  
*Extending the Natural World*  
Gallery 200, 103 West Washington Street, 6:30 – 8:15 p.m.



Artwork by Joanne Barsanti

## FEBRUARY

**14, 15, 21, 22** Gallery Theater – *Skylight*  
Gallery Theater, Main Street, 7:00 p.m.

**16, 23** Gallery Theater – *Skylight*  
Gallery Theater, Main Street, 3:00 p.m.

## MARCH

**5** Art Opening & Reception  
*Art is the Heart of the City*  
Gallery 200,  
103 West Washington Street,  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.



Did you know the West Chicago Police Department provides the following services?



### Heading out of town?

### VACATION WATCH

This free program offers residential security checks for vacationing or hospitalized residents of single-family homes or duplexes. Uniformed members of the West Chicago Police Department periodically check registered homes during the homeowner's absence. More information at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org).

### SAFE DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINE

### AN ONGOING PROGRAM OF THE WEST CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Drop off at 325 Spencer Street  
Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m.  
(639) 293-2222  
[www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org)



## NUMBERS TO KNOW

### CITY COUNCIL Ward 1



Lori Chassee  
(630) 231-8709



James Beifuss  
(630) 231-0584

### Ward 2



Jayme Sheahan  
(630) 330-7972



Heather Brown  
(630) 853-7131

### Ward 3



Michael Ferguson  
(630) 248-6053



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



Christopher Swiatek  
(630) 217-5885



Matt Garling  
(630) 791-0575

### Ward 6



Rebecca Stout  
(630) 293-7335



Jeanne M. Short  
(630) 293-2200

### Ward 7



Currently Vacant



Noreen Ligino-Kubinski  
(630) 762-9929