**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.

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**Make 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
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s 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 20th 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 9th 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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>As of 1/1/2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stickers</td>
<td>$2.30 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-gallon cart (seniors)</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
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<td>35-gallon cart</td>
<td>$13.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95-gallon cart</td>
<td>$18.95</td>
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</tbody>
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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.
The 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 10th 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 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.

Artwork by Joanne Barsanti
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.

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.

NUMBERS TO KNOW

CITY COUNCIL
Ward 1
Lori Chassee (630) 231-8709
James Beifuss (630) 231-0584
Jayme Sheahan (630) 330-7972
Heather Brown (630) 853-7131
Michael Ferguson (630) 248-6053
Alton Hallett (630) 254-7112

Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4
Sandy Dimas (630) 293-5170
Melissa Ferguson (630) 621-0128
Christopher Swiatek (630) 217-5885
Matt Garling (630) 791-0575
Rebecca Stout (630) 293-7335
Jeanne M. Short (630) 293-2200

Ward 5
Ward 6
Ward 7
Currently Vacant

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 Guttmann, City Administrator

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