

Where history and progress meet.



CHS D94



2017 Touch a Truck

# WINDOW

## TO WEST CHICAGO

Spring 2017

### IMPORTANT DATES

- April 3**  
Yard Waste Collection Resumes
- April 3 – 7**  
Free Leaf Collection
- April 4**  
Consolidated General Election
- April 17**  
State of the City Address
- April 29**  
Coffee with the Mayor
- May 1**  
Brush Pickup Resumes
- May 1 – 5**  
Citywide Collection
- May 20**  
Coffee with the Mayor at Blooming Fest
- May 29**  
City Hall Closed
- June 3**  
Paper Shredding Event
- June 3**  
Touch a Truck
- June 24**  
Coffee with the Mayor

**April 4**  
Consolidated  
General Election



**H**eadlining the Friday, May 19, 2017 preview night of West Chicago's multimedia pop-up art show Artéculture which is part of **Blooming Fest on Saturday, May 20, 2017** will be visual artist **Lewis Achenbach**, and guest jazz musician **Juan Pastor** and his band **Chinchano**. The creative innovators will be teaming up for a special live performance of a **Jazz Occurrence**, an exhilarating sensory encounter that combines jazz music and art into one unforgettable experience.

Jazz Occurrence, founded and produced by Achenbach, is not simply art or music, but a culmination of both. He describes it as a union of the Sonic Arts and the Visual Arts. As stated on his website, [www.lewisachenbach.com](http://www.lewisachenbach.com) which contains links to various past performances as well as an evolving documentary, "The Jazz Occurrence is a documentary in progress, combining concert footage, painting performance, audience reaction, musician interviews and animations".

Achenbach is a well-known artist in the Chicago community as well as in DuPage County. In addition to his regular art shows in the area, he has contributed to the local community by volunteering on the West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission, leading art workshops for children, and guest teaching art classes at nearby elementary schools.

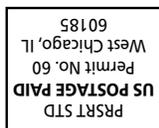
Those attending the performance at Artéculture can expect to be wowed by the music of percussionist Juan Pastor, who will create a fusion of jazz and Peruvian rhythms with his band **Chinchano**. Band members include Juan Pastor (band leader), **Jorge Roeder**, **Stu Mindeman**, **Rich Moore**, **Marquis Hill** and **Paul Mutzabaugh**. Preview their music and learn more at <https://chinchano.bandcamp.com/.as>.

Achenbach is packaging his Artéculture Jazz Occurrence appearance in a summer-long series event throughout the Chicago and the western suburbs. For more information about other area performances, visit [www.lewisachenbach.com](http://www.lewisachenbach.com).

**Blooming Fest**, which takes place on **Saturday, May 20, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** is a downtown garden festival with the West Chicago Garden Club's annual plant sale at the heart of the celebration. Other attractions include crafters, live entertainment, great food and activities for the kids. Visit [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org) for a complete schedule.



Photo by Rebecca Ciprus



ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

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



# Mayor

Each year beginning in early September, City staff approaches the challenging task of developing a budget to present to City Council for approval in December. As those of you who develop household budgets know, it's a daunting task to reconcile the many expenses and limited resources involved on both sides of the balance sheet, as well as see clear to earmark money for the items included in the West Chicago Strategic Plan, which may be viewed at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org).

The goal of the City's budget supports the high standards set by the community to provide long-term value at a reasonable cost, as well as meeting reserve requirements. I am pleased to report that we have accomplished that yet again this year.

The 2017 Annual Budget totals \$45,118,600 which is a decrease of 8.29% as compared to the 2016 Budget, as amended; specifically, the General Fund reflects an increase of 1.48% as compared to the 2016 Budget, as amended. There are many highlights of the 2017 Annual Budget, but the one that will resonate the most with our customers is our holding the line on tax, fee and rate increases with no reduction in services. The property tax levy will remain the same for the sixth year in a row.

Not only am I proud of the outcome, I am proud of the process to arrive at a sound, responsible Budget again this year. I'd like to thank staff for their dedication and foresight, and City Council for their input and oversight.

Residents wishing to learn more about West Chicago's fiscal health are encouraged to view the document on the City's website, [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org), under Government/Administrative Services. There you will also find the latest



Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which for seventeen consecutive years, has earned the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

The City promotes transparency in all its departments, divisions and operations. We hope that by sharing this information, residents and other customers will have a better idea of how their tax dollars are spent to provide them with the best possible standard of living.

Respectfully,  
**Ruben Pineda, Mayor**

**P.S.** I'd like to remind everyone that our Annual State of the City Address is scheduled for April 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. I will have much more to share about our community and hope to see you all there.

## ✓ TAKENOTE

### Parking on Public or Private Property

Please avoid parking on the grass anywhere in the City, or it may result in a citation (or parking ticket) with a \$50.00 fine. Parking on the grass is not permitted at any time and without exception, so please make sure that no part of your vehicle(s) — or those of your guests' or delivery or service providers' — are parked on the grass, even if only for a short time. An approved surface suitable for parking is a hard surface, such as an asphalt or concrete driveway. These are surfaces that are able to withstand vehicle wear and tear in all weather conditions. Also be advised that citations issued for parking on the grass or for evidence of parking on the grass (like tire ruts in the grass) are issued without any prior notice by a code enforcement officer. Finally, if you are issued a citation, remember to pay the fine of \$50.00 by mail with a check, or in person at City Hall with cash, check or credit/debit by the due date indicated on the citation, which is usually within 10 days. After the due date, the fine will double to \$100.00.

### Catch the Spring Cleaning Fever - Citywide Collection

The City's annual Citywide Collection Event is scheduled for May 1 – 5, 2017 on the regularly scheduled garbage collection day. Each single-family or two-family residence must affix a total of eight (8) "refuse" stickers on their pile of "Acceptable" items. For more information regarding examples of "Acceptable" and "Unacceptable" items, please visit our website at [www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org). *Please remember that garbage should not be put out any earlier than 7:00 p.m. the day before scheduled pickup, and containers should be brought in no later than 7:00 p.m. the day of pickup.*

### New Outdoor Entertainment Venue: "The Shell"

A vision to foster the arts gives way to West Chicago's newest entertainment venue, "The Shell", nestled in Reed-Keppler Park. Several years ago, a concerted effort by former Mayor Michael Kwasmann and community members to expand art opportunities in town led the City of West Chicago to contact the Park District about the idea of a performance venue, and a partnership was created to accomplish such. "The Shell" will be installed this spring and will provide a myriad of activities beginning this summer. The partnership



between the City and the Park District will provide residents with a wonderful venue for a concert series, movies in the park, kids' entertainment, outdoor fitness classes, local talent performances and more. A Grand Opening will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., and will include a special performance from Chicago Cubs National Anthem singer and powerhouse big band "Wayne Messmer and the Chicago Skyliner".

# Art & Culture

**Gallery 200** will host an exciting **Community High School District 94 student art show** during the month of April. The work of 60 talented students will represent the High School Art Department. The work showcases the students' growing mastery of materials, tools and concepts. In addition to demonstrating technical skills, the students will be sharing the world of their imaginations. Gallery goers will be treated to a wide range of artwork from graphic art and digital photography to ceramics, drawing, painting and sculpture. Art teachers Ms. Dulkanys, Mr. Exner and Ms. Raudales, and some student artists will be available during an Opening Reception which will take place on Thursday, April 6, 2017 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Cookies and coffee will be served. Please plan on attending and supporting the creative accomplishments of our students.



Fiber art by Sharon Malec

**May's exhibit** and sale will feature the unique work of **Sharon Malec**, a local artist who began creating traditional pieced quilts in 1992, gradually evolving to crafting contemporary art quilts through varied techniques including felting, hand spinning yarn, silk paper making, free form crochet and tapestry weaving. Much of her current art work incorporates several of these techniques. She admits that her interest in animals and nature has helped to define her distinctive style. Please join Sharon for an

evening of art and conversation about her work at an Opening Reception on Friday, May 5, 2017 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Kathi Kuchler** began painting at the age of 14. She started using oils and then turned to watercolors because she loved the fact that she could take her small round paint palette wherever she wanted to go. She received her certification as a Botanical Watercolorist and Illustrator through the Morton Arboretum in 2015. It was in her classes at the Arboretum that she started drawing with colored pencils and then recently started working in water soluble oils. She also creates beautiful, one of a kind jewelry pieces by inserting miniature prints of her paintings into cabochon pendants and adding embellishments of vintage-like charms. Kathi has also discovered a love for "upcycling" silk scarves with Nuna Felting. Check out her gorgeous creations at an Opening Reception on Friday, June 2, 2017 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., or during regular Gallery 200 hours throughout the month of June.



Kathi Kuchler

**Gallery Theater** presents *The Kitchen Witches*, a bright and zany comedy about two cooking show divas with different approaches to cooking. Add to that 30 years of unresolved issues surrounding the same man, who dated one of them and married the other. When circumstances put them together on a TV show called *The Kitchen Witches*, the insults are flung harder than the food. The play runs April 21, 22, 23 and 28, 29, 30, 2017. For more information or to make reservations, contact gallerytickets@aol.com.

**Stop by the 1860s Chicago Burlington & Quincy (CB&Q) Railroad Depot** located at 134 Turner Court, between the City Museum and the Library, on Saturdays during the summer months. The CB&Q Depot will be open from **10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. every Saturday May 20 - August 26, 2017**. Learn about West Chicago's history and find information with which to explore West Chicago's "Rail Trail" which runs throughout the community and features railroad history and historic landmarks along the way.

Get active with history by participating in the **Turner Junction Challenge** which **kicks off on May 20, 2017**. Following registration at the City Museum or through the website, [www.wegohistory.com](http://www.wegohistory.com), participants track any physical activity that gets them moving, which translates to time travel back to 1849. For each 15 minutes of activity, participants travel back in time one year. The goal is to make it back to 1849 by September 10, 2017, which would amount to just three hours of activity a week. The 2017 Turner Junction Challenge theme is *The History of Fires*. "Turner Burners" will reveal the history of the fires in town as participants travel back in time. Additional bonus time can be received by visiting the Museum's CB&Q Depot during open Saturdays for burner challenges. All participants will receive a free water bottle at registration and receive prizes for reaching milestones in West Chicago's history. Participation is free and open to all. Families are also welcomed to sign up as a group or as individuals.

A new **City Museum program, Town Hall Share**, will feature a different monthly topic related to West Chicago's unique history. This Share is open to the general public and those who have a connection to the topic to be explored. Refreshments will be provided. Upcoming topics include General Mills, the Changing Face of West Chicago's Landmarks, and Trains. The events are part of the City Museum's county-wide collaboration with Voices of DuPage, a collection of cultural institutions that serve County residents and seek to preserve and promote historical legacy.

## 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)

# Around Town

## APRIL

**6** **Opening Reception for D94 Student Art**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**8** **Town Hall Share: *General Mills***  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**20** **Stories at the Museum**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

**Senior Fair**  
American Legion Post 300, 123 Main Street  
10 a.m. – Noon

**Historiography – *Women Heroes of WWI***  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
Noon – 1:00 p.m.

**21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30**  
**Gallery Theater**  
***The Kitchen Witches***  
Location TBD  
7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays  
3:00 p.m., Sundays

**Author Presentation**  
**Kathryn Atwood**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
3:00 p.m.

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

## MAY

**5** **Opening Reception for Sharon Malec**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**17** **Town Hall Share: *Changing Face of West Chicago's Landmarks***  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.



**18** **Historiography – *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania***  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
Noon – 1:00 p.m.

**Crafternoon**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

**20** **Blooming Fest**  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Downtown West Chicago  
www.westchicago.org

**25** **Stories at the Museum**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

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

## JUNE

**2** **Opening Reception for Kathi Kuchler**  
Gallery 200, 103 W. Washington Street  
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**3** **Touch a Truck**  
Turtle Splash Lot, 201 W. National Street  
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**10** **Town Hall Share: *Trains***  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**Grand Opening of "The Shell"**  
Reed-Keppler Park, 201 W. National Street  
1:00 p.m.

**15** **Stories at the Museum**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

**Historiography – *Faith and Betrayal: A Pioneer Woman's Passage in the American West***  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
Noon – 1:00 p.m.

**16** **Fun Friday:  
Victory Garden in a Jar Friday**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

**17** **Science of Steam**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:00 a.m. – Noon

**23** **Fun Friday:  
Patriotic Pride**  
City Museum, 132 Main Street  
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.



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

**Healthy West Chicago Walking and Movement Passport:** Use this small booklet to plan for various ways you can stay active all year. Stop by the City Museum, West Chicago Public Library, City Hall or the Healthy West Chicago office at 129 Main Street to pick up your 2017 West Chicago Walking Passport. Walk or run and earn prizes. For every event you participate in you can earn a stamp and be entered into a drawing for exciting prizes.

## 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) 666-4641

#### 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