

CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

March 2021

CITY NOTES



Yard Waste Pickup Resumes April 5

Yard waste, food scraps and organic materials are collected at the curb from the first full week of April through the second full week of December. Please do not place yard waste at the curb before the week of April 5, as Lakeshore Recycling Systems can't accept these materials before the pickup season begins. Use containers no larger than 35 gallons in size or biodegradable paper bags. Each container/bag must weigh no more than 50 pounds and must have one Lakeshore Recycling

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Consolidated Municipal Election Takes Place on Tuesday, April 6

Registered Wheaton voters can vote to select their District representative on the City Council during the April 6, 2021 Consolidated General Election. This election will also include Park District Board and School Board positions.

Wheaton residents live in one of the four election districts: North, South, East or West. Each district elects one member to the City Council to represent their portion of the city. To find your Election District, see the [Wheaton Election Districts map \(PDF\)](#).

The DuPage County Clerk's Office has listed the following candidates for Wheaton City Council on its [Unofficial](#)



Registered Wheaton voters can vote to select their District representative on the City Council during the April 6, 2021.

[Candidate List \(PDF\):](#)

- North District
- Scott A. Brown
- South District
- Bill Nieman
 - Mark Yetsky
 - Scott D. Weller
- East District
- Michael Francis Barbier
- West District
- Lynn A. Robbins

Voter Registration Information

You must register by March 9 in order to vote in the election at your regular polling place. Following the close of registration, "Grace Period" Registration and Voting will begin March 10 at the DuPage County Election Division and

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CONTACT THE CITY

Police/Fire Emergency: 9-1-1
General Information: 630-260-2000
Wheaton City Hall: 303 W. Wesley Street
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

Follow Us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching for "City of Wheaton."
Send feedback to communications@wheaton.il.us

CITY NOTES

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Systems sticker attached to be collected. For [more about yard waste](#), visit the City's website.



Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. Sunday, March 14. When you change your clocks, the Wheaton Fire Department also encourages you to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Replacing the batteries about every 6 months helps ensure they operate correctly, and using Daylight Saving Time is an easy way to remember when you last replaced the batteries.

Election Candidate Forum

The Wheaton League of Women Voters will host local candidates for the April 6 Consolidated General Election during a Candidates Forum on March 6. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the League will be changing its format this year,

accepting questions from the community beforehand for the candidates to answer, and the forum will be recorded and shared with the community for viewing. The City will be sharing this recording of candidates for Wheaton City Council, Community Unit School District 200 Board and the Wheaton Park District Board starting the week of March 8. Look for a link to the recording on the City's website, or on the City's Facebook and Twitter accounts after the event.

Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic

The DuPage County Health Department opened a Community Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton on Feb. 10, where it will be able to provide as many as 1,000 vaccinations per day as more doses of the vaccine become available. [View how this clinic works](#) and find out how you can register with the DuPage County Health Department so they can contact you with specific information when appointments are available. Please note that vaccinations at this site are by appointment only, and the Health Department will continue sending out invitations to set up

appointments to those who have registered at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccine.

Commission News

The City Council approved the following appointments/reappointments to City boards and commissions:

- Rochelle Favale, appointed to a three-year term on the Group Care Home Commission
- Lisa Buchanan, appointed to a three-year term on the Historic Commission
- Tim Bayee, appointed to a two-year term on the Board of Trustees Pension Fund.



Employment Opportunities

The City currently seeks applicants for the following employment opportunities:

- Lateral Police Officer
- Civil Engineer - Summer Internship
- Social Worker
- Seasonal Summer

Laborer – Public Works Division

- Crossing Guard

To find out more about these employment opportunities with the City and how to apply, visit <https://www.wheaton.il.us/jobs>.



COVID-19 Vaccine Information & Updates

The DuPage County Health Department continues to update their website with information about the COVID-19 pandemic that includes details about [testing](#), [vaccination](#), [DuPage County metrics](#), [latest updates](#), and [frequently asked questions](#). The DuPage County Health Department is the local source for information regarding planning and administering the COVID-19 vaccine in DuPage County.

Additional information regarding changes to City services during COVID-19, weekly COVID-19 case counts in Wheaton, local executive orders, resources for businesses and more can be found on the City of Wheaton's [COVID-19 Information and Resources webpage](#).

Municipal Election

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will also be available at [Early Voting locations](#) beginning March 22.

Voters that register during Grace Period Registration must vote at the time of registration.

Visit one of the [voter registration locations throughout DuPage County](#) or visit the DuPage County website to [check your voter information](#), [check your](#)

[eligibility to register](#), [register online](#), or print a voter registration application to submit by mail.

In-Person Early Voting

In-person early voting is available at the Jack T. Knuepfer Administration Building located at 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton. Additional early voting locations and in-person early voting by touchscreen will begin Monday, March 22. For in-person early voting hours and a list of additional voting locations

[visit the DuPage County website](#).

Vote by Mail

Visit the DuPage County website to [request a Vote by Mail Ballot](#).

Eligible DuPage County registered voters can currently Vote by Mail. To be valid, a completed Vote by Mail ballot must be postmarked earlier but not later than midnight on April 6. If voting using the Vote by Mail option, please remember to sign and date your envelope

before mailing it back to the DuPage County Election Commission.

Election Day Polling Places

Visit www.dupageco.org/voterlookup to find the site of your polling place. The Check Your Election Information tool can be used to view election information by name, address or district.

For more information about the upcoming consolidated municipal election, please [visit the DuPage County website](#).

Wheaton Police Participating in Polar Plunge to Support Special Olympics Illinois

Members of the Wheaton Police Department are preparing to “Be Bold, Get Cold” with a Polar Plunge to support Special Olympics Illinois. On March 6, the Wheaton Police Department’s team, “Frosted Donuts,” will be volunteering their time to plunge into chilly waters at Wheaton Fire Station 1 to raise funds for the Law Enforcement Torch Run Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Illinois. The team is joined by members of the Wheaton Fire Department and Community Unit School District 200.

Due to the pandemic, Special Olympics Illinois is making this year’s Polar Plunge program a little different, while still



The Wheaton Police Department’s team, “Frosted Donuts,” will be plunging into chilly waters to support the Special Olympics Illinois.

helping support its more than 23,100 athletes. In place of a large event, participants are showing their creativity in hosting their own local plunges with all proceeds supporting Special Olympics Illinois. While we won’t be able to invite the community to see our Polar Plunge this year due to the need to limit large gatherings, we will record our plunge on video to share with the

community.

“The Wheaton Police Department is excited to support Special Olympics Illinois with our own local plunge,” said Wheaton Police Department Community Engagement Officer Crystal Miroballi. “We are grateful to help provide the opportunity for athletes with intellectual disabilities to participate in Special Olympics programs, and we’re ready to be bold

and get cold!”

Those who would like to learn more or support Wheaton’s Frosted Donuts team can [visit the team’s page on the Special Olympics Illinois website](#). Team members are listed under the “Roster” tab.

In addition, you can show support by doing your own Plunge at Home for Special Olympics Illinois with your own twist, such as a plunge into an icy bathtub or into the snow. [Find out more about the Plunge at Home challenge](#), and be sure to share it with the City by using the hashtag #BeBoldGetCold and tagging Special Olympics Illinois and @CityOfWheaton (Facebook, Instagram or Twitter) before March 14.

Final Phase of Downtown Improvements Begins This Month

The end is in sight for exciting improvements to downtown Wheaton. The fourth and final phase of the Downtown Streetscape Project will begin the first week of March, starting with underground infrastructure work.

The contractor for this phase is A Lamp Concrete Contractors Inc. Crews will be making improvements to the following street segments:

- Wheaton Avenue from Liberty to Wesley Street
- Cross Street from Liberty Drive to Front Street
- Liberty Drive from West Street to Cross Street
- Parking Lot 3 and Parking Lot 4 along Liberty Drive



- Wesley Street from West to Wheaton Avenue
- Willow Avenue from Hale Street to Main Street

The City is excited to see this final chapter of our four-year project come to fruition, and we know the community will be thrilled to see these additions to the downtown. Phase 4 mainly focuses south of the railroad tracks on Liberty Drive, including a new multi-purpose canopy structure, new

gathering areas, bicycle facilities, and more.

This beautifully designed area will not only invite the community to gather, enjoy the French Market and more, but it will also draw users of the Prairie Path to explore our downtown shops, restaurants and other businesses.

This final chapter of the project will bring much-needed infrastructure updates to our downtown while reinforcing Wheaton's goal of making the downtown a destination for our

residents and those from surrounding communities.

Portions of this project will require temporary lane closures and/or detours as crews replace underground infrastructure, replace roadways and sidewalks, and more. We appreciate your patience as we work to complete this project and will do everything we can to keep traffic flowing and minimize inconvenience to residents and businesses.

The City will continue to keep the community updated on this project's progress through Facebook, Twitter, the City's website, email updates and City of Wheaton Channel 10. You can also learn more about the project by visiting www.wheaton.il.us/downtownstreetscape.

Roosevelt Road Corridor Study Update Postponed



Covid-19 continues to prevent the City of Wheaton from holding in-person public engagement meetings to solicit feedback from the community about an updated Roosevelt Road Corridor/Comprehensive Plan Update. The City does not believe a virtual engagement approach to review the new draft

would achieve the same level of engagement from live community meetings. The process will continue to be postponed until pandemic mitigation restrictions permit in-person public engagement meetings and the community can fully participate in the process.

The City will continue

to notify the community about this project and intends to begin the public in-person engagement process as soon as it can be done so safely.

For [more information about the Roosevelt Road Corridor/Comprehensive Plan Update](#) please visit the City's website.

DuPage County Currently in Phase 4 Covid-19 Restrictions

Based on continued progress within Region 8 under the State's Covid-19 mitigation plan, DuPage County is currently in Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan Covid-19 mitigations. Some of the restrictions under Phase 4 include:

- Permitted indoor dining and drinking for parties of up to 10 people.
- Reopening of select indoor recreation facilities (e.g., bowling alleys, skating rinks) with a capacity limit of 50% occupancy.

RESTORE ILLINOIS				
A Public Health Approach To Safely Reopen Our State				
Phase 1 Rapid Spread	Phase 2 Flattening	Phase 3 Recovery	Phase 4 Revitalization	Phase 5 Illinois Restored
Strict stay at home and social distancing guidelines are put in place, and only essential businesses remain open.	Non-essential retail stores reopen for curbside pickup and delivery.	Manufacturing, offices, retail, barbershops and salons can reopen to the public with capacity and other limits and safety precautions.	Gatherings of 50 people or fewer are allowed, restaurants and bars reopen, travel resumes, child care and schools reopen under guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health.	The economy fully reopens with safety precautions continuing.
Every region has experienced this phase once already and could return to it if mitigation efforts are unsuccessful.	Illinoisans are directed to wear a face covering when outside the home and can begin enjoying additional outdoor activities like golf, boating & fishing while practicing social distancing.	Gatherings of 10 people or fewer are allowed.	Face coverings and social distancing are the norm.	Conventions, festivals and large events are permitted, and all businesses, schools and places of recreation can open with new safety guidance and procedures.

- Indoor fitness facilities can resume operations with a capacity limit of 50% occupancy.
- Moderate and lower risk sports

can resume with competitive gameplay and tournaments. Higher risk sports can resume with intra-team scrimmages.

- Meetings, events,

and gatherings can resume with groups limited to 50 people or 50% of room capacity.

- Seated theaters, cinemas, and performing arts centers for ticketed events with seating available for all customers is permitted with an indoor capacity limit of 50 people or less or 50% of space capacity (applies to each screening room).

To [see the full list of restrictions](#) visit the Illinois Department of Commerce's website.

Expansion to Phase 1B-Part II of Vaccination Plan Delayed in DuPage County

Due to a limited vaccine supply, DuPage County will not be expanding to Phase 1B - Part II of the state's vaccination plan. The DuPage County Health Department's Community Vaccination Clinic and other local providers will be primarily focused on administering second doses while providing very limited appointments for new first doses.

The DuPage County Health Department anticipates that new first



dose appointments will become more accessible in early to mid-March, and states that it will be able to open eligibility for more residents included

in Phase 1B-Part II once the vaccine supply increases, when most persons within current phase are vaccinated (>60-70%), or when

demand in the current phase is less than vaccination available.

On Feb. 25, Illinois began the expansion of Phase 1B eligibility to people under the age of 65 with comorbidities and underlying conditions as defined by the CDC, along with individuals with disabilities. This expansion, or Phase 1B-Part II, applies to individuals 16 and older who were not otherwise covered in previous eligibility categories.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Electronic Recycling Monthly Drop-Off

Saturday, Mar. 13

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

820 W. Liberty Drive

Please see [safety protocols](#) on the City's website.



Women's History Month

The City's Community Relations Commission will be promoting numerous events and activities throughout the City in March in celebration of Women's History Month. As part of this promotion, the commission will be highlighting some of the women in Wheaton's past and present. Check the City's website at

www.wheaton.il.us/womenshistorymonth for more information about upcoming events.

Wheaton Public Library Virtual Events

Register for Wheaton Public Library virtual events at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar.

Customer Service Workshop Series

Thursdays, March 4, 11, 18 at 10 a.m.

Anna Marie MacDonald, Manager Workforce Connection Center at Goodwill, will conduct a 3-week series of timely and informative Customer Service Workshops with Q&A.

Living History: Florence Nightingale

Thursday, March 11 at 7 p.m.

Master storyteller Megan Wells portrays 1800s nurse Florence Nightingale and her call to serve. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Wheaton and the City

of Wheaton Community Relations Commission.

BRC Business Meet Up

Thursday, March 16 at 8:30 a.m.

Please join your fellow business owners, entrepreneurs, startups, nonprofits, and anyone interested in discussing, advising, and sharing business ideas, challenges, triumphs, and opportunities in these unsettling and turbulent times.

Author Visit: Renee Rosen

Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

Bestselling author Renee Rosen discusses her historical fiction novels, including *What the Lady Wants*, about Marshall Field, and her new novel, *The Social Graces*, which focuses on the Vanderbilts.

DEI: Conversation with Wheaton Community Leaders

Tuesday, March 23 at 7 p.m.

Join us for a panel discus-

sion on DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) issues with Wheaton community leaders, including the CUS200 Superintendent, Chief of Police, City Manager, and more. Please submit questions for the panel to ce@wheatonlibrary.org

Marget Hamilton: Wheaton's First Female Mayor

Thursday, March 25 at 7 p.m.

Wheaton journalist Bob Goldsborough discusses the extraordinary accomplishments of Wheaton's first female mayor, Marget Hamilton, including her fight for fair housing, the forming of the Wheaton chapter of the League of Women Voters, and saving the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railroad right-of-way for future use as the Illinois Prairie Path. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Wheaton and the City of Wheaton Community Relations Commission.

Save the Date for Native Plant Sale



Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission encourages the community to save the date for its annual Native Plant Sale in cooperation with the Wheaton Park District. The sale will feature

flowers, bushes, grasses, shrubs and more that are native to Illinois, making them a hardy and environmentally friendly choice.

The sale will be on Saturday, April 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Wheaton Public

Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive.

Volunteers are needed for set up on Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24. Please email pope606au@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in volunteering.

Wheaton Public Library Expanding Weekend Hours



The Wheaton Public Library (WPL) will be expanding weekend hours beginning March 6. The library will be open for Grab & Go service on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays year-round from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Weekday hours will remain the same with the library open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays. Curbside service will remain the same with hours being offered Mondays through Fridays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Grab & Go service in the building includes browsing, material check out, and public computer use only. Tables and chairs are not available for patron use. Patrons are asked to limit their time in the library to 30 minutes and any staff interaction to under 10 minutes. Face coverings that cover both mouth and nose are required for all library staff and patrons over the age of 2 and six feet of distance must be maintained. Patrons are also asked to stay home if they or a member of their family is currently ill or exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19.

For more information on WPL hours and services offered, please visit wheatonlibrary.org.

March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month



This month, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency encourages all residents to prepare themselves for severe weather. One action you can take is to familiarize yourself with the following terms to stay alert and prepared.

- Tornado Watch: conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes.
- Tornado Warning: a tornado has been reported by spotters, or National Weather Service (NWS) meteorologists have determined that one is about to form in the next several minutes.

Go to a substantial shelter immediately.

- Severe Thunderstorm Watch: conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms containing large hail and damaging wind.
- Severe Thunderstorm Warning: large hail and/or damaging wind has been reported by spotters, or is about to develop. Go to a substantial shelter immediately.

For more severe weather preparedness tips and information, please visit the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/iema>.

CITY CALENDAR

City Council Meetings and Planning Sessions are held in the Council Chambers at Wheaton City Hall, 303 W. Wesley St. Visit www.wheaton.il.us for a complete list of meetings and events

March 2021

- 1 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 8 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 15 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.

