

Living
WHEATON

CITY OF WHEATON NEWSLETTER

April 2021

CITY NOTES

City Offices Closed
Non-emergency City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Friday, April 2.

Crews Filling Potholes

It's the time of year when potholes appear throughout our region due to extreme shifts in temperature. Public Works crews are out during the day and at night working to fill potholes. To report a pothole in Wheaton, visit www.wheaton.il.us/servicerequest.

Wheaton Place Parking Garage Elevator Construction Completed

The project to replace the Wheaton Place Parking Garage elevator is now complete, and the elevator is back in service. Thank you for your patience while the City made these necessary repairs.

(Continued on next page)

Consolidated Municipal Election Takes Place on Tuesday, April 6

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



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

North District

- Scott A. Brown

South District

- Bill Nieman
- Mark Yetsky
- Scott D. Weller

East District

- Michael Francis Barbier

West District

- Lynn A. Robbins

In-Person Voting

In-person early voting can be done at the DuPage County Fairgrounds (2015 Manchester Road), or at any of the other additional early voting locations. For in-person early voting hours and a list of additional voting

(Continued on Page 3)

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

Continued from page 1

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



ComEd Tree Trimming Scheduled for Areas of Wheaton

ComEd will begin tree trimming in the Wheaton area within the next few months. Affected residents have received or will be receiving postcards from ComEd to notify them prior to any scheduled preventative

tree maintenance activities. This work is necessary to remove tree branches and vines that interfere with power lines that can create safety hazards and cause power outages.

In some cases, tree removal may be required, and the remaining tree stumps are treated with an approved herbicide to prevent future regrowth. All work is performed by qualified arborists, and herbicide is applied by state-licensed applicators.

To [view maps of the affected areas](#) please visit the City's website.

If you have questions regarding the tree trimming process, or for more information about vegetation maintenance along power lines please visit <http://www.ComEd.com/Trees>, or call 800-Edison-1 (800-334-7661)

Federal Tax Filing Deadline Extended to May 17

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced on March 17 that they would be extending the time to file taxes from April 15 to Monday, May 17.

Commission News

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

- Kevin Illia,

reappointed to a three-year term on the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners

- Marisa Nickol, appointed to a three-year term on the Sister City Commission

Employment Opportunities

The City currently seeks applicants for the following employment opportunities:

- Lateral Police Officer
- Part-Time Building Department Services Representative
- Emergency Management Specialist
- 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>.



DuPage County Health Department Vaccination Clinic Process

Visit the DuPage County Health

Department's website to [view the video](#) and to [learn more about the vaccination process](#) including scheduling a vaccination appointment, what to bring to your vaccination appointment, and what you should know about your appointment.



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

Continued from page 1

[visit the DuPage County website.](#)

If voting in-person on election day, residents can visit www.dupageco.org/voterlookup to find the site of their polling place. The Check Your Election Information tool can be used to view election information by name, address or district.

Please note that the voter registration period has ended, and if you are not registered to vote, then “grace period” registration is available up until the day before the election. Voters that register during “grace period” registration must vote at the time of registration.

Vote by Mail

Eligible DuPage County registered voters may also 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.

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

Illinois Set to Expand Vaccine Eligibility & Creates Pathway for State to Fully Reopen

In recognition of an increasing national vaccine supply and the state’s increased vaccine administrations per day, Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Health announced that all Illinois residents age 16+ will be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine starting Monday, April 12.

Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Health also announced that the state could begin transitioning into a [Bridge to Phase 5 phase](#) prior to the state advancing to Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois plan as more people in Illinois receive the Covid-19 vaccine and the state maintains low test positivity rates. This phase will serve as a transition period with [higher capacity limits and increased business operations](#) while keeping the state’s mask mandate in effect in accordance with current CDC guidance.

In order to advance into the Bridge Phase, the entire state must



Illinois Department of Health announced that all Illinois residents age 16+ will be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine starting April 12.

reach a 70% first dose vaccination rate for residents 65 and over, maintain a 20% or lower ICU bed availability rate and hold steady on COVID-19 and COVID-like illness hospital admissions, mortality rate, and case rate over a 28-day monitoring period.

To advance to Phase 5, the state must reach a 50% vaccination rate for residents 16 and over and meet the

same metrics and rates required to enter the transition phase, over an additional 28-day period.

While regulations are rolled back gradually, the City encourages residents to continue to follow the public health guidelines, like wearing a mask in public and social distancing.

Visit the Illinois.gov website for [more information about the Bridge to Phase 5 phase.](#)

Wheaton Police Department 2020 Annual Report Available on City Website



Residents can now [view the Wheaton Police Department 2020 Annual Report](#) on the City's website.

This document is prepared with the intent of providing a transparent report for the

community to help further inform and educate residents about the City's Police Department. The Wheaton Police Department personnel continue to assess the needs of the community and work to exceed

the community's expectations.

The City encourages the community to [learn more about your police department](#) through this report by visiting the City's website.

Recycling Event to Offer Paper Shredding, Syringe Disposal and More

The City's Environmental Improvement Commission invites the community to its annual Recycling Extravaganza on Saturday, April 10, 2021. This event is offered with the support of DuPage County and the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, and it is open to all DuPage County residents.

This event will be in the Commuter Parking Lot at Carlton Avenue and Liberty Drive and run from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants will be able to drive through and drop off their items at various stations while volunteers unload items from vehicles. Masks are required at this event, and items are to be placed as far back in trunks as possible for volunteers to handle.

Items you can drop off include:

- Documents for shredding on-site (up to 4 standard office-sized boxes): Please remove binders, rubber bands, binder clips, page protectors, plastic bags, plastic file tabs, CDs, vinyl checkbook holders, batteries, and other hard items (items are fire hazard for shred truck). No photos, magazines or newspapers. Staples and paper clips do not need to be removed. Boxes will be returned to vehicle(s).
- Electronic recycling: fee applies for TVs and monitors (\$25 per TV/monitor with screen smaller than 21" and \$35 per TV/monitor with screen

21" or larger. eWorks Electronic Services Inc. will accept cash or credit card payments at the drop-off (no checks), or you can prepay at <http://recycling.eworksesi.org>.)

- Scrap metal
- Cooking oil
- Textiles (please provide in plastic bags)
- Syringe and epi-pen disposal
- Medicine disposal
- Bikes and bike repair tools
- Eyeglasses and hearing aids
- Books (all children's books, hard cover, paperback books, reference, textbooks, coffee table)
- Records - vinyl, 45s, LPs, 33, 78
- Brita filters and

pitchers

- Small ink jet cartridges
- Musical instruments
- Sheet music
- Keys
- Holiday lights
- Latex paint (\$2.50 per quart, \$5 per gallon, or \$18 per 5-gallon can/bucket)
- Aerosol paint cans (\$1 per can)
- Large batteries: car, boat, motorcycle, sump pump
- Propane tanks

This event is offered in partnership with the City of Wheaton, the Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission, SCARCE, the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, DuPage County, Wheaton Lions Club, Working Bikes, Flat Can, and Earth Paints.

Work Continues on Downtown Improvements

Crews began work on the final phase of the Downtown Streetscape project in March. As they continue to make improvements to Downtown Wheaton, the following street segments are where construction work will primarily be located:

- Wheaton Avenue from Liberty Drive to Wesley Street
- Cross Street from Liberty Drive to Front Street
- Liberty Drive from West Street to Cross Street
- Willow Avenue from



Hale Street to Main Street

- Wesley Street from West Street to Wheaton Avenue
- Parking Lots 3 and 4 along Liberty Drive

Portions of this project require temporary lane closures and/or detours as crews replace underground infrastructure, replace roadways and sidewalks,

and more. The City will continue to keep the community informed of construction updates through Facebook, Twitter, the City's website, email updates and City of Wheaton Channel 10. 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.

Visit the City's website to learn more about the project by visiting www.wheaton.il.us/downtownstreetscape.

Save the Date for Native Plant Sale

Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission encourages the community to "grow native" and consider environmentally friendly plants through its annual Native Plant Sale. The sale will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 24 at the City of Wheaton Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive. This event is provided through the partnership of the City's Environmental Improvement Commission, City of Wheaton and Wheaton Park District to encourage the community to choose eco-friendly plants for their landscapes.



Due to Covid-19 safety protocols, this year's sale will be slightly different than past years. The sale will be outdoors in the Public Works Storage Yard (across the street from the Public Works building), and face masks and social distancing will be required. Sales are limited to credit card and checks only; no cash sales allowed. Volunteers

will be on site to ensure that social distancing can be maintained and to control the number of people allowed into the sale at one time.

Parking for this event will be at the Commuter Parking Lot 9, just east of the Storage Yard, at Liberty Drive and Carlton Avenue.

Native plants such as flowers, shrubs, trees

and grasses sold are all varieties native to northern Illinois, which make them drought-resistant and hardy choices for our climate. You will be able to preview the types of plants available at the sale on the City's website closer to the date of the sale.

You can also pre-order a rain barrel in cooperation with the Conservation Foundation and pick it up at the event. Visit <https://upcycle-products.com/il-programs/wh/> to pre-order your rain barrel. Mail-in orders are due by April 16; online orders are due by April 19.

Wheaton French Market Set to Open at New Location with Covid-19 Guidelines

Bensidoun USA will be opening the Wheaton French Market season on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at a new temporary location of Reber Street and Liberty Drive near Courthouse Square and the City's Water Department facility. The market will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday through Nov. 27, 2021 with the first hour of the market between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. being reserved for the unvaccinated at-risk population that includes seniors and those with underlying health conditions.

The market will open with many of the previous year's Covid-19 precautions in place to protect the health of shoppers and vendors. Precautions include social distancing requirements and directional pathways throughout the market. In addition, all attendees and participants must wear face masks while within the boundaries of the market.

Both vendors and shoppers will need to continue to follow the health and safety guidelines in accordance with current State



- Stay at home if you are sick.
- Face covering or mask is required.
- When possible, send just one family member/person to the market. Limit family groups.
- 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. is reserved for the unvaccinated at-risk population (seniors age 65+ and those with underlying health conditions). Anyone within the at-risk population should visit between these times or stay home.
- No dogs or animals will be allowed unless they are service animals.
- Pre-ordering of food items if vendors offer services is encouraged. The [Virtual French Market](#) on Bensidoun's website has more than 100 vendors providing items that can be pre-ordered.
- The market will operate in a one-way direction marked by

arrows on the ground.

- Maintain at least an arm's length distance between other shoppers and vendors.
- Avoid hand-to-hand contact between vendors and other shoppers.
- Quickly move through the market, pick up items, and depart.
- Pay with credit or debit when possible. If you must pay with cash, please note that vendors may not be able to give change in an effort to lessen contact.
- No consumption of food will be allowed on site.
- No seating will be offered.

The [Wheaton French Market Covid-19 guidelines for shoppers and vendors](#) may be revised throughout the season to coincide with the required state mandates. All questions should be directed to the French Market organizer, Bensidoun USA, at bensidounmarkets@gmail.com.

If you are interested in being a vendor, please visit <https://bensidounusa.com/be-a-vendor/> for more information.

Wheaton Police Department Raises Over \$20,000 for Special Olympics Illinois

The Wheaton Police Department participated in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics for the first year this March and raised over \$20,000 for Special Olympics Illinois. The Wheaton Police Department's Polar Plunge team, Frosted Donuts, officially took the plunge on Saturday, March 6 and were joined at the event by Special Olympics athlete Becky Cavanagh. The Polar Plunge team consisted of 26 voluntary participants from the Wheaton Police Department, Wheaton Fire Department, and Community Unit School District 200.

Community Engagement Officer Crystal Miroballi would like to thank the citizens of Wheaton for their support and contributions to Special Olympic Illinois. "We couldn't have been as successful as we were without the support of the community," Officer Miroballi said.

Visit the City's website to [see a video of the event](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wheaton French Market

Saturdays, starting
April 10
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.*
Reber Street & Liberty
Drive

The weekly outdoor French Market returns to downtown Wheaton starting April 10. Each week features a different mix of vendors, including fresh produce, specialty foods, baked goods, handmade gifts, jewelry and much more. See page 6 for more information.

*8 a.m. to 9 a.m. is reserved for seniors and those with underlying health conditions.

Recycling Extravaganza

Saturday, April 10

8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Commuter Lot 9, Carlton
Avenue & Liberty Drive

Take advantage of this special event, where you drop off up to 4 boxes of documents for paper shredding, dispose of syringes, and get rid of paint (for a fee), scrap metal, unwanted medicine, and electronics. See page 4 for more information.

Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 24
8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Public Works Storage
Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive

The City of Wheaton, Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission, and the Wheaton Park District encourage residents to plant native

plants in future landscape projects. You can find many varieties for sale at the annual Native Plant Sale on Saturday, April 24. See page 5 for more information.

Wheaton Public Library: Versiti Blood Drive

Wednesday, April 28
12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Versiti Blood Center of Illinois will be holding a blood drive in the library's parking lot in their mobile coach from 12 p.m. through 6 p.m. Appointments will be honored first, but walk-ins are welcome.

Wheaton Public Library Virtual Events

Register for Wheaton Public Library virtual

events at wheatonlibrary.org/calendar.

Unlocking Autism
Tuesday, April 6
7 p.m.

Armchair Tour of the Solar System
Thursday, April 8
7 p.m.

The Mystery of Nancy Drew
Tuesday, April 13
7 p.m.

COVID-19 Updates with Dr. Kevin Most
Tuesday, April 20
7 p.m.

Banish Burnout
Wednesday, April 28
7 p.m.

Edith Head: The Woman Who Dressed America
Thursday, April 29
7 p.m.

Good Citizens Award Nominations Due April 26

The City of Wheaton Community Relations Commission is seeking nominations for individuals and groups for Wheaton's 2021 Good Citizen Awards through April 26. The categories for nominees are: high-school student, adult, and group. A nominee must be a current Wheaton resident who has done something for the benefit of Wheaton and its citizens.



This award helps recognize those who make the generous and often extraordinary contributions that make Wheaton an outstanding

community. This may be volunteer service for a school, religious institution, nursing home, civic group or nonprofit organization.

To nominate someone, fill out an application by Monday, April 26 and submit it at www.wheaton.il.us/goodcitizen or mail your application to Wheaton City Hall, Attn: Andrea Rosedale, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187.

The Community Relations Commission will review nominations, and the City will honor award recipients at the May 17 City Council meeting.

Community Relations Commission Thanks Community for Celebrating Women's History Month

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The City's Community Relations Commission held numerous events and activities throughout the City in March in celebration of Women's History Month. The Commission's [Women's History Month web page](#) shared information about the history of the Women's History Month; Women's History Month related events including the [We Are Women Art Exhibit in](#)

[Downtown Wheaton](#); and included a special collection of [women who played an important role in Wheaton](#). In addition, the Community Relations Commission asked residents to highlight special women of Wheaton on social by using the hashtag #womenofwheaton.

The Commission thanks all of the community for helping in celebrating Women's History Month in Wheaton and encourages residents who haven't already done so to visit www.wheaton.il.us/womenshistorymonth and to continue to use the hashtag #womenofwheaton on their social media platforms.

IEMA Provides Tips for Preparing Youth for Emergencies

Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time. Disaster planning, response and recovery efforts should always consider the unique needs of children, who make up roughly a quarter of the U.S. population. That is why the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, and county emergency management agencies, are taking steps to promote youth preparedness.

Tips for incorporating children into disaster preparedness:

- Promote Interactive activities within your family. One way to do this is by involving children in the development of a family emergency plan.
- Use real world events to teach about emergency situations and disasters. Using media coverage of current disasters

(floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, power outages), talk to children about how your family would respond if this happened to you. Using your family emergency plan, discuss where would you go, what would you do and how you will ensure their safety during an emergency.

- Children who are prepared experience less anxiety and feel more confident during actual emergencies and disasters.
- For younger children, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has collaborated with the American Red Cross to produce a disaster preparedness activity book, Prepare with Pedro.

For more information about youth preparedness, please visit Ready.Illinois.gov.

CITY CALENDAR

April 2021

- 2 City Offices Closed
- 5 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 12 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 19 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 26 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.

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

