

CITY OF WHEATON

NEWSLETTER

February 2023

CITY NOTES

City Offices Closed - Presidents' Day

As a reminder, City offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 20 in observance of Presidents' Day. Garbage pickup will not be affected.

Board/Commission Appointments

The City Council approved the appointments to the following City Boards and Commissions:

- Donald Westlake was reappointed to the Band Commission for a three-year term
- Anthony DiLeonardi was appointed to the Commission on Aging for a three-year term
- Gary Wente was appointed to the Commission on Aging for a three-year term
- Cate Brady was appointed to the Bicyclist and Pedestrian Commission for a three-year term
- Tracy Jones was reappointed to the Downtown Design Review Board for a

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City Installing 7.5 Miles of New Sidewalks in 2023 to Improve Safety and Accessibility



This year, the City is preparing to add approximately 7.5 miles of sidewalks in areas where there are currently no sidewalks to make our neighborhoods safer and more accessible for all.

The City's New Sidewalk Program will complete the work the City was unable to finish in 2022 due to a materials shortage and workers' strike and will continue the City's comprehensive plan to create a complete network with a sidewalk on at least one side of every neighborhood street.

The program will progress in three phases: spring, summer and fall.

Spring Program: Street segments included in the Spring New Sidewalk Program will consist of those areas postponed from the fall due to a materials shortage and workers' strike. These residents have already received the final plans for the location of sidewalks on their street, and they are also listed on the City's website. Before construction begins, the City will send notices informing these residents of the estimated construction schedule and will follow up with instructions related to parking and driveway access.

Summer Program: Residents who live on

the street segments listed on the next page will see surveyors contracted by the City marking and measuring for the placement of new sidewalks in their neighborhoods in the next several weeks. Engineers will then design plans for the sidewalk layout, and residents will receive a notice with the proposed layout, along with instructions on how to provide comments on the plans. Once the City finalizes plans, these residents will receive notices with estimated construction schedules and follow-up instructions. Construction is anticipated to begin in June. Street segments

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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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- three-year term
- Finny Rajchel was reappointed to the Downtown Design Review Board for a three-year term
- Allison Orr was appointed to the Downtown Design Review Board for a three-year term
- Michael Gresk was appointed to the Commission on Aging for a three-year term
- Kristine Eisenmann was reappointed to the Commission on Aging for a three-year term
- Connor Grant was appointed to the Bicyclist and Pedestrian Commission for a three-year term
- Tim Bayee was reappointed to the Police Pension Fund Board for a three-year term
- Brett Mathieson was reappointed to the Police Pension Fund Board for a three-year term

Employment Opportunities

The City of Wheaton has the following employment opportunities:

- Civil Engineer - Capital Improvements Crossing Guard
- Part-Time Community Service Officer
- Part-Time Social Worker
- Public Safety Analyst

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included in the Summer Program:

- Lynwood Lane, from Greenwood Drive to Delles Road
- Delles Road, from Lynwood Lane to Arbor Avenue
- Cadillac Drive, from Santa Rosa Avenue to Webster Avenue
- Webster Avenue, from Cadillac Drive to Forest Avenue
- Campbell Avenue, from Illinois Street to Indiana Street
- Campbell Avenue, from Evergreen Street to Cul-de-sac
- Gamon Road, from Elm Street to existing sidewalk north of Tennyson Drive
- Summit Street, from Wendover Lane to
- Thomas Road, from Summit Street to Stoddard Avenue
- Ranch Road, from Driving Park Road to President Street
- Howard Court, from Ranch Road to Cul-de-sac
- Cherry Court, from Ranch Road to Cul-de-sac
- Webster Court, from Ranch Road to Cul-de-sac
- Sunset Road, from Aurora Way to Gables Boulevard
- Cherry Street, from Bridle Lane to Cul-de-sac
- Woodlawn Street, from existing sidewalk at 1517

existing sidewalk north of Hawthorne Boulevard

Woodlawn Street to existing sidewalk at 1537 Woodlawn Street

Fall Program:

The final phase of this program will take place in the fall. The street segments to be included in this phase are currently being finalized by City staff. Residents in these areas will receive notices with the proposed plans, an opportunity to provide comments, and updates with construction schedules and instructions.

The City appreciates the community's patience as we work to make neighborhoods safer and more accessible for everyone.

Wheaton Fire Department Practiced Ice Rescue Skills near Fire Station 39



This time of year, frozen lakes and ponds can be especially dangerous. To ensure the Wheaton Fire Department is ready to respond to any situation, the Wheaton

Fire Department crews practiced their ice rescue skills on a pond near Fire Station 39 on President Street. Please remember: No matter how cold the outside temperature,

you should never try walking or skating on ponds, lakes or other bodies of water unless a park district or similar authority has marked it as safe for these activities.

Learn How the Wheaton Police Department Promotes Traffic Safety in the City of Wheaton



The Wheaton Police Department is dedicated to promoting roadway safety within the City of Wheaton through public education and the implementation of

proactive enforcement strategies. All traffic concerns are directly reviewed and vetted by Traffic Unit officers, who develop an appropriate enforcement plan. The Traffic Unit also utilizes

multiple technology resources to help pinpoint optimal enforcement periods based on current traffic data. The Wheaton Police Department has begun publishing

collected traffic data reports for residents and other community stakeholders to view. These reports can be accessed by [visiting the City's website](#).

Share Your Opinion: Take the City of Wheaton's Downtown Parking Survey



The City is conducting a survey to better understand how people park, where they park, and how they feel about parking in the City's downtown area as well

as its two train stations. The City will use the results of its survey to better regulate and designate parking for residents, visitors, customers, employees, and commuters. Anyone

who parks in Wheaton is encouraged to provide input through Feb. 6.

To take the survey online and provide your feedback, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParkingWheaton>.

Apply for the City's Summer Positions

Want to earn extra income and stay busy once summer rolls around? Wheaton is currently hiring Summer Laborers to work out of the Public Works Department over the months of May through August. This position works both independently and in groups and assists various divisions: Facilities, Forestry/Parks and Grounds, Streets, Signs, Water and Sewer, with multiple projects that directly impact the City. To apply, [visit the City's website](#).

City of Wheaton Names New City Attorney



On Jan. 30, 2023, Dawn Didier joined the City of Wheaton as the new City Attorney, following the retirement of longtime City Attorney James Knippen. Didier will lead the recently created Legal Department as the City transitions from legal representation by an outside law firm to a staff position.

Ms. Didier has more than

20 years of municipal legal experience, most recently as Downers Grove's Assistant Village Attorney. She previously represented the City of DeKalb as Assistant City Attorney. In these positions, she has gained significant municipal experience in most every facet of municipal law. Didier holds a juris doctorate degree from John Marshall Law School.

"With Dawn's vast municipal experience and skills, our search team found her to be the ideal person to become the new City Attorney and head of the Legal Department," said City Manager Michael Dzugan.

"We look forward to welcoming her as a key member of our leadership team and benefitting from having a City Attorney on staff."

Wheaton's Environmental Improvement Commission Events are Coming Soon in April



There are many exciting events in the coming months from the Environmental Improvement Commission. Mark your calendar and save the date for these annual events.

Recycling & Paper Shredding Event:

All DuPage County residents can attend the Recycling Extravaganza, which is an opportunity to dispose of/recycle many types of items safely. Paper shredding, syringe disposal, electronic recycling, and more are offered. The event will take place at the DuPage County Fairgrounds from

8:30 a.m. to noon April 1, 2023. Don't miss it!

Native Plant Sale:

In cooperation with the Wheaton Park District, the Commission will host the annual Native Plant Sale! 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 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 29 at the Wheaton Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W. Liberty Drive.

Prairie Path Cleanup:

Volunteers of all ages are needed to help with the annual Prairie Path Cleanup on Saturday, April 29. During this event, groups or individuals will be assigned a location on the Illinois Prairie Path in Wheaton to help clean up. The Environmental Improvement Commission will provide bags. Look for more information on this event coming soon on the City's website and social media.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Spotlight on Wheaton's Boards and Commissions

As a member of the Wheaton community, I am grateful for and happy to recognize the public service efforts of our residents. The City would like to thank all the board and commission members who work tirelessly to ensure Wheaton continues to be an interesting, and vibrant community that we are proud of.

With 15 boards and commissions, over 100 residents volunteer their time, talent, and efforts in so many ways. The following are just a small sampling of the activities of our various boards and commissions over the past year.

Wheaton's Bicyclist and Pedestrian Commission expanded its mission to include the interests of pedestrians in our community, too. This



Mayor Suess

active group led more than a dozen community group rides, including a well-attended history ride touring sites of the great fires of Wheaton, in conjunction with the Historic Commission.

The Band Commission helped support a successful season of the Wheaton Municipal Band, which had full-capacity crowds for many of its 2022 summer concerts. Summer concerts for 2023 will resume

Thursday, June 8.

The Environmental Improvement Commission hosted numerous events supporting sustainability, including the Native Plant Sale, Recycling Extravaganza, Prairie Path Cleanup, and monthly Electronic Recycling Drop-offs.

Wheaton's Historic Commission expanded its [Wheaton Register of Historic Places](#) program with the addition of several properties including 315 Washington, 418 S. West Street, and 115 W. Oak Avenue. Their efforts continued with the addition of a site marker in downtown Wheaton commemorating the former Chicago, Elgin, and Aurora train station that previously stood at the site. We truly appreciate the service contributions of all our residents. Being on a board or commission is an excellent way to

become involved in and to get to know other is our community. There are several openings available for interested residents, including positions on the Band Commission, Bicyclist & Pedestrian Commission, Community Relations Commission, Downtown Design Review Board, Fine & Cultural Arts Commission and Historic Commission. Those interested in serving on a board or commission can learn more and complete an application by visiting the City's website at <https://www.wheaton.il.us/149/Boards-Commissions>. We again thank all our hardworking board and commission members who have played an integral role in maintaining the character of our community. Thank you for making Wheaton the great place it is.

The City of Wheaton Welcomes New Fire Chief and Police Officer



At a recent City Council meeting, we officially welcomed Wheaton's new Fire Chief Robert Brill to the Wheaton Fire Department and Police Officer Eric Sousanes to the Wheaton Police Department.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ice-A-Palooza

Date: Saturday, Feb. 4
Time: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Location: Central Athletic Complex, 500 S. Naperville Road

Join the Wheaton Park District for Ice-a-Palooza! Enjoy open skating and hockey at this free outdoor event and much more!

[See the Wheaton Park District's website for details.](#)

Winter Wine Walk

Date: Saturday, Feb. 4
Time: 2 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
Location: Downtown Wheaton

Stroll throughout Downtown Wheaton and enjoy 12 one-ounce wine tastes at participating businesses! Shop your favorite stores and get a sneak peek at the hottest spring trends. In addition to tastings,

your souvenir wine glass is yours to keep. Make it an early Valentine's Day date or gather the girls for a Galentine's Day celebration! For more information, [visit the Downtown Wheaton Association's website.](#)

Electronic Recycling

Date: Saturday, Feb. 11
Time: 9 a.m.-noon
Location: Public Works Storage Yard, 820 W.

Liberty Drive

Bring unwanted electronics to the monthly electronic recycling collection. This is a drive-through event where volunteers will help unload items from your car. Please note that there is a charge for all TVs and monitors. See www.wheaton.il.us/electronics.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Visit the Wheaton Public Library website for details and for registration at wheatonlibrary.org/



Great Lakes Shipwrecks

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 7

Time: 7 p.m.

Virtual

Join underwater photographer, adventurer, and storyteller Cal Kothrade for this visual odyssey!

We'll learn how and why there are so many shipwrecks here and take an in-depth look at these incredible dive sites. *Registration is required.*

**Living History:
Abraham Lincoln**

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 15

Time: 7 p.m.

Virtual

Actor Kevin Wood tells Lincoln's inspiring personal story from childhood on the frontier to the turbulent years of the Civil War which nearly destroyed our young nation but instead resulted in a new birth of freedom. *Registration is required.*

**African American
Heroes & Sheroes**

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 21

Time: 7 p.m.

Virtual

Starting with her own family, riveting storyteller Linda Gorham shares stories of African American men and women who broke color barriers to accomplish much – often despite difficult circumstances.

In partnership with the City of Wheaton Community Relations Commission and Wheaton League of Women Voters.

Registration required.

Concert: Vintage Love Songs

Date: Sunday, Feb. 26

Time: 2 p.m.

In-person

Valentine's Day may be over, but it's never too late for love! Join Cynthia and Matt Gruel of Nostalgia Entertainment as they perform love songs ranging from the 1920s-60s! *No registration required.*

Stay Safe by Registering for Smart911



Using [Smart911](#) allows you to share information about your health, special circumstances or anything else that would be useful for first responders to know if you call 911.

This service is used by all communities in DuPage County that use DU-COMM, the coordinated emergency dispatching service to the majority of DuPage County. It can also help find the location of calls made to 911 using a cell phone

Information you share about you or your family can only be accessed by a 911 dispatcher, and only when you call from the registered phone number(s) associated with your account. Examples of helpful information you can share include:

- Severe medical allergies or medical conditions
- Physical or mental impairments
- Language barriers for anyone in the household
- Locations for gas and

electrical shutoffs in your home

- Physical descriptions and/or photos of your children in the event of a missing child, fire or other emergency.
- Number/type of pets in the household and any relevant information
- Special circumstances that could assist emergency personnel in responding to your emergency.

To register for Smart911, visit [Smart911.com](#).



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

CITY CALENDAR

February 2023

- 4 Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 6 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 13 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 20 Presidents' Day, City Offices Closed
- 21 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 27 City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.