

September 2013

City Notes

No Garbage Pickup

There will be no garbage pickup on Monday, Sept. 2, due to the Labor Day holiday. Pickup for the entire week of Sept. 2-6 will be delayed by one day.

Also, City of Wheaton offices will be closed on Sept. 2. They will reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

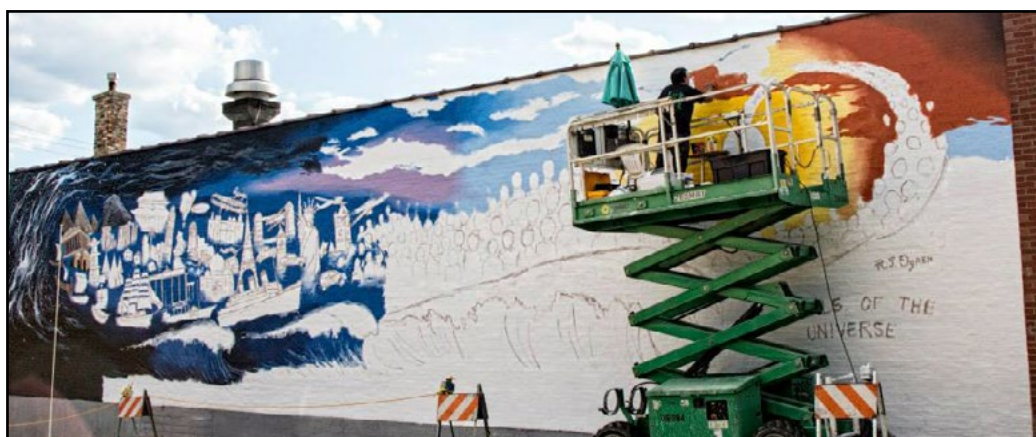
Prairie Path Detour

Due to track construction near the Chase Street railroad crossing in Wheaton, there will be a minor detour of the Illinois Prairie Path. Path users should follow posted signs to the detour route.

Union Pacific is currently working to create a pedestrian underpass at this location. In the future, this crossing will be permanently closed in order for the railroad to install a track crossover switch. The City will have more information about the closure this month.

Lawn Watering Restrictions End

Lawn watering restrictions end Sept. 15, 2013. Until then, residents can water on odd- or
(Continued on next page)



Photos by Lisa Dawn Foertsch

Artist R.J. Ogren is working on a 70-foot mural on College Avenue inspired by a poem written by a Wheaton resident who came here as an Ethiopian refugee.

Diversity Mural Taking Shape

Take an idea, add a couple City commissions, mix in some Wheaton businesses and the talent of a local artist, and what do you get? "Pearls of the Universe," a mural celebrating diversity that is being created on a 70-foot brick wall at 1026 E. College Ave.

Jeannine Bush Clinton, who came to Wheaton from El Salvador, and Mehret Asgedom, who came to Wheaton as an Ethiopian refugee when she was a child, are just two examples of the diversity within the Wheaton community. Bush Clinton sought to have a mural created on the College Avenue



building in which her business resides, and she found inspiration in a poem by Wheaton North High School graduate Asgedom. They looked to a couple of the City's commissions to help make this idea a reality.

This project embodies many of the goals that the Community Relations Com-

Paint Your Name in a Star on the Mural

- **When:** Sept. 8, 1-4 p.m., or Sept. 14, 9 a.m.-noon
- **Location:** 1026 E. College Ave.
- **More information:**
www.wheaton.il.us/mural

mission and Fine & Cultural Arts Commission seek to promote – such as diversity, community and the arts – so the two commissions are jointly supporting it, along with local businesses and individuals.

Artist R.J. Ogren, who currently creates set designs
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Contact
the City

Police/Fire: 911
After-Hours Water/Sewer Emergency: 630-260-2161
General Information: 630-260-2000, 630-260-8090 (TDD)
City Hall Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

Feedback:
Please mail your comments to:
Mayor's Office, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187
Or, email comments to: feedback@wheaton.il.us

City Notes

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even-numbered days corresponding with odd- or even-numbered addresses. Watering is prohibited between noon and 6 p.m.

Even though watering restrictions end Sept. 15, the City encourages you to take actions to “preserve every drop,” the water conservation program that the City of Wheaton, the DuPage Water Commission and many other local communities support.

For ideas on how to save water, visit www.preservingeverydrop.org.

Ordinance Update Allows for U-Verse

The City Council has adopted an ordinance that would allow AT&T to install U-Verse utility cabinets in various areas of the city. The ordinance establishes the locations within the right-of-way where above-ground utility cabinets can be placed.

It includes a provision that would not allow utility cabinets to be placed in the front yard of homes or on the same side of the home as the front door on corner lots. The City Council voted 5-2 in favor of the ordinance, which will allow AT&T to begin offering its U-verse service at some locations in Wheaton.

Commission News

The City Council approved the appointment of Brett Mathieson to the Board of Trustees – Police Pension Fund for a two-year term.

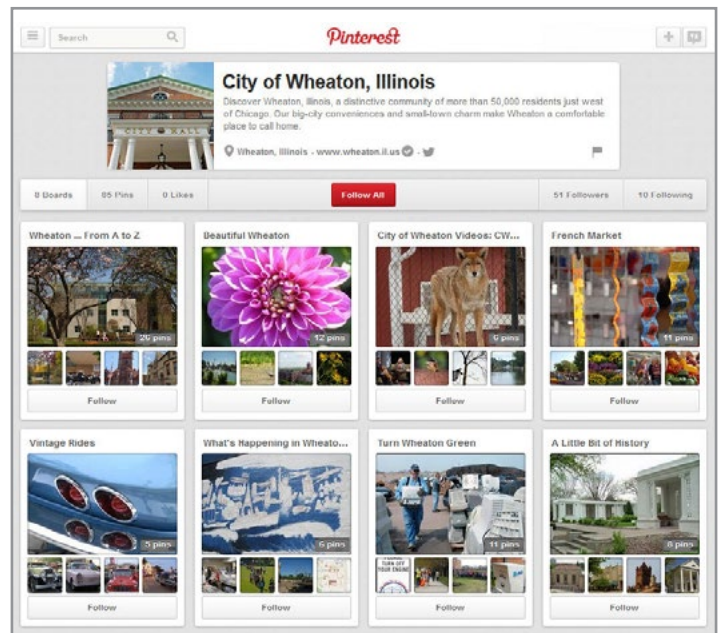
Wheaton's on Pinterest – Are You?

Follow CityOfWheaton to see photos and updates from the City

Wheaton added another tool to reach residents, businesses, visitors and others. You can now follow Wheaton on Pinterest at <http://pinterest.com/cityofwheaton>.

Describing itself as “a tool for collecting and organizing the things that inspire you,” Pinterest is a social media website where users can view and “pin” images and links to information onto digital pinboards. Because of Pinterest’s visual nature, it is a great way to feature what Wheaton has to offer, in addition to providing useful information on what’s happening in the community.

“One of the keys to communicating with the Wheaton community and beyond is reaching out to people where they already are, and one of those places is Pinterest,” said Public Relations Coordinator Susan Bishel. “Pinterest has more than 70 million users, so it makes sense for the City to use it to reach people who might not use Twitter, watch



Items on Pinterest are grouped into virtual pinboards, which are grouped in categories such as “Wheaton ... from A to Z,” which gives a glimpse of 26 great things in Wheaton.

the City’s government television channel or visit the City’s website.”

Anyone can view Wheaton’s photos and information at <http://pinterest.com/cityofwheaton>, and users can sign up for a free account if they’d like to

create their own pinboards.

You can learn more about the various ways you can stay connected with the City – including Twitter, email updates, City of Wheaton Channel 10, and the City’s website – at www.wheaton.il.us/connect.



Mural

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at Wheaton Drama, was commissioned to create the mural. Ogren’s past work includes painting and creating murals at Walt Disney World’s Magic Kingdom, portraits, set design, more than 80 murals and much more throughout his career.

This month, you can take part in this process. From 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8 and 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Sept. 14, you can paint your name in a star on the mural. A mural dedication is being planned



Photo by Lisa Dawn Foertsch

for Sunday, Oct. 6. More information about this opportunity will be available soon on the City’s website.

Businesses interested in

sponsoring different aspects of this project can contact Community Relations Commission member Laurie Swanson at 630-260-7821.

Ride DuPage Fares Will Increase Sept. 1

Program provides subsidized transportation to seniors and residents with disabilities

The fare for the Ride DuPage transportation program increases on Sept. 1. Seniors age 65 and older and residents with disabilities can receive curb-to-curb paratransit service through Ride DuPage, a subsidized transportation service. The new fare is a flat fee of \$2 per ride plus \$1 for each mile traveled. Because ridership more than doubled from 2011 to 2012, program costs have risen, necessitating the fare increase.

There are no coupons or ID cards associated with the program. Participants must register for the program before using it.

To register, complete a Ride DuPage Registration Form and Waiver (pdf) and send it to the City of Wheaton, Attn: Ride DuPage, 303 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL 60187. You can [download a Ride](#)



Ride DuPage fares will increase to a flat fee of \$2 per ride plus \$1 for each mile traveled.

[DuPage Information Packet, Registration Form and Waiver](#) (pdf), pick up a copy at City Hall or call 630-260-2019.

The fare for the Ride DuPage to Work program will be \$3 for the first 6 miles, plus \$1 for each additional mile. For

more information about this program, contact Executive Assistant Sara Bemer at 630-260-2019.

Call JULIE Before You Dig

If you're planning to install a swing set, do some landscaping that requires digging, put up a fence, or even install a mailbox post, the City urges you to call JULIE before digging to ensure you do not cut or damage underground utility lines when you dig.

All you need to do is call 811 or put in a request at www.illinois1call.com two business days before digging. JULIE Inc., a nonprofit organization, will come out and mark utility lines free of charge so homeowners and contractors know where these underground utilities are located. For information, visit www.illinois1call.com.

Longtime Library Director Retiring

Sarah Meisels, Wheaton Public Library Director, will retire at the end of September after 47 years of service to the community.

The community is invited to attend an open house from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8 hosted by the Board of Library Trustees and the Friends of the Wheaton Public Library. Attendees can sign a keepsake book on the main floor of the library and enjoy light refreshments in Parkview Commons. There will be a brief presentation at 3 p.m.

In 1966, Meisels began working at WPL as a Reference Librarian. She soon was promoted to Assistant

Community Open House Honoring Sarah Meisels

- **Date:** Sunday, Sept. 8
- **Time:** 2-4 p.m., presentation at 3 p.m.
- **Location:** Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](#)

Library Director, and in 1978, in the midst of construction of a library addition, Meisels became Library Director, a position she has held for the past 35 years.

During her tenure as director, the library transitioned from the era of the card catalog to the age of the



worldwide web and online databases. The library also experienced an expansion and remodeling that doubled the size of the library in 2007, adjoining it with Adams Park.

School is in Session – Please Slow Down!

Now that summer vacation is over, it is back to school time for the children of our community.

School children are too often the tragic victims of automobile accidents because of their small size, inattention to vehicular traffic and speeding

vehicles. Some children may be walking to school for the first time, while others may have forgotten their pedestrian safety lessons.

All drivers need to be especially alert for the following situations:

1. Children walking or riding bicycles,

2. School buses loading or unloading children,

3. Crossing guards at school crossings,

4. Posted school speed zones of 20 MPH!

The Wheaton Police Department strictly enforces all laws regarding school speed zones, crossings, and bus stop

requirements.

It is unlawful to text or use a hand-held cell phone while travelling through a school zone.

Wheaton Police Officers will issue full citations for all violations near schools or school zones. Warnings will not be an option.

Upcoming Events

Vintage Rides

When: Fridays, 6:30-9 p.m.
Sept. 6 and Sept. 13

Where: [100 East and 100 West blocks of Front Street](#) (on either side of Main Street)

Check out antique cars during this popular weekly summer car show on Front Street each Friday night. The free family-friendly event is hosted by the Downtown Wheaton Association, and a different make or model of a classic car will be featured each week. Enjoy music, cars and more on the 100 East and 100 West blocks of Front Street (on either side of Main Street) in downtown Wheaton. To see the model of cars featured each week, [visit the DWA's website](#).

Electronic Recycling

When: Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 a.m.-noon

Where: Wheaton Public Works Storage Facility, [820 W. Liberty Drive](#)

Drop off your unwanted electronics for recycling during the City's monthly collection event. Electronics such as televisions, computers, printers and small household appliances such as toasters and hair dryers are accepted. Also, Wheaton residents can now bring fluorescent bulbs for safe disposal (no businesses,



please). The types of bulbs accepted include T-12, T-8 and T-5 fluorescent bulbs (often found in light fixtures used in utility rooms and basements); aquarium tubes; under-counter fluorescent tubes. Please do not tape fluorescent tubes together. CFLS and household batteries are not accepted at the monthly electronic recycling collection. [More information is on the City's website](#).

Wheaton Wine & Cultural Arts Festival

When: Saturday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Where: Memorial Park, [Wheaton & Karlskoga avenues](#)

The Downtown Wheaton Association and Wheaton Park District will host

this event featuring wine tasting, fine art and live entertainment. Attendees can vote for their favorite wine, and the winning wine will be featured in downtown Wheaton restaurants for the coming year. Artisans will demonstrate their work, and live jazz and contemporary music performances will take place, also. For more information, [see the Wheaton Park District's website](#).

Library Book Sale

When: Sept. 26-29; preview sale for Friends Members Sept. 25

Where: Wheaton Public Library, [225 N. Cross St.](#)

The Friends of the Wheaton Public Library will host this annual sale of hardcover and paperback

books, DVDs, VHS tapes, CDs, LPs, cassettes, video games and audiobooks at bargain prices. All proceeds benefit library programs. The sale is open from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Sept. 28; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29. A Preview Sale for Friends Members only will be from 5-9 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25. Donations of books and more will be accepted starting Aug. 21 at the library. For more information, [visit the Wheaton Public Library's website](#).

French Market

When: Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Where: Parking lot at [Main Street and Liberty Drive](#) in downtown Wheaton

Wheaton's popular outdoor French Market takes place from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. each Saturday near the intersection of Main Street and Liberty Drive, just south of the railroad tracks in downtown Wheaton. Inspired by the outdoor markets of France, vendors at this weekly event sell much more than your typical farmers market. Find pastries, flowers, art, jewelry, handmade gifts, locally grown produce and many specialty items at the French Market.

Program Allows First Responders to Better Assist You

Wheaton residents can take advantage of a free service, [Smart911](http://www.smart911.com), which provides 9-1-1 dispatchers with important information that can help first responders better assist you if you experience an emergency. Smart911 allows you to provide as little or as much information about your health, special circumstances, your home or anything else that might be useful for a paramedic, police officer or firefighter to know if they respond to your emergency. This service is used by all communities in DuPage County that use DuPage Public Safety Communications (DU-COMM), which provides coordinated emergency dispatching service to the majority of DuPage County.

Types of Information You Can Share

You can elect to share as much or as little information as you would like emergency crews to have in order to better serve you. Types of information that could be helpful include:

- Severe medical allergies or medical conditions that might affect how paramedics treat your medical emergency



- Information about physical or mental impairments that can help first responders respond appropriately

- Language barriers that exist for anyone in the household

- Locations for gas and electrical shutoffs in your home

- Physical descriptions and/or photos of your children to provide to emergency responders in the event of a missing child, fire or other emergency.

- Number/type of pets in the household and any relevant information

- Any other special circumstances that could assist



emergency personnel in responding to your emergency.

Any information you share when setting up a Smart911 profile for you or your family remains secure and can't be accessed unless you call 9-1-1 from the registered phone number. Your information can't be accessed for any other purpose.

Service Can Help Locate You in an Emergency

The FCC reports that about 70 percent of calls to 9-1-1 come from cell phones.

How to Register:

To register for Smart911, visit www.smart911.com and fill out a profile that can be tied to your land line and/or one or more cell phone numbers.

If your call is dropped or if you are unable to speak, there is no guarantee a dispatcher can locate you if you call 9-1-1. If the number is registered through Smart911, the dispatcher will know who is calling and will have enhanced abilities to find where the signal came from.



City Calendar

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 Wheaton City Hall. Visit www.wheaton.il.us for a complete list of meetings and events.

September 2013

- 2** City offices closed; No garbage pickup
- 3** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 7** Coffee with Council, 10 a.m.
- 9** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.
- 16** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 23** City Council Planning Session, 7 p.m.