

IT'S YOUR CITY

West Allis

SUMMER 2020 MAGAZINE

VOTE ABSENTEE

www.myvote.wi.gov

TAKE THE CENSUS

2020census.gov

Meet Your New Alderpersons

Thank You Alderpersons Barczak, Czaplewski and May

Building Diversity

Changing a Culture at the West Allis Fire Department

www.westalliswi.gov

Welcome

CLOSED JULY 3

All City buildings will be closed on Friday, July 3, for Independence Day.

2020-2024

West Allis Mayor and Common Council

Mayor

Dan Devine

414-302-8290

ddevine@westalliswi.gov

First District

Angelito Tenorio

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Vincent Vitale

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Second District

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Martin J. Weigel

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Third District

Suzette Grisham

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Danna Kuehn

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Fourth District

Thomas G. Lajsic

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Daniel J. Roadt

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Fifth District

Kevin Haass

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Rosalie L. Reinke

414-543-0587

reinke@westalliswi.gov

Dear Neighbors,

We had planned to share our summer issue of "It's Your City" with you in April. The issue was full of information about summer events and activities, and we were looking forward to celebrating summer with you.

Of course, the coronavirus pandemic has quickly changed our summer planning, and we delayed mailing this issue as the pandemic unfolded and state and federal guidelines evolved. We wanted to ensure the information you received was accurate, but the situation continues to rapidly change. Accordingly, you won't see much information in this issue about City events or the pandemic itself, because the information simply moves too fast for print. To stay safe and up to date about how the pandemic is impacting our community, please to go www.westalliswi.gov/coronavirus for the latest information.

Although we face great uncertainty, your elected officials and City staff have not paused their commitment to serving you. Inside this issue, you'll see our work continuing. We've welcomed a new police dog to join the West Allis Police Department's efforts to combat narcotics possession

in our community. The West Allis Fire Department is hard at work encouraging the diverse, young people of our community to consider careers in fire and EMS services. Our Public Works Department is ensuring that essential services such as brush collection, trash and recycling collection, and other sanitation services continue as normal. Also, our Senior Center has worked throughout this time to continue to support the nutritional needs of seniors with its dining program.

There's no doubt that summer will be different this year and as a result of the pandemic, many things may be different as we move forward together. West Allis has been challenged before, and our community's ability to be kind and help one another during difficult times is what pulled us through. Take time this summer to slow down and spend time with those you love. We can't stop change, but we can help one another through it. Stay safe, stay strong, and stay kind.

Best wishes for a safe and happy summer,



Dan Devine
Mayor of West Allis

Want to know what's happening in the City? Sign up for the latest news at www.westalliswi.gov/notifyme

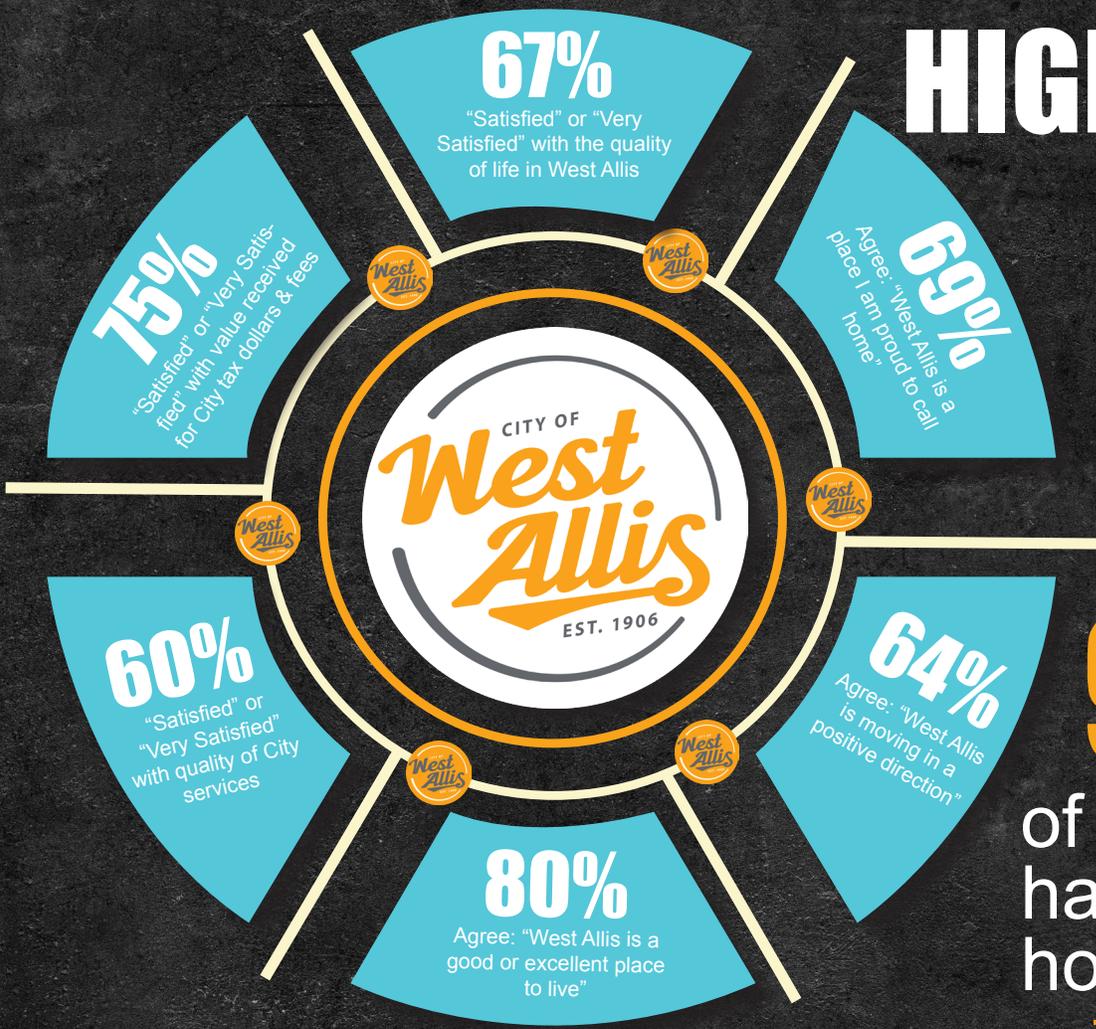
Connect with us



Questions or comments? Contact communications@westalliswi.gov

2019 CITIZEN SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Our first-ever comprehensive citizen survey was conducted in the fall of 2019. The survey was mailed with over 30,000 copies of the fall issue of It's Your City and was available online. Here are some fast facts from the survey responses.



90%



of respondents have internet at home

82%

own smartphones



95% of respondents were white/Caucasian

52% responded online

48% responded by mail

72% of respondents were age 45+

85% of respondents own their current residence



2,848
responses



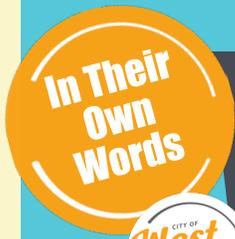
19 minutes
average
response
time per
survey

87%

of respondents 55+ have internet at home



You can view the full survey report at www.westalliswi.gov/citizensurvey.



WHAT'S NEW IN YOUR CITY

New Beginnings: Third District Alderpersons



Welcome Alderperson Danna Kuehn!

Occupation:
Project Manager at Fidelity National Information Services (FIS)

Social Media:
Facebook: dannakuehndistrict3

How long have you lived in West Allis?
All my life (35 years)

What is your background?
I was born and raised in West Allis. I attended Franklin Elementary, Frank Lloyd Wright and West Allis Central. I currently reside in the Conrad Gardens neighborhood with my husband Brad and our 2 dogs. I have been in the finance industry for over 15 years and have taken multiple business courses through WWBIC. I am proud to call West Allis home!

Why did you run for alderperson?
I ran for alderperson because I thought it was a great opportunity to get involved in my community. I want to see the City of West Allis continue to grow while still remembering our roots. I have often said West Allis is a big, little city. We have all the conveniences of a big city - groceries stores, retail stores, hardware stores etc. - most within a 5-10 minute drive. However, we also have that small-town feel when it comes to the community, being able to go to restaurants, fundraisers, church festivals, gas stations or even taverns and knowing most of the people who are also there. I thought I could also bring a different generational point of view to the council, as my generation is the next generation of homeowners looking to plant their roots somewhere, and I want to push for that somewhere to be West Allis.

What is the greatest challenge facing your district/ West Allis as a whole?
Store vacancies, large and small. However, I would want to push to see more of the small storefronts filled. I would love to see those following their dream of owning their own business be able to make it happen here. The City has a lot of resources/programs that can benefit small

business owners, new and current. We need to promote those services so everyone is aware of what they have at their fingertips, as that could help be the deciding factor whether a business chooses to start and keep their business here.

What is the greatest area of opportunity within your district/West Allis as a whole?
I think one of the greatest opportunities we have is to continue the rebranding efforts for the City of West Allis, which will help add to our growth and development. Besides continuing to work on beautification, we need citizen participation. If we can instill a sense of community and promote all the great things that happen here, it should help phase out the "stigma" of West Allis or "dirty stalls." Word of mouth can be one of the greatest marketing tools we have, so having citizen engagement will only benefit the City. I don't think everything can and should be solved by City officials alone; as citizens we also need to own what happens here as we are ultimately the "faces" of West Allis.

What are you most looking forward to in your next four years in office?
I'm looking forward to meeting more of my neighbors and the citizens of West Allis.

Giving New Trees a Hand



The West Allis Forestry Division will plant 375 new trees this spring in West Allis; however, Forestry needs your help watering these trees. If the new tree has a green watering bag, please fill it once or twice a week depending on our rainfall. Please keep all string trimmers and lawn mowers away from the watering bags. If there is no tree watering bag, placing a garden hose at the base of the tree for about one hour, one or two times per week, depending on rainfall, is perfect.



Welcome Alderperson, Suzzette Grisham!

Occupation:

Business Owner/Hair Stylist
Suzzette's Hair 4 You

Social Media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Alderwoman-Suzzette-Grisham-101178134709700>

How long have you lived in West Allis?

35 years

What is your background?

I am approaching this question as a true opportunity for the constituents of West Allis to come to know a more personal side of their new representative. As the last of seven children, I come from very humble beginnings where I learned the value of hard work. I have three beautiful children. Stephanie, (Operations Manager for a local staffing group which specializes in the manufacturing sector), Hailey (Nathan Hale graduate/2nd year nursing student at UW Parkside) and Brennen (sophomore at Nathan Hale). They attended our great schools, formed life-long friendships and are productive members in our community. My greatest joys in life are my children.

While I do not have a traditional four year college education, I don't view it as a deficit but rather a life-long learning process which taught me the value of hard work, community and how to make a positive impact in life. A licensed barber/stylist by profession, I worked at the Hair Surgeon for 13 years where I honed my craft. I had a fantastic mentor who paved the way in motivating me to open my own business. In 2004, I proudly opened my salon (Suzzette's Hair 4 You) located in the heart of West Allis. I have been in business going on 16 years.

My involvement with the community includes the following organizations/committees on which I have served: First Book, Social Development Commission (SDC), Headstart, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, PTA, West Allis Little League, West Allis Strategic Planning Committee, Angels Network, St. Baldricks.

Why did you run for alderperson?

I ran for alderwoman because I have a great passion and love for our City. I planted my roots in West Allis 35 years ago. I have raised a beautiful family, opened a business and I strongly believe our City has so much to offer. I want to give back to the community which has given me and my family so much.

Over the years we have experienced an unfair amount of criticism in which we were left with the huge stigma that West Allis is a less desirable place to live. As in any city, we have our challenges but I believe in our community. I chose to be a part of the solution rather than the problem. In doing this, I gained a level of confidence by participating, coming to know my neighbors, evaluating strengths and weaknesses of our community and

most importantly, listening to the voices of those in the community. I have always had a strong voice of advocacy but found my true voice in others. It has been with encouragement from friends, family, and the community which was the driving force to want to be part of the decision-making process by representing the residents of my district and city as a whole. I have great optimism, enthusiasm and a realistic approach in business which is a great asset to moving our city in a positive direction.

What is the greatest challenge facing your district/ West Allis as a whole?

The greatest challenge we are facing currently is how to manage the COVID-19 crisis. We couldn't have predicted the true impact which has hit us at warp speed. As a community, we are facing a tremendous amount of uncertainty which has impacted us all financially, emotionally and socially.

The challenge ahead is how we will deal with the economic impact this has on our ways of doing business from here forward. How we may help our community rebound. How we will assist small businesses on the brink of closing to keep their doors open. The list goes on. There is much work ahead, but I am confident in our leadership and our council as whole that we will make the appropriate decisions to do what is in the best interests of our residents.

What is the greatest area of opportunity within your district/West Allis as a whole?

The short list is HWY 100. I am very excited about the opportunity which lies ahead for re-development opportunities. This stems from the vision of our Hwy 100 Corridor Study. We have seen a great advancement within our community from home ownership, to small business, to large development. Our community is advancing in profound ways. I take great pride in being part of the the Strategic Plan we are currently following which has put West Allis on the map as the destination we are deserving of.

What are you most looking forward to in your next four years in office?

I am sure I will look back in four years with a very different insight as the experiences will guide me, but as of right now I am looking forward to learning what the needs of our community are, specifically District 3. I am excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work for the people in our community and ultimately do what I love, which is work together for the betterment of West Allis.

I can't wait to meet many of you. Thank you for taking time to make it through my short novel.



WHAT'S NEW IN YOUR CITY

New Beginnings: First District Alderperson



Welcome Alderperson, Angelito Tenorio!

Occupation:
Engagement and Development Manager, Wisconsin Conservation Voters

Social Media:

<https://www.facebook.com/AldermanTenorio/>

How long have you lived in West Allis?

16 years

What is your background?

I served in the Wisconsin Army National Guard, so I understand the importance of servant leadership. It's that same sense of duty and service that motivated me to run for West Allis Alderman.

Currently, as the Engagement and Development Manager with Wisconsin Conservation Voters, I advocate and fight for the natural world around us. I believe in dedicated service and strong leadership, and I believe in West Allis.

Why did you run for alderperson?

I ran for West Allis Alderman in the 1st District to make a difference for you. My parents immigrated to the United States from the Philippines in hopes of finding a better life. They moved to West Allis and fell in love with the city

because of the wonderful neighborhoods and the sense of community. West Allis was where they wanted to raise a family. I grew up in West Allis, and I want to give back to my hometown. Together, we can help our city grow and move forward.

What is the greatest challenge facing your district/West Allis as a whole?

I believe in sustainable development with the goal of creating a West Allis that truly reflects the diversity and talents of our people. I will work with public health officials, first responders, and community educators to address the opioid epidemic. I will advocate for investment in public safety and services to decrease violence and reckless driving in our city. I will make government more accessible and transparent to the people of West Allis. I will host town halls and regularly update my constituents on what's happening in City Hall. Most importantly, I will listen to my constituents on the issues they care about.

What is the greatest area of opportunity within your district/West Allis as a whole?

I believe West Allis has an opportunity to be a leader when it comes to the environment. West Allis should move toward clean energy. We can invest in our future and make our City better for the environment. We would save money and become energy independent. I will also work within the common council to promote policies that encourage composting, both residential and commercial; programs for retrofitting homes and buildings to become more energy efficient; increased access to public transportation, urban gardens, and bike-friendly streets.

What are you most looking forward to in your next four years in office?

West Allis has a lot to offer, and I'm excited about the direction we're going in. I want to be a part of that change. I look forward to being an advocate for my constituents and working with community members to make West Allis the best it can be for everyone.

Calling All West Allis Businesses!

West Allis businesses, make sure our Department of Development has your contact information on record to keep you informed about financial assistance opportunities, grant programs, City marketing opportunities, and more. Join our business contact list at www.westalliswi.gov/businessmailinglist.



WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Alderpersons Gary T. Barczak, Michael J. Czaplewski and Michael P. May



**Alderperson
Gary T. Barczak**

Third district Alderperson Gary Barczak is retiring after 32 years of aldermanic service to the City of West Allis. He served as Chairperson of the Public Works Committee and as a member of the Safety and Development Committee during his 32 years of service. He was an advocate for the Rosehill and Rainbow Gardens Neighborhood Associations, sponsoring multiple resolutions to secure Small Grant Program Focus Grants for the associations. In 2016, Alderperson Barczak's resolution approving and supporting the development of United States Bike Route 30 through the City of West Allis was adopted, expanding access to bicycle routes to West Allis residents. In 2017, Alderperson Barczak's resolution relative to directing staff to assemble an action plan for replacement of the City's Public Works Facility was adopted, laying the groundwork for the future of this key municipal facility. In 2018, he led the successful adoption of a resolution in support of legislative proposals introduced by State Representative Joe Sanfelippo, State Senator Leah Vukmir and other elected officials during the State of Wisconsin Legislature's 2017-2018

Biennial Session. It intended to keep habitual criminals off the streets and stop violent, repeat offenders who continue to cycle through our criminal justice system from continuing to victimize communities throughout Wisconsin. Thank you, Alderperson Barczak!



**Alderperson
Michael J.
Czaplewski**

First district Alderperson Michael Czaplewski is retiring after 25 years of aldermanic service to the City of West Allis. He served as Chairperson of the License and Health Committee, a member of the Administration and Finance Administrative Appeals Review Board, Community Development Authority, Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition, Local Law Enforcement Block Grants Program Advisory Board, and the Weed and Seed Program Interim Neighborhood Revitalization Coordinating Committee. He contributed in sponsoring numerous ordinances and repeals of ordinances throughout his 25 years of service to the City of West Allis that improved and enhanced the clarity and relevance of the City's Municipal Code.

Alderperson Czaplewski was an advocate for the East Allis and Liberty Heights Neighborhood Associations and instrumental in securing small grant funding for both organizations. In 2018, Alderperson Czaplewski's resolution authorizing staff to enter into an agreement with Westallion Brewing Company and other similar breweries/craft brewers to set up a beer tent and/or beer garden at the West Allis Farmers Market enhanced the amenities available at the Market and

established opportunities for future public-private partnerships at this key City destination. Thank you, Alderperson Czaplewski!



**Alderperson
Michael P. May**

Third district Alderperson Michael May is completing his service after eight years of aldermanic service to the City of West Allis. He served as Vice Chairperson of the Advisory Committee and as a member of the Administration & Finance Committee and License & Health Committee during his eight years of service. He championed the passage of numerous resolutions, ordinances, and repeals of ordinances, and was an outspoken advocate for changes to local and state legislation relating to eliminating sex trafficking and protecting the vulnerable people threatened by these crimes. In 2014, Alderperson May successfully passed a resolution to initiate the process of developing a strategic plan for the City of West Allis, setting the path for the creation of the City's 2017–2021 Five Year Strategic Plan, which has been crucial to the City's revitalization and evolution in recent years. In 2020, Alderperson May was instrumental in the effort to adopt a resolution relative to authorizing funding and position approval for the West Allis Police Department to create a part-time School Liaison Officer/School Resource Officer position to staff Lane

Intermediate School. He was an advocate for the Rainbow Gardens and Rosehill Neighborhood Associations and was instrumental in securing small grant funding for both organizations. Thank you, Alderperson May!

Garbage and Recycling for Independence Day 2020

Due to the Independence Day holiday, the garbage and recycling crews will be working on an adjusted schedule. Below is a chart to help you determine when to set out your garbage and recycling. Find your scheduled collection day, then set out your garbage and/or recycling on the first day listed. If your items are not collected on the first day listed, collection will take place the following day.

Holiday Schedule Independence Day 2020	
Scheduled Collection Day	Adjusted Collection Day (if not collected on first day listed, collection will take place the following day)
Monday, June 29	Monday, June 29
Tuesday, June 30	Monday, June 29 and/or Tuesday, June 30
Wednesday, July 1	Tuesday, June 30 and/or Wednesday, July 1
Thursday, July 2	Wednesday, July 1 and/or Thursday, July 2
Friday, July 3 (holiday)	Thursday, July 2

The Municipal Yard and Morgan Avenue Drop Off Site will be closed for drop-off, DPW offices will be closed, and garbage and recycling will not be collected on: **Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4.**

Questions regarding your collection can be directed to the Sanitation and Street Division at www.westalliswi.gov/letushelp.

Brush Collection

Brush is woody material from trees, shrubs, and trimmings from bushes. On recycling day, up to 1½ cubic yards of brush will be collected from April 27 (red week) through October 9 (black week). Brush will not be collected during the holiday weeks of June 29 and Sept. 7. For amounts larger than 1½ cubic yards, call the Sanitation and Street Division at 414-302-8800 for a charge and to arrange collection. Place brush between the sidewalk and curb, cut brush into lengths of five feet or less, and put smaller pieces of brush in a box or can marked "brush." Do not put brush in bags, and do not mix yard waste into brush piles.

*Dedicated to Our People
and Our Communities*

Be something greater. *Be Quad.*

Quad is proud to be a part of the West Allis Community.

This publication is printed by Quad.



Highway 100 Corridor Study Final Report

Gensler Consulting presented the Highway 100 Corridor Study Final Report on Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers, at a special meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

The study provides great insight and outlines the wealth of opportunity if a broad and progressive vision is applied to future planning for the corridor. The Highway 100 Corridor Plan provides a long-term vision and redevelopment strategy to guide future developments along one of the City's most important commercial corridors. It is designed to improve the economic performance and identity of Highway 100, and is grounded in an extensive market analysis that identifies promising opportunities for growth and diversification. The plan identifies select opportunity sites for redevelopment with the goal of creating a walkable, mixed-use environment not found within the corridor today. The plan also includes recommendations for improving mobility in the corridor, and creating a sense of place through environmental art, lighting, and streetscaping. Finally, it provides a series of implementation strategies including zoning code updates, funding strategies, and key action steps.

Gensler has been working with the City since the fall of 2019 to evaluate this area, gather resident and stakeholder feedback, and analyze current and future market trends for this corridor. Learn more at www.westalliswi.gov/hwy100study.



70th Street Transformation

A portion of former office space which was anchored by Allis-Chalmers facilities at 1126 S. 70 St. (on the east side of S. 70 St., 2 blocks north of W. Greenfield Ave.) is coming down, signaling the beginning of a new era at the former manufacturing giant.

Cobalt Partners, a Milwaukee-based redevelopment firm, revealed in January its plans for a \$132 million dollar multi-use facility at the site. The "Allis Yards" project, named with a nod to the location's history, will include a Home2 Suites Hilton hotel, modern office space, housing, and retail within the 23 acre site.

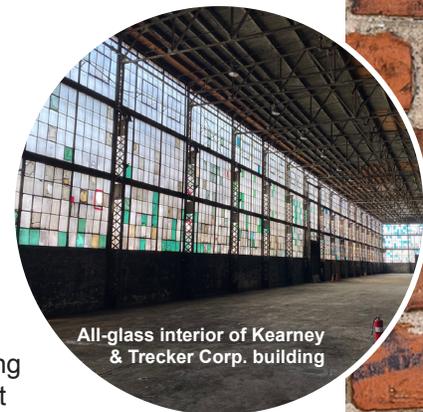
"Unfortunately, the old Allis-Chalmers building was not salvageable from a historical preservation perspective," noted Mayor Dan Devine. "It had been modified over the years, resulting in an outdated floor plan and unusable HVAC systems. The City and Cobalt recognize the history of this facility, but simply could not preserve this building for any productive use."

Scott Yauck, president and CEO of Cobalt Partners, plans to acknowledge the legacy of Allis-Chalmers within the Allis Yards project. A mural is planned that will pay homage to the former factory's workers and bricks salvaged from the demolished building will be used in the construction of a plaza between the new buildings that will be built east of 70th St.



6771 W. National Ave. Comes Back to Life

In the fall of 2019, the white steel siding that hid the all-glass exterior of the Kearney & Trecker Corp. building at 6771 W. National Ave. came down. The West Allis Historical Commission and City of West Allis Community Development Authority worked to add the building to the National Register of Historic Places. For it to be considered, the National Park Service required that the siding, which was added in the 1970s, be removed to restore the original glass paneling exterior. Chicago-based Baum Revision Group is proposing to rehabilitate the 40,000-square-foot building and create a 10,000-square-foot event space along with accompanying restaurants and food production users along with other small businesses. Learn more at www.westalliswi.gov/6771national.



Building Diversity at West Allis Fire Department

When West Allis Fire Department (WAFD) Deputy Chief (DC) Mike Wright joined the department in 2008, he wasn't setting out to make history. He just wanted to be a firefighter.

"I had worked some other jobs after graduating high school, and had an uncle who was a captain with the Milwaukee Fire Department. I knew those other jobs weren't what I wanted to do, so with a little push from my uncle, I applied to join the West Allis Fire Department," recalled DC Wright.

With this decision, DC Wright became the first black firefighter to break the previously all-white ranks of the department.

As West Allis and the country become more rich and diverse, fire departments are working harder than ever to attract and retain new recruits that represent the racial and cultural make-up of the communities they serve. From 2008–2012, DC Wright remained the only minority in the West Allis Fire Department. From 2012 onward, the department has strengthened its diversity, and now approximately 13 of the



Deputy Chief Mike Wright

105 members of the department are minorities, including six women.

"We may be the most diverse department in Milwaukee County," noted DC Wright. "We've made progress, but have a long way to go."

Like many organizations in the public and private sector, fire departments work constantly to proactively recruit new members to the profession. Throughout the year, West Allis Fire Department staff visit job fairs and schools to educate young people about the opportunities available in fire and emergency medical services (EMS). Recently, the West Allis Fire Department partnered with the Milwaukee Area Technical College to launch

an internship program for college students. Students gain hands-on experience in the fire department, and those who demonstrate the commitment and skill required to be a professional firefighter or paramedic may even be offered a position with WAFD.

Still, WAFD and other fire departments struggle to attract minorities to the profession. This lack of diversity impacts emergency services organizations in surprising ways.

DC Wright recalled a call he responded to early in his career. When he arrived at the scene, he found an elderly African American woman suffering from a medical episode. The woman, surrounded by white first responders, was crying and extremely agitated. When she saw DC Wright, she immediately calmed down.

"In the simplest terms, she saw someone who looked more like her, and she felt more at ease," Wright observed. "She said she had never seen a Black firefighter before."



The benefits to patients and those served by diverse fire departments goes beyond this simple connection. “EMS personnel bring their own backgrounds and experiences to their approach to patient care,” said DC Wright. “With more diversity in our staff, we’re better able to understand different perspectives and provide a level of care that meets the needs of all of those we serve.”

But building a diverse staff is still a challenge for most departments. “Historically, firefighters came from family lines,” said West Allis Fire Department Chief, Mason Pooler. “Someone’s grandfather was a firefighter, then their dad, then that person joined the profession. We’re seeing that less, and are working harder to create first-generation firefighters,” said Pooler.

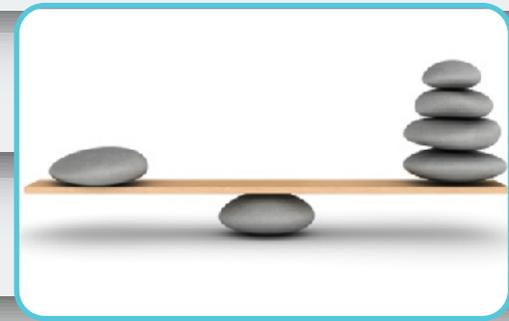
Wright and Pooler agree that challenges in enticing first-generation minority members to the department are complex ones to overcome. Some of these young people may be coming from difficult socioeconomic backgrounds and lack a familial support system to motivate them to stay on course to becoming a firefighter. They may have incidents in their past that they think exclude them from the profession. Others may be wary of the physical demands of emergency services, or intimidated by what they perceive as rigid regimentation within these organizations. Lacking family ties to firefighting and emergency services, many young people are not aware of the rewarding career paths available in this line of work.

The West Allis Fire Department encourages young adults who have an interest in learning more about fire or EMS as a profession to contact the department to arrange a tour or ride-along. Seeing the camaraderie, skill, and professionalism of the department first-hand can often be life changing for these young people.

“It is so rewarding to know you make a difference with your work,” said DC Wright. “You can help people through what may be the worst experience of their life, and know that you helped make it better for them.”



West Allis Fire Department



ASSESSMENT UPDATE

The City of West Allis Assessor's Office is responsible for the maintenance of ownership information, and the valuation of all taxable property within the City in accordance with The Wisconsin Property Assessment Manual and Chapter 70 of the Wisconsin State Statutes. It is our primary responsibility to provide uniform property values so that the burden of taxes is distributed as fairly and equitably as possible under current law.

Though assessed values are used to calculate tax bills, a change in assessed value does not necessarily equate to an increase or decrease in a tax bill. It is important to note that the overall tax burden is a function of the tax levy approved by taxing jurisdictions whereas the assessed value is a marker for the share of that burden. Property owners may see an increase in assessed value if new construction occurred or new improvements were made to the property.

To be clear, the amount a property owner will pay on the tax bill is primarily determined by the tax levy. The tax levy is set by the various taxing jurisdictions including the City of West Allis, West Allis/West Milwaukee School District, Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewage District (MMSD), Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC), Milwaukee County, and the State of Wisconsin.

WEST ALLIS
Farmers Market
 SINCE 1919
 6501 W. National Ave.
 2020 Season is from May 9 - Nov. 28

Tuesdays & Thursdays: Noon-6 p.m.
Saturdays: 1-6 p.m.

Special hours for seniors & vulnerable shoppers:
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11 a.m.-noon

The West Allis Farmers Market is a regional destination offering locally grown products. Enjoy fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh meats and eggs, honey and maple syrup, fresh cut flowers, perennial plants, and prepared foods.

For more information, visit our website at westallisfarmersmarket.com.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Contractors at Work

Contractors hired by the City of West Allis will be performing essential services on our sewer, water, and roadway infrastructure. The contractors' employees will be practicing safe social distancing on the job site. If you have questions for the contractor or City Inspector, we ask you please address them from at least six feet away. Information about road construction projects is available at www.westalliswi.gov. Subscribe to weekly Construction in Progress Report emails and SMS/text alerts at www.westalliswi.gov/notifyme to receive up-to-date information.

National Avenue Redevelopment Continues

National Avenue is in Phase 3 of its four-year strategic redevelopment plan. The first phase, from 70th – 76th St., was completed in 2018 and the second phase, from 92nd – 95th St., was completed in 2019. Phase 3 is from 76th – 82nd St. and will incorporate all the same enhancements as the previous phases and as adopted by the West Allis Common Council in 2016 as part of the National Avenue Corridor Strategic Plan. This continues to be a roadmap to rebuild and redevelop National Avenue, a main transportation and commercial artery in the City. A comprehensive study along with resident and business owner feedback helped shape this plan to reimagine National Avenue. Now entering its third year, the plan has brought numerous enhancements to this busy thoroughfare, including new street lighting, traffic calming measures, landscaping, green bike lanes and bike boxes.

Phase 4, from 62nd - 65th, will be reconstructed in 2023. Learn more at www.westalliswi.gov/nationalave.

Hwy 100 Resurfacing Coming Soon

Location: WIS 100: I-43 to I-94 in the Cities of West Allis and Greenfield.

Overview: The roadway was last rehabilitated in 1999 and the pavement is in poor condition. The proposed project will restore the condition of the pavement and implement upgrades to the signals to provide more efficient flow of traffic and improved safety at major intersections. In addition, curb ramp and bus stop improvements will make the corridor more accessible for all users.

Project details: Remove existing asphalt layer, base patch underlying concrete pavement, and resurface with new asphalt. Replace traffic signals at Layton Avenue, Oklahoma Avenue, National Avenue, Cleveland Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. Reconstruct curb ramps at various locations to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards. Replace asphalt overlay on driveways that were previously overlaid.

Schedule: Construction is anticipated to start in July 2020. Work is not scheduled to be completed until 2021.

Traffic Impacts: During construction, various median openings, intersections, and driveways will need to be temporarily closed.

Staging highlights: All work will occur in the existing highway right-of-way. WIS 100 will remain open to traffic during construction. WIS 100 will maintain two lanes in each direction during a.m. and p.m. peak hours. Traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction during evening hours. Short-term overnight closures/detours will be needed for paving.

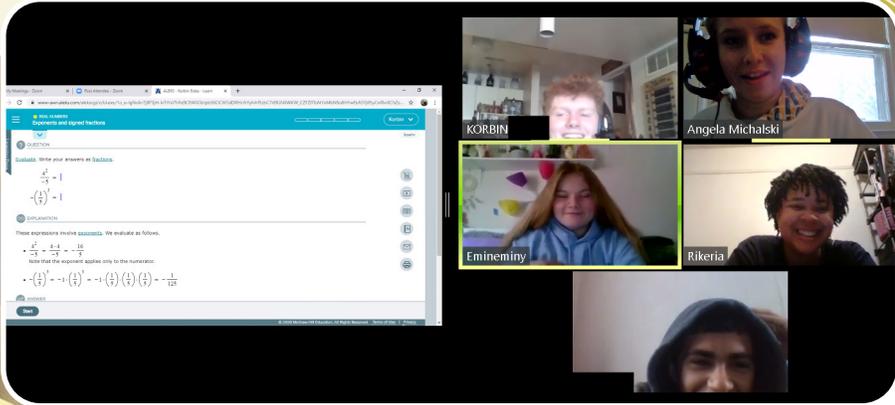
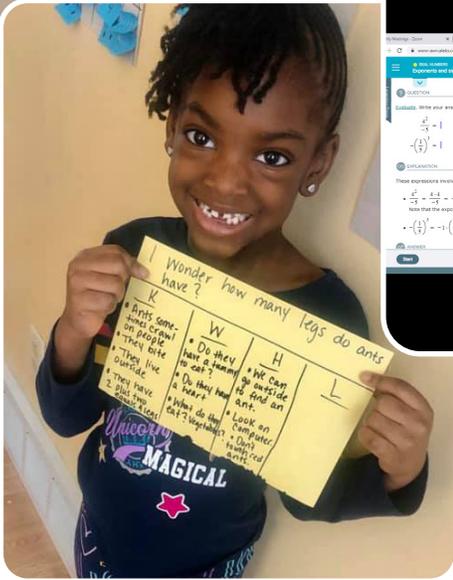
Questions or concerns? Contact:

Dan Sellers (WisDOT Communications) Daniel.sellers@dot.wi.gov; 262-548-6702

Street Lighting Upgrade

Street lighting modernization to LED lights has been accelerated in West Allis. The City's street lighting was originally installed in 1935 as high voltage series lighting circuits. In the 1990s, the City started converting this lighting system from 4,800 volts to 120-240 volts which allowed the low-pressure sodium light bulbs (yellowish lights) to be replaced with LED lights. In 2019, the City accelerated our conversion plans after manufacturers discontinued production of the low-pressure sodium light bulbs.

The emphasis the City has placed on street lighting will speed up what would have taken over 100 years to complete down to 13 years. Each year the City plans to convert four or five circuits (235 lights) throughout the City. This modernization will improve the safety, reliability, and operational efficiency of our lighting system. This year we're working on converting lighting near Grant & 60th; 90th & Lapham; 86th & Dakota, 58th & Rogers and National & 81st to coincide with current street reconstruction projects. We're looking forward to providing West Allis residents with a brighter future!



District Makes Seamless Shift to Online Learning

Reports of a new virus emerging in China, spreading through Europe, and eventually hitting home in Wisconsin seemed like a distant bell that soon became a gong. “It was St. Patrick’s Day and we were faced with closing schools until further notice. So, we ran a drive-up service for families to collect needed materials, and our students were logged in and learning from home the very next day,” explained Dr. Marty Lexmond, superintendent of the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District. “We started our planning in January. It was amazing teamwork by our teachers, staff, students, and their families.”

To start, the district surveyed families to ensure everyone had the technology they needed for online learning. “Our elementary students use iPads and our secondary students use Chromebooks,” said Director of Leadership and Learning, Deidre Roemer. “Although some families have computer devices at home, many did not. We made sure that everyone who needed technology was able to get it. We even provided hot spots for families that did not have internet.”

“Students already use several online platforms in the classroom. Our goal was to enhance that. Teachers created some amazing resources for our families and have quickly learned how to use Zoom and Google Apps to connect with our learners each day. From there, kindergarten classes were

conducting their morning meetings, orchestras were rehearsing, and learners in our schools were logging in for instruction throughout the day.”

As many learners are helping at home or watching siblings, schools worked to be as flexible as possible during this challenging time. Teachers took attendance by sending daily learning tasks to students, who had until 11:59 p.m. each night to respond. School counselors and staff members conducted check-ins with students who did not log on. “We provide a lot of support for our learners. We were striving to be fair, considerate, and make adjustments as needed. Everyone is sensitive to physical health and mental well-being,” explained Lexmond.

In May, schools introduced Passion Projects as a way to capture some of what learners had become interested in while “safe at home.” The projects were an important and creative way to finish out the historic school year. “Our goal was for students to apply their knowledge and skills in a way that connects to their talents and interests,” said Roemer.

“Our learners have been creating things, learning skills, and deepening their own talents, interests and passions during this unusual time. Many of them learned how to cook, do art projects, play a musical instrument, become a YouTuber, make their own clothes, write stories, grow a tomato plant, or invent new products,” said Roemer.

“The projects, along with enrichment and grade improvement opportunities, help our students develop their skills in problem-solving, communication, and collaboration—competencies that are tied to our strategic plan goals,” added Roemer.

When asked what the future holds, Lexmond is reflective. “By May, some districts had not even started working with their students. We were connected from the start. As we move forward, we’ll continue to respond to COVID-19. We’re prepared to help students learn whether they’re at home or at school. And we’ll do everything we can to ensure our students stay on track and life-ready when they graduate. We face challenges together even if we’re apart.”

Enroll Your Child in the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District for the 2020-2021 School Year

Contact the Enrollment Center at 414-604-3014 and leave your contact number or email us at enrollment@wawmsd.org.

The Enrollment Center staff will return your call and assist you!



Facebook
Instagram
Twitter
westallislibrary.org

Holiday Closings:

Friday, July 3
Saturday, July 4

West Allis Public Library

Summer Reading for All Ages at the West Allis Public Library

Did you know that the West Allis Public Library offers summer reading programs for readers of all ages? Summer reading programs began as a way to keep school-aged children engaged during the summer months and to encourage visits to their local library. Now there are reading programs for everyone, no matter your age!

The West Allis Public Library offers three summer reading programs based on grade or age. We offer a kid's reading program for babies to fifth graders, a teen program for young people going into grades 6 through 12, and an adult program for anyone older than 18. Each program offers incentives for reading books, such as prize drawings, coupons for area attractions, and free books! The program runs June 1 through Sept. 30.

Registration is easy! You can register online at westallislibrary.beanstack.org, or by phone at 414-302-8500. Once registered, you can track online or with a paper reading log that you can pick up at the West Allis Public Library.

In addition to the reading program, there are many other reasons to check out the library this summer. The library has added a digital branch to its website. There you can find all of the online programming happening this summer! Whether it's creating a cooped-up craft, attending a virtual Books & Coffee book club, watching a digital storytime, or checking out ebooks, there is a lot to do at the library from the comfort of your home. Find out more by visiting westallislibrary.org/digitalbranch.

West Allis Public Library
7421 W. National Ave.
414-302-8503
westallislibrary.org

Library Hours (subject to change)
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The library is now offering curbside pick-up! Call 414-302-8500 to learn more.



Wisconsin Wins

On Friday, Dec. 20, 2019, the President signed legislation amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and raising the federal minimum age of sale of tobacco products from 18 to 21 years. Effective immediately, it is illegal for a retailer to sell any tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, and e-cigarettes, to anyone under 21. To date, Wisconsin Wins has conducted more than 1 million compliance checks of tobacco retailers through the efforts of local law enforcement.

In December of 2019, a tobacco compliance check was completed through the use of a 16 year old who attempted to purchase nicotine products from each business without an ID. Out of 16 randomly selected businesses, we are proud to report all 16 of them denied the transaction.

West Allis Police



New PD K9, Chaz

Meet New PD K9 Chaz

K9 Chaz is a Belgian Malinois born Nov. 8, 2018 in Hungary. He received his initial training at Southern Police Canine Inc. in North Carolina. K9 Chaz responds to Dutch commands. He is trained in narcotics detection, evidence recovery, area and building searches, tracking, and handler protection. Cpl. Schultz and K9 Chaz have been partnered together since January 2020 and are currently assigned to 2nd shift patrol at the West Allis Police Department.

End of Year Crime Stats From 2016 - 2019

	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percent Change 2018 - 2019	Percent Change 2016 - 2019
Homicide	5	2	1	2	+100%	-60%
Rape/Sexual Assault	8	14	26	15	-42.31%	+87.5%
Robbery	77	86	75	70	-6.67%	-9.09%
Aggravated Assault	85	91	69	104	+50.72%	+22.35%
Burglary	456	341	266	260	-2.26%	-42.98%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	206	183	130	153	+17.69%	-25.73%
Arson	14	7	6	9	+50.00%	-35.71%
Theft	1651	1648	1345	1319	-1.93%	-20.11%
Total	2502	2372	1918	1932	+0.73%	-22.78%

Register Your Surveillance Cameras with the WAPD

Do you have a personal surveillance camera? We are asking community members to register their cameras with the West Allis Police Department (WAPD) in an effort to solve crimes faster. Registering your home/business security camera(s) helps you get involved in fighting crime. By registering your camera, such as Ring, Wyze, or Next, with the WAPD, you give them permission to access/review your footage when a crime takes place near the location of your camera. This program requires your consent and the WAPD will only access the footage if it involves a nearby crime.

The information obtained from registered security cameras is not made public and cannot be accessed remotely. Registering your security camera doesn't mean the WAPD can access the live feed. It allows the WAPD to know who in the area has a security camera and where it is located without having to go door to door.

Register your camera at:

www.westalliswi.gov/surveillancecameras. Thank you for partnering with the WAPD to keep our neighborhoods safe.



Crime Stoppers

Citizens are the eyes and ears of a community. You have the power to solve and stop crime in our City! If you have witnessed a crime or have information that may lead to an arrest, call Crime Stoppers to anonymously report what you know. Your call is completely confidential and your identity will remain anonymous. Guaranteed!

Crime Stoppers will record the date and time of your call, and the information you are providing relating to a crime. You'll receive a private tracking number so there will be no need to reveal your name, identity, or any personal information. If your crime information leads to an arrest and the filing of criminal charges, you may receive a cash reward. If eligible, your reward will be presented to you anonymously, ensuring that your identity will never be revealed. To report a crime, call 414-476-2274.



West Allis WISH

Women Initiate Self Healing and Hope (WISH) is a support, empowerment, and educational group for women who are in an abusive relationship or have been in an abusive relationship. The group helps women gain support, insight and strength from other women who have experienced domestic violence.

WISH provides a safe place to learn about the cycle of violence, gain self-awareness and heal. All services are free and confidential. The program is offered through the West Allis Police Department, in partnership with the Woman's Club of West Allis.

Meeting Groups

WISH support group meets once a week on Mondays from 5:30 - 7 p.m. To reserve a space or for more information, call 414-302-8065.

Your Voice Matters!

The West Allis Health Department is gathering information about our City to guide our focus for the next five years. We want your input!

Coming this summer, as part of the Community Health Assessment, the West Allis Health Department will conduct a brief survey to gather valuable data regarding our community. This data helps the West Allis Health Department direct resources where most impactful and offer services relevant to your needs. The survey will take about 15 minutes, is completely anonymous and will be offered through a number of different formats including online, phone and mail.

What you have to share matters to us! Visit www.westalliswi.gov this summer to participate.



Nursing mothers participate in the Big Latch On

Improving the Health of Our Women, Infants and Children

The City of West Allis Health Department is working in conjunction with Aurora West Allis Medical Center, the West Allis-West Milwaukee Breastfeeding Coalition, local day care centers, and WIC (Women, Infants and Children) to encourage breastfeeding and support families in their efforts to do so.

Aurora West Allis Medical Center is working to improve exclusive breastfeeding rates of babies born in their hospital. They have formed an Exclusive Breastfeeding Task Force to work on efforts to improve this rate, as this is a measure of quality healthcare. This group of doctors, nurses, lactation consultants, and the West Allis Health Department representatives is tackling changing hospital routines and practices to better support mothers who intend to exclusively breastfeed. This involves consistent messaging about the importance of exclusive breastfeeding to pregnant women in our community, both from their doctor and public health groups such as WIC and the West Allis Health Department. Once babies are born, hospital staff are there to help mothers meet their breastfeeding goals and leave the hospital breastfeeding. The West Allis Health Department steps in once babies are home, reaching out with a phone call to offer breastfeeding support and community resources.

The West Allis-West Milwaukee Breastfeeding Coalition brings together community members and organizations who support breastfeeding mothers in our community. Their goal is to make breast milk available to every baby in our community and make breastfeeding the norm for infant feeding. Local resources are available including breastfeeding consultation and support, as well as

information regarding donor milk, milk depots, and formal and informal milk sharing.

As one of their maternal and child health goals, the West Allis Health Department has been working with local day care centers to become breastfeeding-friendly. Day care centers work to meet certain criteria which include training of staff, knowing how to store and handle breastmilk, and providing a welcoming environment for mothers to breastfeed or pump milk for their child. This designation as breastfeeding-friendly allows the centers to receive a five-star rating in the YoungStar system.

World Breastfeeding Week happens August 1-7 every year. The aim of World Breastfeeding Week is to highlight the benefits of breastfeeding for moms and babies, as well as how breastfeeding can address larger public health issues such as good nutrition and food security. The Global Big Latch On is traditionally held the first Friday in August as part of this week and has been a successful part of our celebration here in West Allis to date. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, this year's event has been postponed and the West Allis-West Milwaukee Breastfeeding Coalition will utilize social media to highlight and recognize the importance of breastfeeding in our community during this year's World Breastfeeding Week.

Healthy moms and babies are the building blocks to a healthy community! If you would like more information on the West Allis Health Department's community efforts, please contact the West Allis Health Department at wic@westalliswi.gov.

Fast Facts

- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends infants receive only breast milk for the first six months of life
- 82.2% of Wisconsin infants receive some amount of breast milk
- Only 48.8% exclusively receive breast milk at three months
- Only 28.3% of infants exclusively receive breast milk at six months

Source: CDC 2018 Breastfeeding Report Card





Senior Dining Program in West Allis Serves Hundreds of Meals – Through COVID-19 and Beyond

One of the most popular programs at the West Allis Senior Center is the Senior Dining Program, sponsored by the Milwaukee County Department of Aging (MCDA) and served at the West Allis Senior Center, 7001 West National Ave. Mondays – Fridays. West Allis Senior Center members enjoy gathering together for delicious lunches and camaraderie over these meals, which are essential to supporting the nutritional needs of the older adults who receive them.

When the coronavirus pandemic struck in March, the West Allis Senior Center closed its facility to ensure the safety of members; however, the dining program continued! MCDA quickly collaborated with its meal distribution partners and volunteers to offer cold, carry-out meals for seniors to make sure their nutritional needs were met while senior centers across Milwaukee County were closed.

In April alone, the West Allis Senior Center distributed over 1,350 carry-out meals to seniors through this program. A typical meal may include a deli sandwich or salad, light side dish, fruit, dessert, and milk. In May, MCDA also added two additional weekend meals which are picked up on Wednesday.

A suggested contribution of \$3 per meal is accepted and appreciated to offset the cost of the program, but no eligible senior will be denied participation because of inability to contribute. Seniors do not need to be members of West Allis Senior Center to participate in the Senior Dining Program, but they do need to apply to receive a Diners Card from the MCDA before they can begin receiving meals.

“This has been a challenging situation, but MCDA and our volunteers rose to the occasion,” said Denise Koenig, director of West Allis Senior Center. “We’ve always been proud to be able to offer the Senior Dining Program here, and although we had to change how we provide meals during the pandemic, it’s been a relief for us and our diners to know this invaluable program can continue.”

The Senior Dining Program is open to all Milwaukee County seniors age 60+ regardless of income, and spouses of any age. Meals are served Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. at the West Allis Senior Center. Reservations must be made 24 hours in advance to receive a meal. Dine-in meals will resume at a future date. Visit www.westalliswi.gov/seniorcenter to learn more and download an MCDA application form to join the Senior Dining Meal Program.

Wallpapered City Brings Murals to West Allis

West Allis is about to get a lot more colorful.

The City has partnered with Wallpapered City, a Milwaukee-based consulting group that helps connect building owners and communities with muralists to develop new murals in West Allis. Wallpapered City is the group behind Milwaukee’s Black Cat Alley, an outdoor art gallery located in a private alley on Milwaukee’s East Side. This unique street art destination now contains 22 murals by 25 artists from Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Columbus and even Madrid. That world-wide perspective is about to come to West Allis.

The number and placement of murals is still in discussion. Through February and March, Wallpapered City and the City of West Allis contacted targeted business and property owners based on creating a walkable mural route in a chosen commercial district in the City to be announced at a future date. A call for mural artists will come early this summer, and the murals are expected to be completed during summer and fall of 2020.

“Public art creates energy and a sense of place within neighborhoods,” said West Allis Mayor Dan Devine. “We look forward to working with Wallpapered City to bring these murals to our community.”

West Allis is already home to two destination murals: artist Lindsay Marx’s “Bee in the City” at 84th St. and National Ave., and artist Fred Kaems’ “The Astronaut,” painted on the side of the Peanut Butter & Jelly Deli at 6125 W. Greenfield Ave. Wallpapered City was instrumental in coordinating the installation of Kaems’ mural. Also look for the new mural on the side of Crawdaddy’s on Greenfield, at 9427 W. Greenfield Ave. The City’s Artscape Leadership Group assisted in the funding of this mural which will be painted by Denver based muralist Michael Ortiz. Tax dollars are not being used to support these projects, which are being funded by First-Ring Industrial Redevelopment Enterprises (FIRE), a regional community development entity, run through the City of West Allis’ Economic Development Department.

Connect with Wallpapered City on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for updates on this project!



Don't Forget to Vote!

Aug. 11 Partisan Primary Election

Election Calendar

Now - Aug. 6: Apply for an absentee ballot online (MyVote) or by mail (regular voters)

July 22: Last day to register online (MyVote) or mail your registration application to the City of West Allis, 7525 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI 53214 (include your proof of residence)

July 23 - Aug. 7: Must register to vote in person at the City of West Allis Clerk's Office.

July 27 - Aug. 7: In-person absentee voting at the City of West Allis Clerk's Office

Aug. 6: Last day to apply for an absentee ballot online (MyVote) or by mail (regular voters)

Aug. 7: Last day to register to vote and/or absentee vote in the City of West Allis Clerk's Office

Aug. 10: No registering to vote or absentee voting allowed

Aug. 11: Election Day, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Vote Aug. 11, 2020 Partisan Primary Election

Polls will be open on Tuesday, Aug. 11 from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Your polling place can be found on myvote.wi.gov. Visit www.westalliswi.gov or myvote.wi.gov for more election-related information.

Voter Registration

In anticipation of the heavy turnout for this and the November election, the City of West Allis Clerk's Office asks that residents who have not yet registered, or changed their address or name since the last time they voted, to please register now. If you are unsure if you are registered to vote, please visit myvote.wi.gov or call the City of West Allis Clerk's Office at 414-302-8220.

Hours of operation for the Clerk's Office are Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Please remember to provide a valid proof of residency listing your current name and address. For procedures on registering to vote and the documents you need, please visit elections.wi.gov/publications/voter-guides/proof-of-residence or call the Clerk's Office at 414-302-8220.

Absentee Voting

You may vote in-person absentee at the City of West Allis Clerk's Office (early voting) beginning on Monday, July 27 through Friday, Aug. 7. If you wish to have a ballot mailed to you, you must be registered at your current address; the deadline for a request is 5 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6.

The hours of operation to vote at the Clerk's Office are:

Monday, July 27 - Friday, July 31
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 3 - Friday, Aug. 7
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ID Required to Vote

Voters are required to show ID to receive a ballot. There is not a separate "Voter ID" card. There are many forms of photo ID, which a voter may already have, that can be used to vote. Anyone with a valid Wisconsin Driver's License or Wisconsin State ID card, or any of the documents below, already have the photo ID they need for voting purposes.

The following photo IDs are acceptable for voting purposes and can be unexpired or expired after the most recent general election (currently Nov. 6, 2018):

WI driver's license (even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended) or receipt

WI identification card

U.S. Uniformed Services ID card

U.S. passport book or card

Veteran Health ID card

Certificate of Naturalization (issued not earlier than 2 years before the election)

Photo ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin

Photo ID card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university, college or technical college that contains the date the card was issued, signature of student, expiration date no later than two years after the date of issuance, and must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment, such as a tuition fee receipt, enrollment verification letter, or class schedule

Websites to Visit

myvote.wi.gov

Where do I vote?, What's on My Ballot?, register to vote, apply for an absentee ballot and more

bringit.wi.gov

Voter ID Law information

elections.wi.gov/publications/voter-guides/proof-of-residence

What you need to register to vote

www.westalliswi.gov/elections

City of West Allis elections web page

VOTE ABSENTEE

Your Voice Matters!

Wisconsin's Partisan Primary is Tuesday, Aug. 11 and the General and Presidential Election is Nov. 3. If you're registered, please request an absentee ballot as soon as possible for the remainder of the 2020 elections by going to www.myvote.wi.gov. You can also register to vote, if you haven't done so already at www.myvote.wi.gov

You Count!

The Census determines our community funding by ensuring we receive our fair share of state shared revenues, establishes our state's representation in Congress, and helps the City plan for future services. It's completely safe and secure, and answers cannot be used against you by any court of law or federal agency. It only takes a few minutes to take the Census online.

Complete online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020 or take via mail if you've received a paper Census form.

TAKE THE CENSUS

NOTICE OF POLLING SITE LOCATION CHANGE

Aldermanic District	Ward	New Locations	Previous Location
1	1	West Allis City Hall	West Allis City Hall
1	2	Rec Center	West Allis Senior Center
1	3	Rec Center	Longfellow School
1	4	Rec Center	Longfellow School
1	5	Rec Center	Longfellow School
2	6	West Allis City Hall	West Allis City Hall
2	7	West Allis City Hall	West Allis City Hall
2	8	West Allis City Hall	West Allis City Hall
2	9	West Allis City Hall	West Allis Senior Center
2	10	West Allis City Hall	West Allis Senior Center
3	11	Lane	Central High School
3	12	Lane	Lane Intermediate School
3	13	Lane	Lane Intermediate School
3	14	Central	Central High School
3	15	Central	Central High School
4	16	Central	Frank Lloyd Wright School
4	17	Central	Central High School
4	18	Central	Frank Lloyd Wright School
4	19	Central	Frank Lloyd Wright School
4	20	Rec Center	Longfellow School
5	21	Nathan Hale	Nathan Hale High School
5	22	Nathan Hale	Nathan Hale High School
5	23	Nathan Hale	Frank Lloyd Wright School
5	24	Nathan Hale	Nathan Hale High School
5	25	Nathan Hale	Nathan Hale High School

Jeanette Wardinski: 36 Years of Dedication

By Ashley Tannert

The City is grateful to have many dedicated employees; however, we like to acknowledge those employees who go above and beyond in selflessly devoting their time, passion, and full effort into their work, leaving an impact on their workplace and community for years to come. Jeanette Wardinski was one of these employees.

Retiring on Jan. 2, 2020, after 36 years of dedicated service to the City of West Allis, Jeanette’s impact on the City is clear. A West Allis resident for 36 years, Jeanette started her work with the City in December of 1983 as a Senior Secretary to the Director of Administration & Finance, Paul Ziebler.

“I was very fortunate to have worked with a very talented, dedicated, and intelligent person like Paul, who worked for the City for 34 years himself. I learned a lot from him about how to work in a professional, caring, kind, and respectful manner with all persons,” said Jeanette.

Jeanette graduated with an associates degree in Legal Secretarial Science from the Milwaukee Area Technical College in 1980, and graduated Summa Cum Laude (highest honors) with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Mount Mary University in 1991. It didn’t take long for others to notice Jeanette’s positive, warm, and steadfast work ethic, and she was quickly promoted to Principal Secretary and then Executive Administrative Assistant in the City Administration Office.

“The depth and variety of work was challenging, yet rewarding. It is the reason for my longevity as a City employee,” said Jeanette.

Throughout her career, Jeanette provided invaluable support to numerous committees, such as the Celebrations Committee, Youth Commission, and Administration & Finance Committee, and assisted six West Allis mayors throughout the years including Mayor Barlich, Mayor Cashmore, Mayor Radtke, Mayor Turck, Mayor Bell, and our current Mayor, Dan Devine.

Jeanette tirelessly led multiple campaigns and initiatives which provided generous support to those who needed it most in the West Allis community. She served a vital role as an assistant to the West Allis Community Improvement Foundation, coordinating the annual Breakfast of Thanks & Giving and the Community Charity Gala, year after year, giving back to the West Allis community.

Along with fundraising events, Jeanette was involved in many special events as well as promotional and public relations activities, with one of her favorites being involved and assisting with West Allis holiday activities, including coordinating the wonderful Veterans Giving Tree program and over 35 City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies!

Jeanette’s sharp eyes and careful attention to detail made her a valued coordinator, writer, proofreader, and editor for over 135 issues of the City’s newsletter and other important documents. The City magazine you are reading today would not be the document that it is without the efforts of Jeanette for so many years.

“It was a big job with lots of parts to it, and it was very satisfying to hear the numerous compliments and positive feedback about the publication, and how much our residents and businesses appreciate the news and information we provide,” said Jeanette.

Jeanette shares that she is enjoying her retirement, finding more time to read, continuing her daily walks, staying fit, and catching up with projects around her house.

When reflecting on her 36 years with the City of West Allis, Jeanette said, “I’ve been blessed with the many friends I’ve made along the way, from fellow employees, to elected officials, community members, the Woman’s Club, Rotary Club, the Downtown BID, and the School District – they have all been a part of my life and I am a better person for those relationships.”

Thank you, Jeanette, for making West Allis a better place to live and work for us all. Your exceptional qualities, generous personality, kind heart, and enormous contributions to our community serve as an inspiration to us all. We wish you the best and a well-deserved long and happy retirement!



Vac and Jet Sewer Lines

The Street and Sewer Section of the Department of Public Works is responsible for maintaining the storm sewers and the sanitary lines in the City. Maintenance includes routinely vacuuming the storm sewers and jetting (or pushing water through) the sanitary lines. When these operations are performed, you may notice some of the following things occurring in your home:

water drained from your toilets

an odor which is a result of the water being pulled from the traps in your drains

a small amount of water coming up from the sewer drain

These issues are not dangerous to you or your family. The toilets can be flushed. You should run the water in your sinks to refill the traps which will eliminate the odor. We suggest you keep any clothing, rugs, etc., away from basement drains and downstairs toilets. If you have any questions, contact us at www.westalliswi.gov/letushelp or call the Sanitation and Street Division at 414-302-8800 weekdays from 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Home Improvement Loans Available

West Allis homeowners: Is your home in need of a new roof, porch repairs, or new windows? The City of West Allis is here to help! We offer low-interest home improvement loans to those who qualify. For more information on the loans offered, eligible repairs, or to download an application, visit www.westalliswi.gov/housing or call 414-302-8430.



Meet Sam Sujecki, Your New Youth Sports Program Manager at the West Allis-West Milwaukee Recreation & Community Services (WAWMRC)

Sam says... This was my dream job since I started in recreation seven years ago. I always had great respect and admiration for the WAWMRC staff. It's an exciting time to join this department as the new Rec Center is nearing completion. I can't

wait to get started and meet everyone in the community: parents, coaches, staff, and kids.

I'm a Nathan Hale High School graduate and graduated from UW-Stout with a degree in Golf Enterprise Management. I also recently finished my master's degree from Winona State in Education Leadership-Sports Management. My wife and I recently had our first child, and he is ten months old. In my limited free time, I try to golf as much as I can!

Goals for the department

This department has a great infrastructure in place. It also has one of the largest youth sports offerings in the state, so I knew that it was going to take at least a full year to fully grasp and understand how everything works. In addition to managing youth sports, my responsibilities also include Intermediate Sports Athletic Director and serving as the liaison to all the Jr. Husky and Bulldog feeder programs. This job has been a great challenge thus far and has forced me to grow as a professional. It can be overwhelming at times to think about everything that has to get done. So I've had to learn on the fly about how to be better organized, how to prioritize and focus on important tasks each day, and how to best manage my time. Fortunately, we have a great staff and lot of resources at our disposal. For my first year, my goals are simple. For all youth sports, I want to provide high-quality programs that are well organized and have great communication. All events should be positive, inclusive learning environments for all players to play and have fun.

What can young athletes look forward to this summer?

We are keeping up to date with the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association (WPRO) as well as other national sport associations to learn about reopening plans as they pertain to youth sports. We are paying close attention to what the recommended guidelines will be for sports gatherings. It will look different, but rest assured, our participants can know that we will formulate a plan that will make sure everyone is safe and can feel comfortable playing organized sports again. While the future is uncertain for sports organizations, it is comforting to see kids outside playing during this time. As a recreation professional, it is great to see the freedom with which kids are playing. They get to play what they want and how they want to, without much control from adults. "Unstructured free play" is what this is called, and it has great long-term effects for the development of young athletes. No one knows what sports will look like moving forward, but my hope is that the emergence of unstructured free play will be a positive result of this pandemic, and will be here to stay.

Visit wawmrec.com for information about youth sports programs.



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Wisconsin's Partisan Primary is Tuesday, Aug. 11 and the General and Presidential Election is Nov. 3. If you're registered, please request an absentee ballot as soon as possible for the remainder of the 2020 elections by going to www.myvote.wi.gov. You can also register to vote if you haven't done so already at www.myvote.wi.gov.

TAKE THE CENSUS

The Census determines our community funding by ensuring we receive our fair share of state shared revenues, establishes our state's representation in Congress, and helps the City plan for future services. It's completely safe and secure, and answers cannot be used against you by any court of law or federal agency. It only takes a few minutes to take the Census online.

Complete online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020 or take via mail if you've received a paper Census form.

Pass it on – tell your friends and family to #takethecensus and #vote!

About It's Your City

It's Your City is published by the City's Communications Department. This publication supports Strategic Goals #1 and #3 in the City's Five Year Strategic Plan, Image/Brand/Destination and Citizen Engagement, as it seeks to highlight the positive news, stories, and events in the City of West Allis.

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