

Winfield Prepares for Nation’s 250th Anniversary

As preparations ramp up for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, plans are being made all around Winfield to celebrate.

The Winfield Historical Society’s official history book, *Winfield’s Good Old Days: A History*, was last published during the nation’s Bicentennial in 1976. The Society has enlisted local residents to contribute updates and additions to the original chapters. The revised edition will be available for purchase in Summer 2026. See press release on page 2 for more details.

“The Village has gone all in to support the Historical Society and Library with a litany of programming,” said Village Manager Evan Summers. “The two major areas are sponsorship of the reprinting of *Winfield’s Good Old Days: A History* and a lecture series to commemorate the Semiquincentennial.”

The Village of Winfield has allocated \$5,000 to partner with the Winfield Historical Society and the Winfield Public Library on a yearlong slate of commemorative events, including hosting a variety of speakers covering both national and local history topics as part of the anniversary programming.

The following programs will be held:

Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 p.m. *Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom.* Featuring Kevin Wood as Abraham Lincoln.

Tuesday, March 24, 7:00 p.m. *Revolutionary American.* Featuring Becky Tulloch as Abigail Adams.



Tuesday, May 19, 7:00 p.m. *The Uniform of a Continental Soldier.* Featuring Jack Tison, American Revolutionary War reenactor and educator

Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 p.m. *Defining US: The 250th Anniversary of the United States.* Featuring a historian from the DuPage County History Museum.

Tuesday, September 22, 7:00 p.m. *Flappers, Floozies and Feminists – Chicago Women and the Roaring Twenties.* Featuring historian Laurie Russell.

Tuesday, November, 17, 7:00 p.m. *Relics of the Chicago, Aurora, and Elgin Railway.* Featuring local historians Joyce and Brian Ostberg.

The programs are free to attend. Registration is required to attend the programs via the Winfield Public Library website event calendar at the following link: winfield.librarycalendar.com/events/month.

The Village is also planning to assist in expanding the Good Old Days Parade. According to Village Manager Summers, the village will be working to find additional parade entries such as bands and historical portrayals, and other ways to incorporate the Semiquincentennial into the celebration.

Officials at DuPage County are also participating in Semiquincentennial activities. The County Recorder has begun using a new commemorative seal which honors the anniversary. Other plans include a time capsule burial, a 250th Anniversary Celebratory Ceremony, and an enhanced Flag Day ceremony. View more County event details at <https://www.dupagecounty.gov/>

‘Built Like a Tank’: New Water Truck Delivered in Winfield

By Luke Allen

If someone visited the Winfield Fire Protection District headquarters station in 2021 and didn’t return until Spring 2026, they would have missed a LOT of change in five years. Additional firefighter/paramedics have been hired, new ambulances and a fire engine have been put into service, a new headquarters fire station was built, and staff turnover is no longer a constant challenge. Where Winfield crew had to occasionally borrow neighboring agency vehicles because theirs broke down, twice neighboring agencies have borrowed Winfield’s spare vehicles.

“Things are really great right now at Winfield Fire Protection District,” said Fire Chief Steve Evans. “Thanks to the dedication of the board, the hard work of the crew, and our community for providing the resources through the passage of the referendum in 2022, we are delivering all of our promised outcomes. The referendum was about three things: adding additional crew members, upgrading the fleet, and providing a place to put those things. And all of those promises have been delivered: Additional crew has been hired, the new headquarters station on County Farm Road is up and running, and new vehicles are reliably getting first responders to emergencies.”

One of the last pieces of equipment that needed to be replaced was the aging water tender, a truck that carries 2500 gallons of water. It was built in 2010 and has reached the end of its reliable life in front-line service. It will be sent for refurbishment to serve for the next ten years as a reserve (backup) vehicle. Interestingly, Winfield has never had a backup water truck- despite more than 2/3 of

the properties served do not have access to water hydrants.

“Through discussions about our needs, we were fortunate enough to receive a grant from Northwestern Medicine/CDH to replace our aging water tender,” said Chief Evans. The 2025 International was manufactured by Alexis Fire Equipment

Company (located in western Illinois) and holds 2,000 gallons of water. The design was chosen to be as simple as possible- both to keep the cost down and to increase reliability. “This truck has no extra options. We wanted a simple vehicle that would be reliable and easy to work on. This truck is built like a tank,” said Evans.



Bottom: Winfield’s first water tender, a 1935 Ford, held 800 gallons of water.

Left: Winfield’s newest water tender, a 2025 International Alexis. It can pump 1,250 gallons per minute and can transport 2,000 gallons of water.



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NEW Edition of Winfield History Book to be Published in 2026

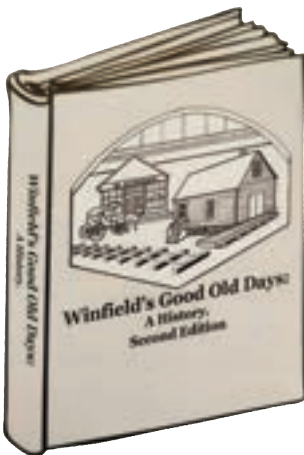
The History of Winfield Committee (HOW) announces that a second edition of *Winfield's Good Old Days: A History* is anticipated to be published and for sale this summer. The book was originally published in 1978 and written by the late Louise Spanke and published by the Winfield Public Library Board. The book is a part of the Historical Society's 250th Semiquincentennial of America's Founding project.

The HOW Committee is a collaborative effort of both the Winfield Historical Society and the Winfield Public Library staff and Library Board.

The HOW Committee is currently collaborating with the publisher on a price point for the book, once the final manuscript is delivered. Those inter-

ested in purchasing the book will receive information this spring on the cost of book. Individuals, organizations, businesses and libraries interested in purchasing a copy of the book are encouraged to email (to bookorder20252026@gmail.com) the following personal contact information c/o Kevin Davis, President, Winfield Historical Society: Name, Mailing/Street Address, City, State, Zip, Contact phone number and an email address. The HOW Committee have been researching and writing over the past two years. James R. McGuire, a Winfield Historian, was hired by the Committee to Coordinate the project. McGuire is a former curator of the Winfield Park District's Hedges Station Depot Museum and author of Acadia Press's Images of American Series photo history book Winfield published in 2017.

Further information on this project is available by leaving a message for Kevin Davis via a phone call to the Hedges Station Museum (0N555 Winfield Rd, Winfield, IL 60190) at (630) 510-9053. Website: Winfieldhistory.org.



Meet the Contributors to Your Glimpses newspaper



Patti Weber

Patti Weber is the editor, a writer, and advertisement sales lady. A 28-year resident and married to John with four grown children, a grandson, and Louie the lazy dog. Patti loves bringing each issue of the Glimpses to the residents and hearing that they enjoy reading it over a cup of coffee, and supporting local businesses with ads. English Writing was her college major so it is fitting that she gets to work on her town's newspaper. When not doing newspaper stuff, she serves on the Winfield Park District board, Winfield Community Events Commission, Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce and coordinates numerous fundraisers and community activities, plus works full time. You can reach her at patti@thewinfieldglimpses.com.



Luke Allen

Luke Allen has always invested his time in the communities he calls home. He grew up on his family's farm outside of Champaign and attended the U of I to prepare for a career as a high school agriculture teacher. For the last 19 years Luke has worked for the State of Illinois supporting and overseeing agriculture teachers throughout Northeast Illinois. Ten years ago, Luke and his husband, Tim, made their home in Winfield, and he quickly became involved locally. He is an active member of St. Michael's United Church of Christ in West Chicago, and was elected to the Winfield Fire Protection District Board of Trustees in 2023. His community involvement also includes serving as narrator for the Winfield Good Old Days historic trolley tour, interpreter for the Winfield Historical Society's Haunted Cemetery, and author of a chapter on the history of the Winfield Fire Protection District for the Society's upcoming book project. When not working or volunteering, Luke and Tim enjoy traveling, home and landscape projects, and spending time with family and friends – and can often be found at Berger Bros or a St. John's fish fry.



Eron McCormick

Eron McCormick is a Winfield resident, attorney, and business owner. He focuses his practice on real estate matters, estate planning, and practical legal solutions for individuals, families, and business clients. He is the founder of McCormick Law Firm, serving clients throughout Illinois and Wisconsin. Outside of his legal work, Eron is active in the local community and enjoys fishing and spending time in the Northwoods of Wisconsin with his wife, Jennifer – and his Beagador, Jasper, who believes he is in charge.

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Cleaner Streets, Stronger Community: The SBC Difference

By Jennie Fleming & Eron McCormick
On February 19, Jennie Fleming and I had the pleasure of sitting down with SBC President Shawn Flood to talk about waste, recycling, and what it really means to serve a community like Winfield.

In a town like ours, you notice the little things. You notice when the same driver waves each week. You notice when a question gets answered by a real person instead of an automated system. And you definitely notice when something goes wrong – and how quickly it gets fixed. That kind of reliability doesn't happen by accident. It's built over time through consistency, customer service, and a genuine commitment to the people being served.

That's the story behind SBC, Winfield's long-time waste and recycling partner. As the company approaches its ninth anniversary – officially incorporated just before St. Patrick's Day nine years ago – SBC has grown steadily throughout the region. But as Shawn made clear, growth has never meant losing their "partnership mindset." If anything, it has reinforced it.

Winfield was one of SBC's early municipal partners, and that history still matters. Shawn spoke openly about the trust the Village placed in SBC in its early days. That support helped the company grow, and it's something they haven't forgotten. Today, the relationship goes well beyond a service contract.

SBC participates in community traditions like Good Old Days, donating time and providing waste services for events. They sponsor local initiatives and support organizations throughout town. It's not flashy – but it's consistent. And in a community like Winfield, that consistency counts.

Beyond community involvement, much of our conversation focused on services many residents may not even realize are available.

One of the biggest takeaways? Several programs people assume are limited or costly are actually free and available year-round.

Take paint and e-waste, for example. Instead of waiting for a once-a-year collection event, residents can call SBC to schedule pickup of leftover paint

or electronics at any time. The key is scheduling through the office rather than placing items out on a regular pickup day, since these materials are handled separately. There's no strict "one box" rule

processed properly. Another program that stood out is SBC's backdoor service for seniors and residents with disabilities. In winter especially, moving heavy carts through snow and ice can be more than inconvenient – it can be dangerous. For qualified residents, SBC drivers will bring the carts to the curb, empty them, and return them. It's a simple accommodation that can make a significant difference for those trying to remain independent in their homes.

That mindset – neighbors taking care of neighbors – came up repeatedly in our conversation.

We also discussed recycling contamination, an issue communities across the country are facing. When non-recyclable materials end up in recycling

carts, it drives up costs and can compromise entire loads. SBC drivers are trained to identify obvious contamination at the curb and leave tags or notices when there's a problem. It's not about punishment – it's about education and keeping the system working for everyone.

SBC trucks are equipped with cameras as well. Shawn explained that the cameras are primarily used to resolve customer service questions – confirming whether a cart was out, documenting timing issues, or clarifying concerns about missed pickups. They also provide an added layer of accountability and, in some cases, have assisted law enforcement when footage was requested.

Seasonal recycling initiatives are another example of SBC's partnership with the Village.

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George Kallas – A Community Treasure

Born in Oak Park, raised in Downers Grove, George has lived in Winfield for 40 years. George has served in many roles as far as charity goes because that is his passion. He has been in sales for his entire career from a small clothing store in Downers Grove to now mobility accessible vehicles. When you talk with George, you can see why he's done well in his chosen field, he is a great conversationalist. Even in his current position, he manages to blend his compassion for helping people because mobility accessible vehicles exist to help those who cannot get into or manage driving a standard vehicle and he enjoys helping people find a solution that allows them to remain independent.

Charity is his hobby. He's been part of Ducks Unlimited for 45 years, which is the largest wetland organization in the country. He has been a board member of the Central Kane County Committee for 17 of those years. Pheasants Forever of Du-

Page County mission is to conserve wildlife through habitat improvements which he's been a part of for 15 years. He's drawn to nature and has spent a lot of time in open spaces which he wants to help preserve for future generations.

Locally, he's been with the Winfield Lion's Club for 30 years and is a past president of the club. He helped to start the Boy Scout Troop 575 with another local resident, Stan Smolucha. He joined the Knights of Columbus Council 8002 ten years ago. He says they're a great group that gives back a tremendous amount to the Winfield community. You'll find George serving pancakes and bacon at the Knights' Sunday Pancake Breakfasts or grilling hamburgers at the Good Old Days over the big wood fire grill.

What he loves about Winfield is that people care. " We're a community where political activities spark interesting conversations as evidenced by

the fact that we had three newspapers circulating in town at one time." George served on the Riverwalk committee for 12 years and was happy when the project finally broke ground a few years ago. He's been serving as Winfield Fire Protection District Trustee for the past 21 years. He was happy when the referendum passed to build the beautiful new station to better protect the residents of the District. The District is under good leadership with Chief Evans.

When not busy with charity work, George and his wife Pat like to dine out locally. They met through a mutual friend at a tavern in Westmont and they married 8 months later. They've been married for 48 years and have 2 great kids!



You'll find George serving pancakes and bacon at the Knights' Sunday Pancake Breakfasts or grilling hamburgers at the Good Old Days over the big wood fire grill.

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**Red pepper flakes (optional)
2 lbs chicken breasts – whole or cut into chunks
salt and pepper

Mix: apricot preserve, rice vinegar, soy sauce, sesame oil, ginger, garlic, red pepper flakes, salt and pepper to taste

Combine chicken with marinade and keep in refrigerator for at least 3 hours.

**Or add chicken and marinade to a freezer safe bag and freeze contents for safe longer-term storage. take out at any time, thaw under refrigeration, and follow next instructions.

Heat up 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil in a pan, put chicken along with extra marinade into pan and cook chicken until internal temperature is 165 degrees F.

Serve over brown rice with any vegetable!
I recommend sautéed zucchini or asparagus.

*Recipe from Bridget,
a Winfield Schools
and West Chicago
High School gradu-
ate who is now a
senior at Iowa State
University, study-
ing dietetics, on
track to become a
registered dietitian.
Bridget has enjoyed
cooking and baking
since she was a little girl, and now enjoys sharing
healthy recipes with her friends and family. This
is a go-to recipe she likes to make at school, a
staple, flavorful weeknight dinner item.*

A photograph of Bridget, a young woman with long brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a light-colored top.

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No Will, No Plan: What Happens When the Court Decides for You

By Eron McCormick

Before we dive in, I want to take a moment to thank you for welcoming me into your home. Through A Legal Moment with Eron, my goal is to provide practical, easy-to-understand information to help you and your family make informed decisions about legal issues that matter most.

Years ago, I met with a family after the sudden loss of a loved one. He was a devoted parent, owned a home, and had young children. Like many families, they assumed his spouse would automatically inherit everything and continue raising the children without any legal hurdles. Unfortunately, that's not how Illinois law works.

Because there was no will in place, the family had to go through probate court. What followed were delays, unexpected legal costs, and difficult conversations — all during a time when the family should have been focused on grieving and healing. Much of that stress could have been avoided with a simple estate plan.

In Illinois, dying without a will doesn't mean things just "work themselves out." Instead, a judge and state law makes decisions on your behalf — decisions that may not reflect your values, wishes, or what you would have wanted for your family.

When someone dies without a valid will, Illinois law considers them to have died intestate. In these situations, the law — not your family — determines who receives your property, who manages your estate, and who is responsible for caring for your minor children. Probate often takes a year or longer to complete and uses financial resources that could otherwise have gone directly to your loved ones or charitable causes.

If you are married and have children, your spouse does not automatically receive everything. Instead, your spouse receives one-half of the estate, and your children divide the other half. If you are married with no children, your spouse generally inherits everything. If you are unmarried with children, your children inherit your estate. If you have no spouse or children, a judge will look to your family tree. By operation of law your real and personal property may pass to parents, siblings, or even more distant relatives — regardless of how close those relationships may be. If no living relatives can be found, your estate will "escheat" to the State of Illinois (this almost never happens). This means the State becomes the owner of your property. Your assets do not go to friends, long-time partners, charities, or people you may have intended to benefit — they go to the government simply because no legal

heirs were located.

Many people are surprised by how property is divided when there is no will. Illinois law looks at your family tree, whether you are married, and the ages of your children to determine who will act on behalf of the estate. If you have minor children, this often adds an additional layer of expense, and probate may remain open until those children reach the age of majority. Once a child turns eighteen, any funds being held for them by a guardian or conservator are typically distributed outright.

For parents, this is often the most troubling issue. If you pass away without a will and have children under the age of 18 and have not legally named a guardian, a judge will decide who raises your children. Your children could become part of the DCFS system and move around from foster parent to foster parent. While the court does its best to act in a child's best interest, that decision may not reflect your wishes, values, or family dynamics.

A properly drafted Illinois will allows you to make these decisions yourself. You can determine who receives your property, name guardians for your children, and significantly reduce stress, expense, and confusion for the people you love.

Estate planning isn't about being wealthy. It's about being prepared and protecting your family. Taking the time to put a will in place is one of the simplest and most meaningful steps you can take to ensure your family is taken care of when you are no longer around to take care of them.

About Eron:

Eron McCormick is a licensed attorney in Illinois and Wisconsin whose practice focuses on serving clients in business, real estate, and estate planning matters. When not in the office, Eron enjoys fishing, vacationing in Land O' Lakes with family and friends, dining at various supper clubs (old fashioned sweet, please), and discovering all that the Northwoods has to offer.

This article is not intended to serve as legal advice, does not constitute an attorney-client relationship, and does not replace advice from a qualified attorney.

Winfield Knights of Columbus

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Rolling Up His Sleeves for Winfield

By Luke Allen

“Serving my community is all I know,” says Evan Summers, Village Manager of Winfield. I met with Summers on a very cold January morning at Sweet Reserve, where we talked over lattes by a sunny window about his role in Winfield as he approached nearly one year on the job. “I grew up in Northwest Indiana,” recalls Summers. “I came to Winfield after serving as the Village Manager in Bensenville for 8 years, and Assistant Village Manager in Berwyn before that.” Summers began serving as Winfield’s interim Village Manager on March 1, 2025, working alongside retiring Village Manager Curt Barrett for two months. That overlap allowed for a seamless transition—an opportunity Summers says is rare in municipal government. “You just don’t often get that chance in this profession,” Summers reflected. “Communities are rarely willing to invest in an overlap transition. It really demonstrated to me that this Village Board was committed to success, and that was the kind of place I wanted to work.” That transition allowed Summers to step fully into the role more quickly than would otherwise have been possible. “We’re a very small staff,” he explained. “In Winfield, the Village Manager doesn’t have the same level of staff support that I’ve had in other places. I make my own PowerPoint presentations for board meetings, and I even do the graphic design for some of our social media posts.” For Summers, that hands-on approach has been energizing. “Coming to Winfield was great for me,” he said. “I got to roll up my sleeves and do the technical work that inspired me to go into municipal government in the first place.” Public service, Summers noted, has always been part of his life. “I grew up learning about this business,” he said. “My father was the budget director in San Antonio, Texas. I went with him to city council meetings in the evenings and watched him present budgets and work to improve economic conditions for residents. Serving the public through economic development was all I knew.”

When asked what he enjoys most about working in Winfield, Summers pointed to the community’s character and involvement. “Winfield is unique in many ways,” he said. “Residents are committed to preserving the feel of a



Evan Summers
Village Manager of Winfield.
“Serving my community is all I know.”

small town. Compared to other villages our size, we have fewer streetlights, curbs, and gutters. People care deeply about the community—they’ll call Village Hall when a tree branch is down on a trail. That matters, because we don’t have the staff to inspect every space regularly. It’s clear that Winfield residents love spending time outdoors.” Looking ahead, Summers said his focus is on improving efficiency as demand for village services grows. “We only have 38 employees,” he explained. “Many of our technology platforms date back to the 1990s and require a lot of staff time to process requests.” Among the improvements he’s exploring are electronic permit applications to speed up turnaround times and GPS tracking systems for snowplow trucks to ensure all streets are cleared during

winter storms. “We can do more by using our existing staff time more efficiently,” he said. Public safety is also a priority. “We’re in the process of hiring one additional police officer, which will bring the department to full staffing for the first time in quite a while,” Summers said. He also noted that the upcoming retirement of Police Chief Schar will require careful planning. “I’m hoping to work with the Village Board to develop a strong succession plan. A smooth transition in leadership is critical for our police department.” I wrapped up my conversation with Village Manager Evan Summers with a few lighter questions—the same ones I ask our firefighters and police officers.

- Just for fun* (short answers):
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Favorite food: | Tacos |
| Favorite restaurant: | Taco Bell |
| Favorite movie: | The Hunt for Red October |
| Favorite band: | Oasis |
| First car: | 1991 tan Ford Taurus |
| Dream car: | Hunter-green Lotus |



Volunteer Writers Wanted

Opportunity awaits to stitch our community closer together by writing about events, people, features for Winfield’s only print newspaper! Contact Patti if interested: patti@thewinfieldglimpses.com or 630-205-1405

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All burgers are made with a half-pound Angus beef patty grilled to perfection on a brioché bun with your choice of American, Mild Cheddar, Swiss or Sharp Cheddar cheese. Served with homemade chips. Substitute fries for \$3 or onion rings for \$5

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Topped with your choice of cheese. \$14.00

Spicy Cheeseburger
Topped with jalapeños and your choice of cheese. \$14.00

BBQ Bacon Burger
Topped with crispy bacon, cheddar cheese, and tangy BBQ sauce. \$14.00

Pizza Burger
Topped with gooey mozzarella cheese and our savory marinara sauce. \$14.00

Bacon Cheeseburger
Topped with crispy bacon and your choice of cheese. \$14.00

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Served on toasted rye, loaded with grilled onions and melted American cheese. \$14.00

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All sandwiches are served with homemade chips. Add rice or grilled onions to any sandwich at no charge. Substitute fries for \$3 or onion rings for \$5

Corned Beef
Hand-sliced corned beef layered on rye, topped with American or Swiss cheese. Served with fries. \$11.99

Philly Cheesesteak
Thin-sliced steak piled high with melted provolone, grilled onions, and green peppers on toasted French bread. \$15.00

Reuben
Hand-sliced corned beef layered on rye, topped with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut and 1000 Island dressing. Served with fries. \$12.99

Strip Steak Sandwich
Tender Boneless New York strip steak on a steak roll with lettuce and tomato. \$16.00
*Have it cheesed! Add your choice of American, Mild Cheddar, Provolone, Swiss or Sharp Cheddar for \$2

Chicken Philly Cheesesteak
Thin-sliced chicken piled high with melted provolone, grilled onions, and green peppers on toasted French bread. \$15.00

FISH SPECIALS
Shrimp Basket
Lightly breaded butterfly shrimp, fried to a golden crisp, served with cocktail sauce and fries. \$13.99

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Italian Beef	Fish Sandwich	Pizza Burger
Italian Sausage	Corned Beef	BBQ Bacon Burger
Italian Combo	Patty Melt	Bacon Burger
Chicken Sandwich	Chicken Philly Cheese Steak	Spicy Burger
Buffalo Chicken Sandwich	Reuben Sandwich	Bacon Cheeseburger

See menu for burger and sandwich descriptions
*Excludes Strip Steak Sandwich

Coors Light, Miller Lite & Pabst Blue Ribbon (22oz Glass) - \$3

DAILY SPECIALS

Soup of the Day - \$6

Homemade Chili - \$6

MONDAY
Large thin crust cheese pizza - \$15
*Additional charges apply for extra toppings

TUESDAY
Buy One Pasta, Get the Second One Free
Choice of Spaghetti, Mostaccioli, or Fettuccine With Alfredo, Marinara or Meat Sauce
*Second pasta must be of equal or lesser value

WEDNESDAY
Select Appetizers - \$6.50
Cheese Sticks, Breaded Mushrooms, Zucchini Sticks, Chicken Tenders, 4-Cheese Toasted Ravioli, Onion Rings, Wings & Boneless Wings (add carrots and celery sticks - \$50)
*See menu for appetizer descriptions

THURSDAY
Buy one Fiesta Size Thin Crust Pizza and get a Small Thin Crust Cheese Pizza free

THURSDAY - SUNDAY
Lil Pizza (6 inch individual) - \$5.49
Cheese, Sausage, or Pepperoni
Add a New soft drink for \$1.50!
*Taxes not included

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Get to Know a Winfield First Responder

Firefighter/Paramedic Jeff Littledale

Where are you from and what brought you to Winfield?

I grew up in Elgin and worked in both Pingree Grove and Hampshire as a part time firefighter/paramedic. One of my co-workers found out that Winfield was hiring, so we both applied and tested here together. I started working in Winfield in 2013, and I still work here with my friend.

Why did you become a Firefighter/Paramedic?

My uncle is a mechanical engineer. In school I had an affinity for math, and thought I wanted to be a mechanical engineer like him. However, one of my high school dual credit classes did not transfer to college correctly, and I didn't want to spend a year re-taking classes I had already proved myself in. That made me question if M.E. was what I really wanted to do. Meanwhile, a friend enrolled in a Fire Science class so I joined him because it sounded interesting, and that's when I fell in love with the fire service. I liked spending time with other firefighters, hearing their stories, and I was intrigued by the sense of community and brotherhood that comes with this career. I enjoy learning through mentors, and that led me to take EMT classes, where I started to really appreciate the challenge of the medical side of the job. Now I enjoy the medical side of my job even more than firefighting- which is great, because 75% of our calls are for medical assistance.

What's the best part of your job in Winfield?

What attracted me to Winfield over other departments, and why I stay in Winfield, is the "old-fashioned" feeling of working in this fire house. Working here has a similar culture to the small rural towns where I first started working. Coming to work every day feels like I'm coming "home" to my work family- we work hard, joke around, and support each other.

I like the residential and "small town" feeling of most of our calls, but some of our calls are more like a large city experience because of the high traffic areas, large apartment complexes and two large hospital campuses. Every crew member has to learn every job- from paramedic to firefighting to water rescues. I like doing a little bit of everything.

What are your professional goals, or are there any skills/certifications you'd like to learn?

I've already accomplished a lot of the goals I set for myself. I still want to take classes for Advanced Fire Officer certification, which will allow me to work on my goal to become a Lieutenant. I have been training to prepare as a Lieutenant for the last couple of years and look forward to that opportunity.

And now some fun questions!

What's your favorite food? Cheeseburger

Favorite restaurant? Chipotle

Favorite fire service movie/TV show? Backdraft

Hidden talents? I used to play the trumpet

Favorite hobby? Video gaming and watching Star Wars

Favorite dinosaur? Brontosaurus

First car? Ford Escort

Dream car? I already bought it! I love my 2016 Honda Civic



Happy Spring, Winfield!

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Riverwalk, restaurants,
businesses and amenities
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wonderful!



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Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce News



As my year for being the GWCC President begins, I wish to thank Jennie Fleming and Dave Nelson for taking me under their wings and guiding me to the start of a hopefully fulfilling year for myself, current members, and future members. We have great anticipation for growth in Events, Marketing, Communications, and Membership as our committee's meet to fulfill those needs. In addition to our already planned events such as:

- Car Show** starting in June (Monday Evenings at Prairie Path Center)
- Good Ole Days Vendor Expo** 9/11-13
- Art Festival** 9/19 or 9/26 (Update to be broadcast soon)
- Prairie Haunted Trail** 10/31

We are planning to host a monthly Evening Social/Speaker (Business partners needed-if interested, please speak to a member of our Event Committee).

Interested in joining the Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce, please reach out to one of our members on our Website or at an event.

I can't wait to meet you!!

— Julie Michelin

President of the
Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce

GWCC activities:

Right: The swearing in ceremony at Klein Creek with board members and new president Julie Michelin.

January networking meeting at Pet Wants.

February networking meeting with Jim King of Wheaton Website Services held at the park district.



Community Groups

The Tony Reyes Family Foundation (630) 205-1405
St. John the Baptist Church (630) 668-0918
Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church (630) 518-1517
Winfield Historical Society (630) 653-1489
The Winfield Foundation (630) 534-0856

Education

The Written Word (214) 683-8591
Primrose School of Winfield (630) 926-3488
Winfield School District 34 (630) 909-4900
Winfield Education Foundation (773) 344-6559

Government

Winfield Public Library (630) 653-7599
Village of Winfield (630) 933-7100
Winfield Park District (630) 653-3811
Winfield Fire Protection District (630) 653-5050

Law Firm

McCormick Law Firm (630) 517-8570

Museums

Cantigny Park (Robert R. McCormick Foundation) (630) 668-5161

Newspaper

Winfield Glimpses, The (630) 205-1405

Jewelry

Sierra Gems (630) 876-7900

Entertainment

Klein Creek Golf Club (630) 690-0101
We Know Tickets (630) 272-8292
Polaris Travel (630) 853-6375

Finance

Michael J. Michelin, CPA (630) 660-7780
Healthcare Associates Credit Union (630) 276-5830
Winfield Wealth Advisors (630) 709-6825
Trust Bank of Wheaton (630) 407-0900

Insurance

Nelson Agency – Health Insurance Solutions (630) 474-6060
Nelson Agency, Farmers Insurance Agency (630) 474-6060
Trusted Insurance Options/Medicare (331) 998-7878

Real Estate

Roger Fox – Re/Max Suburban (630) 877-7777
Daniel And Associates Real Estate (DAARE) (630) 918-6129
Winfield Station Apartments (833) 617-3113
Admiral Builders (630) 690-1200

Food & Drink

Scone House Café (630) 854-3730
Manbot Coffee Roaster (630) 363-0236
Winfield Farmers Market (630) 408-3712
Berger Bros Pub (630) 606-0521
Cooper's Corner (630) 690-2668
Sugar Mama's (708) 945-9069
Caliendo's (630) 690-1555

Home

Antique & Chic (630) 949-8169
K and A Restoration (872) 221-2377

Medical & Health

Livanos Chiropractic Health Care (331) 806-3072
Central DuPage Vision (630) 668-2020
Northwestern Medicine (CDH) (630) 933-1600
Wholistic Lotus Pathways (773) 552-1417
Pilates & Energy Healing by Asha (224) 659-0440
Winfield Chiropractic & Wellness (630) 251-8268
Metamorphic Rise (773) 608-2326

Beauty

The Barber Shoppe (630) 306-8936
Wheaton Barbershop of Winfield (630) 462-7900

Pets

Kiki's Korner (630) 868-3160
Pet Wants (630) 513-9977
Transpet Services (630) 370-4270

Technology

Alpha POS (630) 690-4379
Calvisions Inc. (630) 470-0895
Vizality LLC nick@vizality.com
Wheaton Website Services (630) 665-1969

Sports & Hobby

Lion's Panzek Martial Arts (630) 797-6698
Prairie Path Cycles (630) 690-9749
Winfield In Action (630) 653-3811

In Memoriam



ANN MARIE MURNANE

Ann Marie (Belt) Murnane, 94 of Winfield, Illinois, died peacefully of natural causes on December 31, 2025. Services were held.

Ann was born February 18, 1931, in Columbus, Ohio. Ann was raised in a large, loving, devoutly Catholic family. At 18, Ann decided to give her life to God in service and join the convent. God had other plans for her service though, and due to an injury in a car accident on the way to the convent, she was

unable to complete her novitiate. Ann met Timothy (Tim) Murnane, a recent WWII veteran from Marquette University through her brothers who also attended school there. In 1953, Ann and Tim married and together they raised a family of 9 children.

Ann will be remembered for her qualities of being loving, patient, kind, humble, not easily angered, forgiving, protective, perseverant, and resilient. Ann was deeply spiritual, Christ-centered, peaceful and joyful. She was also playful, funny, a rule breaker, and an excellent listener. Ann's skill for wise and gifted counsel along with her thirst for lifelong knowledge led her, at 53 years of age, to complete an associate's degree in Addictions Counseling from the College of DuPage, graduating with Highest Honors. Ann completed her Bachelor of Arts in Human Services from National College of Education. She focused on Child and Family Counseling for her Master's degree study program. Ann worked comforting and counseling those in crisis at the DuPage County Crisis Center and also had a private practice working with families and married couples. Later in life, Ann's child-centered joy and passion led her to serve as a nanny for the Kawka family in helping raise their three boys, Michael, Danny and John.

Ann leaves behind a legacy of love. That love lives on in her and Tim Murnane's descendants, the Kawka family, her family, neighbors, friends and caregivers. Ann's deep faith led her to model Jesus in her daily life as she shared her mottos and inspirational sayings of "God did it just for me!" "The more you look for God, the more you will find him." "That's what Heaven's for" and instead of goodbye, "To be continued."

Ann is survived by her seven children, 13 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, her son-

in-law, Jim McVicar, her sister, Jean Shelton, and many beloved nieces and nephews. Children: Joan (Tom Rendall) Murnane, Joe (Kathleen) Murnane, Christine (Jim) Meece, Tim Murnane, John Brebeuf (Susan) Murnane, Margaret (Michael) McCarthy and Kathleen (Tim) Morris. Grandchildren: Matthew (Michelle) McVicar, David McVicar, Megan (Austin) Funcheon, Jenny Lynn (Ben) Murnane-Butcher, Carmen (Judah) Morales, Brendan Meece, Luke (Julia) Murnane, Maria and Sareena Murnane, Erin (Alex) Faith, Patrick and Bridgette McCarthy, Daniel and Christina Morris.

Great-grandchildren: Taylor and Sean McVicar; Emma Faith, Quinn Michael and Isaac Xavier Murnane and Declan Murnane-Butcher.

Ann was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 57 years, Timothy Aloysius Francis Ryan Murnane, her daughters Mary Therese McVicar and Patricia Mary Murnane. Patricia was born on the Feast of St. Patrick (March 17, 1959) and died eight days later on the Feast of the Annunciation in Cleveland, Ohio. She was also preceded in death by her parents, William Atlee Belt and Beatrice Teresa (Durbin) Belt and her brothers Father Lawrence Belt, S.J., John, Louis, Edward, James, and Ralph Belt.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Knights of Columbus at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Winfield, Illinois or the Tony Reyes Family Foundation.

"You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

St. Augustine.

Winfield Scouts take third place in annual Klondike competition

By Scott Young

On Saturday, February 7th, 38 Scout teams from across DuPage County braved the extreme cold and competed in the annual Klondike Derby, a test of Scout skills and team events. The 7-member Night Ducks Patrol from Winfield Troop 575 was awarded third place.

The all-day outdoor event was hosted by Cantigny in Wheaton and drew teams from more than 30 Scout Troops from as far away as Oswego and Elgin.



Scout Troop 575's Night Ducks Patrol. Back left to right: Andrew Reitmann, Elijah Rion, Eli Brand, Caeden Coyne, Jameson Denio. Front: Nathan McLear. Not pictured: Evan McLear.

The competition tested skills such as fire building, knots and lashing, signaling, and orienteering.

Winfield Troop 575 is made up of Scouts from throughout western DuPage County. The Troop is known for its commitment to the community, developing the moral character and leadership of its members, and producing Scouts with exceptional outdoor skills. The troop is sponsored by the Winfield Lions Club.

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Winfield Farmers Market Starts 34th Year in Prairie Trail Center

Since the summer of 1993, Winfield residents, as well as those in surrounding communities, have had the good fortune of having fresh fruit and vegetables available from Illinois and Michigan farmers right here in town, every Wednesday, 7am to 1pm, for five months, June 3rd through October 28th, 2026.

“The only difference is that back then there were only five farmers that made up the entire market,” says the market manager of the past 31 years, Rich Bysina. “Today we have close to 40 vendors each week offering a variety of food products, including oven-fresh bread and bakery goods, frozen meats, cheese, honey, roasted nuts, kettle corn, sauces, coffee, plants, health and beauty items, hand-crafted jewelry, fabric and ceramic craft ware, food and stuff for pets, even professional services for the homeowner.”

“To help celebrate America’s Semiquincentennial, we’re adding something new for the opening month of June – big 11x17-inch paper placemats (inspired by those offered for sale by the America

250 organization) -- for parents to take home for their kids to color, then return them to receive five vendor bucks to spend at any vendor. It’s just what we do to celebrate Bugs Bunny’s birthday in July.”

Bysina’s ultimate goal for Bugs? To get Warner Bros. to approve this “wascally wabbit” as mascot at the farmers market here in Winfield, then in Illinois, then for farmers markets across America.

Winfield Farmers Market is located at the SW corner of Geneva and County Farm Roads in the Prairie Trail shopping plaza. There is always plenty of parking, and handy vendor directories listing every business vendor are displayed in the wide shopper’s aisle.

For those who haven’t yet been to this market, they can get a glimpse of many of the vendors in a couple entertaining videos on www.facebook.com/winfieldfarmmarket, beautifully put together by Winfield resident Tim Morris.

Winfield residents who have a business and are interested in participating in this market are always welcome to contact Bysina at 630-408-3712 or sezwhorich@gmail.com.

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Cute
Holiday
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Contest
Winners

December's contest yielded some very cute pets, including **Callie** the canine, and **Mecan** the feline.

Each winner received a gift basket donated by Jim Kohlman of TransPet Services.

Bow WOW, Callie and con-cat-ulations, Mecan!



SBC Difference

continued from page 4

The pumpkin recycling program continues to grow each year as more residents participate. After the holidays, natural Christmas trees can be placed out for recycling during the designated period. These efforts may seem modest individually, but collectively they reduce landfill waste and offer simple, practical ways for residents to make environmentally responsible choices.

As SBC has expanded into additional communities, including significant new municipal partnerships, Shawn emphasized that customer service remains central to their approach. Waste management has been his career since he was 16 years old, starting on the back of a truck. It's not just an industry to him – it's a profession he takes pride in.

That pride shows in small but telling ways. Keeping familiar drivers on the same routes year after year helps build trust. Drivers get to know families. Kids look forward to seeing the truck each week. Some drivers even carry small safety vests or coloring books to hand out to young fans. It's not required – but it reflects a company culture that values relationships.

Looking ahead, residents will soon hear more about a new composting option being developed in coordination with the Village. The proposed program would allow residents to add a third cart specifically for food scraps and organic materials. Final details are still being prepared, and official information will be shared through village-approved communications in the coming weeks. For now, residents are encouraged to watch for those announcements rather than rely on partial information.

We also touched on bulk items, an area that can sometimes cause confusion. Stickers are still required for certain large items such as furniture. Stickers can be purchased at Village Hall, Jewel-Osco, Caputo's on North Avenue, and Winfield Tobacco & Liquor on Geneva Road. When in doubt, a quick call to SBC's office can prevent misunderstandings and ensure everything is handled smoothly.

Waste haulers don't often get headlines. Usu-

ally, they're noticed only when something goes wrong. But in Winfield, the more accurate story is about what happens when things go right – week after week, year after year.



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Declaration 1776 Exhibit

Winfield Library, Winfield Park District and the League of Women Voters of Wheaton are partnering to bring the “Declaration 1776” exhibit to Winfield in May.

The League of Women Voters of Wheaton purchased an eight-panel exhibit created by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. The exhibit starts with the original idea of modern democracy that “all men are created equal” and then builds on that theme to explore the origins of the Civil Rights Movement, Women’s Rights, democratic movements across the globe and the legacies that continue to be central to the identity of our country. The League created the eighth panel to introduce itself and note its sponsorship. The League of Women Voters of Wheaton includes Carol Stream, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton and Winfield and is a nonpartisan political organization working to ensure everyone is represented in our democracy through advocacy and education.

The exhibit debuts at the DuPage County Historical Museum in March and travels throughout the area until the fall. It moves to the Wheaton Public Library in June. For more information please contact the League at www.wheatonlvvill.org

The shared exhibit will be on display at the Library upstairs in the Adult Services area and the Charles R. Beggs Activity Center between May 8 – 27. The Library hosts it in conjunction with its May 19, 7:00 pm, Historical Society Program sponsored by the Village of Winfield. The program features local re-enactor Jack Tison talking about “The Uniform of the Continental Soldier.” Please visit www.winfield.lib.il.us to learn more about the exhibit and register for the program.



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