

Friends Newsletter

F R I E N D S O F T H E W E S T C H I C A G O C I T Y M U S E U M

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 1-May 23
Visiting Artist Stine Marie Jacobsen
- May 10 6:30 p.m.
Annual Membership Meeting
- May 14 noon -1pm
Bartlett High School CAD student display reception
- May 21
Blooming Fest
- June 11
Depot Day @
CB&Q Depot,
134 Turner Court

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CITY MUSEUM WELCOMES DANISH ARTIST STINE MARIE JACOBSEN



Stine Marie Jacobsen is a Danish artist and filmmaker working with video, performance, curating, writing, and drawings. Her projects focus on investigating subjectivity and narrative structures through cinematic ideas of subjectiv-

ity and representation of self. Through humorous performances she suggests an expanded notion of the self.

Jacobsen is based in Berlin and Copenhagen, but is visiting West Chicago through the International Residency Project organized by People Made Visible in connection with artX-posium and the West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission. During her residency she will be working with West Chicago teens on a project titled "Film Club." She will also par-

ticipate in BloomingFest with a musical event created and inspired by some of the film projects she has been working on.

You can meet Jacobsen at our Annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m. Jacobsen will present her work and talk about her project here in West Chicago.



FOLKSINGER MARK DVORAK TO PERFORM AT DEPOT DAY

Chicago folksinger Mark Dvorak will present "Songs from the American Railroad" on Saturday, June 11 at the CB&Q Depot at 134 Turner Court. There will be three, half-hour performances: 12:30, 1:30,

and 2:30. This will be an informative and entertaining program with special emphasis on music from America's railroad-ing tradition. Please join us for the songs of railroad history and visit the CB&Q Depot.



2012 COMMUNITY CALENDAR TO FEATURE WEST CHICAGO THEN & NOW

The Friends of the West Chicago City Museum will be producing its 3rd Annual Community Calendar. The 2012 calendar will feature comparative West Chicago scenes from past and present. If you would like to list any community dates in the calendar please contact Sara Phalen, at wchistory@yahoo.com or 630-231-3376. Calendars will be available for sale later this fall.

The Friends would also like to give a big **thank you** to the **West Chicago Printing Company** and **Uwe Gsedl** for donating their time and expertise on the 2011 Community Calendar. Uwe was generous enough to donate the entire portion of his design work in the beautiful calendar featuring the history of West Chicago's public schools. There are still a few calendars left, please stop by the City Museum and get yours before they are gone.



Friends President Peggy Krauch officially thanked Steve Treudt of the Printing Company and Uwe Gsedl at the Friends March board meeting and presented them with Friends memberships.

*“Volunteers
polish up the
rough spots in our
communities.”*
Jefferson Award
Winner Alice
Sandstrom

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Jerry Hund, Barlett High High School instructor and a resident of West Chicago, is a life long train enthusiast. He has been working with the City Museum on a CAD skills project involving his architectural/CAD honors students researching the history of nine past and present West Chicago train

stations. While investigating the CB&Q Depot, he noticed that the train signs were missing. When told that they were in need of restoration, he volunteered. They have now been restored and placed back on the station. **Thank you Jerry!**

We would also like to thank all of our volunteers that have helped us in the past. Without your generosity and the gift of your time our organization could not accomplish the wonderful things we are doing at the City Museum!

CITY MUSEUM LAUNCHES A NEW BLOG, A SENSE OF PLACE

A new local history blog is being produced by the City Museum. **A Sense of Place** will provide readers with brief capsules of local history in a lively and entertaining format. The first installation, *What's in a*

Name? kicked off the blog by telling the origins of the City's name.

Bi-monthly posts will focus on people, places and things that have contributed to the City's legacy. Starting in April, the blog will contain

additional essays to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

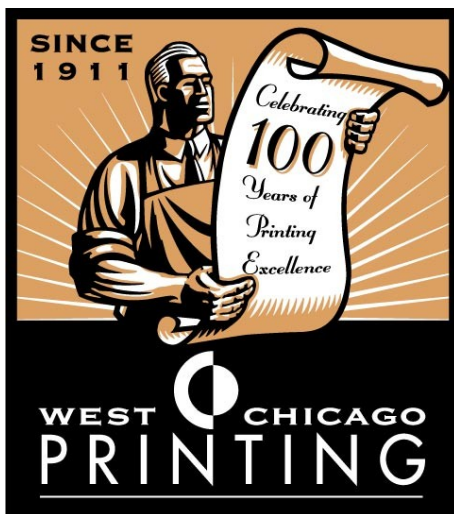
The City Museum staff is excited about the opportunity the blog poses to share web-based snippets of history on a

regular basis, and would love to hear back from readers as to what West Chicago history subjects they would like to see explored. Please visit the new blog at www.westchicago.org/blogs/asenseofplace.

THE FRIENDS SUPPORT
LOCAL BUSINESS MEMBERS

As part of West Chicago's support of local businesses, the Friends are honoring its business members with history displays at the City Museum. The first local business to be featured will be the **West Chicago Printing Company**, which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year.

William Treudt, a journeyman printer and the youngest son of a German immigrant, purchased ownership of The West Chicago Press in the year 1911 and began the Company. The Printing



Company printed the weekly newspaper until 1979. Originally located on East Washington Street, as the business grew it moved to its current home at 129 Fremont Street. William's craft as a commercial printer has been carried on since 1911 through four generations of Treudts. Please stop by the Museum and see the display detailing the rich history of this local, family owned business. The exhibit will run late May-July.

BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBIT

Bartlett High School architectural/CAD honors students are researching the history of nine past and present West Chicago train stations. Their Instructor, Jerry P. Hund, is encouraging his class to improve their research, writing, and CAD skills with this project.

Each student selected a station and visited its

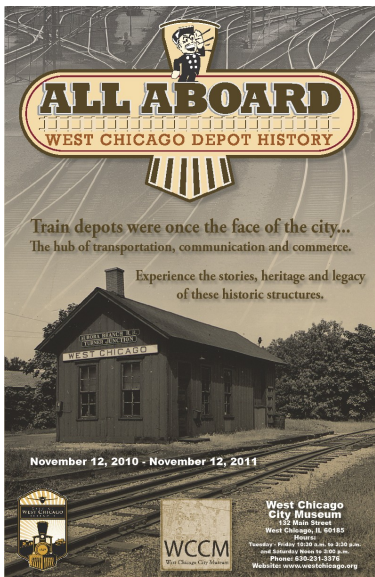
site. Students will prepare a 2-D and 3-D drawing of the building, even for those depots no longer standing.

The City Museum supplied the class with photographs, maps, architectural plans and historical information about the City's depots. "Thanks to the West Chicago City Museum this research

has become a lot of fun," said Hund.

Come see the students' finished projects displayed at the Museum on Saturday, May 14, at a reception from noon-1 p.m.

"History is not just something that happened long ago and far away. History happens to all of us all the time. Local history brings history home, it touches your life, the life of your family, your neighborhood, your community."
Thomas J. Noel



ALL ABOARD!

If you haven't already visited the City Museum's new exhibit All Aboard! make it your summer destination! Come learn about the importance of the local train station and how it is vanishing from the landscape. Visitors can also view images from the more than a dozen train depots that

West Chicago has had through its history. Kids can also explore railroads through the children's area, become a conductor and sell tickets from their own office!

All Aboard! also features a Lego model of the 1912 C&NW depot built by Joe Ellenbecker. Joe will be at

the City Museum on May 14 to talk to any interested about his work and how he put together this exciting piece of West Chicago history from Legos.

All Aboard! will be up at the City Museum through the end of 2011.

SUPPORTING YOUR
COMMUNITY'S HISTORY



FRIENDS OF
THE WEST
CHICAGO CITY
MUSEUM

City Museum Hours
Tuesday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Saturday noon-3:00 p.m.
Always Free!
132 Main Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
Phone: 630-231-3376
www.westchicago.org/museum
E-mail: wchistory@yahoo.coms

The Friends of the West Chicago City Museum serve to assist the West Chicago City Museum in fundraising by encouraging museum membership, donations and community awareness.

Vote for the **2011 Commemorative Ornament!** Like our Facebook page and cast your vote or stop by the Museum and have your voice heard!

Which historic West Chicago historic icon would you like to see as the next ornament:

- Chicago Burlington & Quincy 19th Century Depot
- Pioneer Train Engine
- West Chicago Roundhouse

CURATOR'S COMMENT
BY SALLY DEFAUW



After the article in our last Friends newsletter about the Douglas Café appeared, Betty Marecek called me.

Betty remembered that Lydia or "Lyd" Douglas had worked at the restaurant after 1945, the end

date I gave for the restaurant's ownership by the Douglas family.

Our records indicated that Lydia ran the restaurant until 1942, so apparently she stayed on and worked for the new owners.

Looking in city phone directories, I found listings in the 1950s for the West Chicago Café and at one point an advertisement in the yellow pages said it was run by John and Mae Anagnos, who operated it into the late 1950s. The last listing I found was in 1958. So, thank you to Betty for letting us know that Lydia Douglas worked at the restaurant after she sold it.

Sally DeFauw