

WEST WALKER WIRE

JUNE 2007

www.westwalker.org

Officers Nominated for 2007-2008

At the May 15th general meeting, Jane Nagle, the Nominating Committee chairman presented the slate of candidates for officers to serve during the 2007-2008 term:

President: Liz Mills

Vice President: Evan Price

Secretary: Mike Webber

Treasurer: Bob Begeske

There were no nominations from the floor at the May meeting. Members will have another chance to nominate candidates at the June 19th general meeting. The membership will then elect officers to serve a one-year term, starting in September. Thanks to **Jane Nagle, Carol Barry and Dave O'Donnell** for serving on the Nominating Committee.

June Meeting to Feature Independence Park Update & Mary Brown Good Neighbor Awards

Eileen Sweeney, Park Supervisor of Independence Park will provide an update of what's new at the park on June 19th at 7:30 p.m. at the Latvian Community Center, 4146 N. Elston Ave. We'll also hear from Anna Wateska, a realtor from Coldwell Banker, who will talk about the condominiums being built in the 4100 block of Pulaski.

Continued on Page 3



Have a Great Summer!

While you are enjoying the beach and all the great summer activities our neighborhood has to offer, don't forget WWCA and the *Wire* will be taking its summer vacation in July and August, with no meetings or editions of the *Wire*.

We'll see you again in September!

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 9 to August 4

Library Summer Reading Program
(See Page 7 for Info)

June 16 • 9:30 a.m.

Hunger Walk
(See Page 11 for Info)

June 17 • 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Farmer's Market
Independence Park
(See Page 7 for Info)

June 19 • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting &
Officer Elections
Latvian Community Center
4146 N. Elston Ave.

June 20 • 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Swing Dancing Lessons followed by
dancing to a Live Big Band
Athletic Field Park - 3546 W. Addison
(See Page 11 for Info)

June 29 • Dusk

Movie in the Park "Yankee Doodle
Dandy"
Independence Park

July 1 • 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Farmer's Market
Independence Park

July 4 • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

4th of July parade
Independence Park
(See Page 7 for Info)

September 18th • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting
Latvian Community Center
4146 N. Elston Ave.

You can also visit our
Community Calendar online at:
<http://westwalker.org/calendar.html>

Dear Neighbor:

Whew! What a year for the West Walker Civic Association. Indulge me a few lines while I acknowledge our accomplishments and toot the horns of some who helped us get so far!

Vision – Late last summer the Vision was finalized and presented to **Alderman Laurino** and department heads at City Hall. Meetings were held to work toward attracting an arts organization to our community, and our participation in the Creative Chicago Expo in April brought us one step closer to that goal. Meanwhile, work is almost complete on a comprehensive survey of every building on Elston Avenue.

Zoning – The zoning committee met throughout the year to evaluate several projects proposed for Elston Ave. The committee continues to learn more about the zoning process and how it can impact the realization of our Vision.

Special Events – From the 4th of July celebration to the Fall Festival and the Winter Social, West Walker residents had more opportunities to get together! We also participated in the Wine Tasting that benefited the Bungalow renovation project, and continued the tradition of assisting the Irving Park Community Food Pantry through food donations and the Build-A-Bag event. And don't forget another successful garage sale!

Safe Neighborhoods – After some time without any permanent representation, I'm pleased that we've found a new CAPS representative, **Pam Maremont**. We also saw this newly formed committee get off to a great start with a meeting with the Alderman and the 17th District Commander to address traffic concerns.

Meanwhile, we had a seamless transition to a new *Wire* editor, **Beth Tigie**, and ad sales team, **Tara McKee** and **Laurie Gardner**, who have made putting out a monthly newsletter look so easy. Twenty-seven banners were hung to identify and beautify our neighborhood, and our web site continues to add features and attract visitors.

We saw greater participation on West Walker committees, at events and at meetings – perhaps our most significant accomplishment. The work of the organization is being shared by many, including new committee chairs **Davor Engel** (Zoning), **Johanna Zorn** (Vision) and **Anne Marie O'Kelley** (Safe Neighborhoods).

I can never say enough about the board officers, **Bob Begeske**, **Evan Price**, and **Mike Webber** who fill multiple roles and are ever-willing to do just one more thing. Several on our executive board also fill multiple roles, and all diligently attend meetings and provide good counsel. Thanks for all the hours you contribute for the improvement of our community.

Congratulations on a great year! Remember to join us at our June meeting and for the July 4th Parade at Independence Park. Have a wonderful summer!

Liz Mills

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

West Walker Mission Statement

"The pursuit of the West Walker Civic Association is to make our diverse neighborhood the best it can be by securing the services, safeguards and improvements the West Walker community is entitled to have."

Celebrating more than 95 years of service to the West Walker Community

2006-2007 OFFICERS

President	Liz Mills 267-9298
Vice-President	Evan Price 267-1740
Secretary	Mike Webber 539-8346
Treasurer	Bob Begeske 267-5942

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Eisenhart
Peg Klimek
Maria Menard
Dorie Westmeyer

West Walker Carrier Staff

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Maria Menard
John & Betsy Minor
Maureen Nelson
Melanie Reschke
Pat & Marianne Turk
Diane Zito

Editor

Beth Tigie

The West Walker Wire is published monthly by the West Walker Civic Association.

All story ideas and text are due by the first of the month. Submit ideas and text to: west_walker_wire@yahoo.com. Include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you.

For information on advertising, please see our Advertising Rates, Page 11.



June Meeting to Feature Independence Park Update & Mary Brown Good Neighbor Awards

Continued from Page 1

The Mary Brown Good Neighbor Awards will also be presented at the meeting. The recipients being honored for their work to make our community a better place are:

- **Jackie Kazarian** for her tireless work to see the successful implementation of the West Walker light pole banner project. Jackie single-handedly undertook sales of the banners to individuals, groups and businesses. Her efforts resulted in 27 banners hung to date with more on the way. Though Jackie's work on the project was unexpectedly interrupted, she oversaw the final placement and installation of Phase I banners and is working to complete Phase II.
- **Cindi Webber** for stepping in to see the banner project through, from completed sales to banner production and placement, when personal matters prevented Jackie from doing so. In spite of the demands of a busy career and busy home life including two young children, Cindi graciously agreed to see the project through.
- **The Chicago Latvian Community Center** for their generosity in providing complimentary meeting space to the West Walker Civic Association. The Center has been a long-time supporter of West Walker's efforts, and their support and friendship are greatly appreciated.

The awards are named in honor of Mary Brown, who served as WWCA president for many years and who died unexpectedly in 2002. The WWCA's Executive Board created the honors in 2004 to recognize efforts similar to Mary's.

Don't Forget to Renew Your WWCA Membership!

West Walker is able to continue to function thanks to its many volunteers, *Wire* Advertisers and Members like you!

Dues for the 2007-08 year are due September 1st, so be sure to renew! If you aren't a member of the association but enjoy participating in our activities and receiving copies of the *Wire*, please consider joining. Dues are inexpensive relative to most associations so it's a worthwhile investment in your community!

For a membership form, see page 15.

Summer Safety - Preventing Heat-Related Illness

Warm weather means activities and fun under the sun! Whether you love putting on shorts and feeling the warm outdoors, or find it hot and sticky, everyone must be careful not to let a heat-related illness spoil the day.

- **Dress for the heat.** Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. Light colors will reflect away some of the sun's energy. It is also a good idea to wear hats or to use an umbrella.
- **Drink water.** Carry water or juice with you and drink continuously even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, which dehydrate the body.
- **Eat small meals and eat more often.** Avoid foods that are high in protein which increase metabolic heat.
- **Avoid using salt tablets** unless directed to do so by a physician.
- **Slow down.** Avoid strenuous activity. If you must do strenuous activity, do it during the coolest part of the day, which is usually in the morning between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- **Stay indoors** when possible.
- **Take regular breaks** when engaged in physical activity on warm days. Take time out to find a cool place. If you recognize that you, or someone else, is showing the signals of a heat-related illness, stop activity and find a cool place. Remember, have fun, but stay cool!

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West Walker Civic Association – General Meeting Minutes May 15, 2007 – 44 present

WWCA President Liz Mills opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

The first order of business was a presentation by the developers interested in building new residential property on the site of the old C. Manny's restaurant located at 4150-58 North Elston Ave. Liz Mills and Alderman Laurino gave opening remarks encouraging attendees to listen and consider whether the proposal represented a desirable change from current use on Elston and a move forward in implementing the Vision Plan.

Vision Committee member Davor Engel spoke first and discussed the process that had led to a recommendation by the Zoning Committee and the Vision Committee to support the project. Other proposed developments on Elston have been reviewed and rejected, mostly because of density, quality or aesthetic issues. This project was deemed to be of high quality with moderate density and good aesthetics. It met most of the goals articulated by the Vision Statement, and was felt to be a good benchmark for the quality of construction that would be sought in the future.

The developer's presentation group included the builders, the architect and the builder's zoning attorney and realtor. Plans for the site and an artist's rendering of the project were available for review. The project consists of 2 adjacent 8-unit residences with a dividing breezeway. A front setback with green space is provided. One parking space per unit is provided, with parking access through the rear alley. The units are expected to be offered for \$350,000 or \$450,000, depending on size. Completion would be in Spring 2008.

The bulk of the presentation was reserved for questions from the attendees. Resident concerns centered on the adequacy of parking, added car traffic through the alley, building height and marketability. Questions were raised regarding the possibility of permit parking and alley traffic calming methods. Residents raising these concerns generally disfavored approval. Other residents spoke in favor of the project, noting that it was a good start for the redevelopment of Elston and would plant the seed for further quality development and a generally upturn in neighborhood amenities and property values.

All present wanted to prevent the creation of a "Condo Canyon" which has affected other neighborhoods. Alderman Laurino assured us that West Walker would retain control over all development on a parcel by parcel basis.

A general recess was taken following the presentation, and because of the length of the question and answer period, a short regular meeting was then conducted.

The February General Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Bob Begeske reported a general account balance of \$1,888.82.

The Nominating Committee reported that after extensive recruiting, the current Officers are slated to run for the 2007 -2008 term. No additional nominations were made from the floor.

Liz Mills reported on the success of West Walker's participation in the Creative Chicago Expo on April 21, which helps match neighborhoods with various artistic and creative people and organizations.

The second annual Build-a-Bag to benefit the Irving Park Community Food Pantry on April 22 resulted in the assembly of over 100 toiletry bags for the needy and cash donations, and was again considered a success.

Representatives of the Latvian Center were present and were given hearty applause and thanks for their ongoing generosity in allowing the WWCA to hold its monthly meetings at the Center.

Bob Begeske reported that the Wire has a full complement of carriers, but anyone willing to fill in on an occasional basis would be welcome.

Safe Neighborhoods, which addresses neighborhood concerns regarding safety, traffic and enforcement, needs volunteers to work with the Alderman's office and report at General Meetings.

Melanie Reschke reported on the opening of Starbucks at Lawrence and Pulaski, and the efforts of Carlson Ministries.

All were reminded of the upcoming Garage Sale and thanks were offered to Bob Crowley and Melanie Reschke for their efforts. Under new business, volunteers were requested to serve on the Old Irving Park Association's Crosstown Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

WWCA 22nd Annual Garage Sale

Once again, mother nature favored the West Walker community with spectacular weather for its 22nd annual garage sale. The sun shone on shoppers who filled the alleys from Pulaski to Central Park. There were 85 garages/yards participating in the sale this year, with another dozen or so unofficial sales. Proceeds from the permit application go to paying for newspaper advertising and toward West Walker memberships. Membership in the WWCA helps to support the Wire, which is provided free to every household, and other association expenses.

Bob Crowley and **Melanie Reschke** did another tremendous job organizing the sale. Our thanks go out to them for another great year. And thanks to all who shopped or sold at the sale!

Photos Courtesy of Eric & Johanna Zorn



The WWCA Garage Sale had everything INCLUDING the kitchen sink!



Shoppers hunt for bargains in a West Walker alley.



Steve Mills should have kept one of those picture frames for this photo.



Barbara Cameron displays her wares at the 22nd annual West Walker garage sale.

Bungalow Renovation Committee and City Departments Meet

In late May, Alderman Margaret Laurino coordinated a meeting between members of the Independence Park Bungalow Renovation Project Committee and Chicago Park District Superintendent Tim Mitchell. Department of Housing and Department of Environment heads were present also.

Following a presentation about the bungalow and the efforts to renovate it, all departments represented voiced their commitment to this project. It was stressed that to do something like this takes commitment from the community as well. Future community fund-raisers will be forthcoming and the committee is working on obtaining grants from various sources.

The next visible step towards renovation will be the tuck pointing and masonry work due to start in early summer. The funds for this part of the project were obtained through the help of our State Rep Rich Bradley.

IPAC Announces Summer Movies & Concert

Once again, the Independence Advisory Council will sponsor movies to be shown at Independence Park. IPAC worked in collaboration with GIPNA and the Athletic Field Advisory Council to put the series together. All movies begin at dusk.



- Friday, June 29th
Yankee Doodle Dandy
- Friday, July 27th
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
- Saturday, August 25th
Mission: Impossible III

There will also be a concert on August 3rd, featuring the Horner Park Jazz Band. The concert starts at 7:00 p.m.

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Independence Park's Farmers Markets Up and Running

The first farmer's market at Independence Park (3945 N. Springfield) was held June 3rd with a variety of vendors on hand. The markets will be held the first and third Sundays of each month from 8 am to noon. The remaining dates are:

- June 17
- July 1 and 15
- August 5 and 19
- September 2 and 16
- October 7

Vendors for the market include:

- Marilyn's Pies
- Stiver's Gourmet Coffee
- Woofs 'N Whistles (dog food and accessories)
- The Peanut Tree (gourmet granola)
- World-Shoppe (fair trade and handmade gifts)
- Delightful Pastries
- M&D Farms
- Abbey Brown (soap artisans)
- Plapp Family Organics (stone ground flours & cornmeal, popcorn, whole ducks and chickens, hamburgers, various pork sausages, chicken and duck eggs, and maybe lamb chops and brats)
- Barbara Murphy (Irish soda bread, Key Lime pies, scones)
- Notary Public

Plans for July include having a knife and scissors sharpening service at the market. For further information, please e-mail gipna@sbcglobal.net.



Library Announces Summer Reading Program

The Chicago Public Library has announced its summer reading program for kids – Chicago, City of Big Readers. The program begins June 11th and runs through August 4th. Using the theme of Chicago History, children are encouraged to read and report on books. Children will have a chance to win paperback



Spend the Summer with a Book!

books during weekly raffles, and special events will take place throughout the summer. For more information, call the Independence branch at (312) 744-0900 or at chicagopubliclibrary.org.

4th of July Activities planned at Independence park

The Independence Park Advisory Council (IPAC) and the West Walker Civic Association will again sponsor activities for the entire family at Independence Park on the 4th of July. The fun will last from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Be sure to arrive around 10 a.m., as a bicycle parade will kick off the festivities at 10:30 a.m. Get into the spirit by decking out your bike with patriotic decorations or dress up and wear your red white and blue. Following the parade the Boy Scouts will hold a Flag Ceremony with singing of the National Anthem. After the ceremony, games will commence with running, potato sack races and an egg toss. Free patriotic giveaways and refreshments will be provided. Come out and spend some time with your neighbors before heading out to your other Independence Day events!



Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

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Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594
Ward39@cityofchicago.org



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West Walker's

In celebration of the West Walker Civic Association's 95th year, we're compiling a list of 95 things to do and see in and around West Walker. Here's what we have so far...check them out!

1. Gaze at the refurbished stained glass windows at the Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave.
2. Stop by Flavors on Avers at 4526 N. Avers for some candy, ice cream, or a snack.
3. Check out the tulip tree (its blossoms look like tulips!) in the parkway near the alley at approximately 3855 W. Belle Plaine.
4. Stroll by 4124 N. Avers, one of the oldest homes in West Walker. Built in 1901, it was the home of Edward Washburn, the sole selling agent of lots within William B. Walker's addition to Chicago (West Walker).
5. Visit the Latvian Folk Art Museum, 4146 N. Elston. Open daily 10 – 1, and by appointment, 588-2085.
6. Feel like a kid again and run through the fountain at Independence Park.
7. Visit the Independence branch library and pick up your favorite book and read it again. And again....
8. Ride the Blue Line "L" train downtown with a friend.
9. Come to the 4th of July parade at Independence Park.
10. Consider the history of the Bole home at 4102 N. Avers. Built in 1907 by Ulysses and Olive Jenkins, the house was used as a rooming house for 30 years before being rescued by the Boles, who have lovingly restored the home and gardens to their former glory.
11. Order a tasty cheeseburger and 'tots at Paddy Mac's – for just \$3 every Monday, 4157 N. Pulaski.
12. Note the art deco accents on the apartment building in the 4000 block of Pulaski.
13. Visit the North Park Village at 5801 N. Pulaski, home of a nature center, gymnastics center, hiking trails, and the Jens Jensen-like rock garden and waterfall.
14. Order up a brisket sandwich at Smoque, 3800 N. Pulaski.
15. Enjoy a cold Margarita on a hot night at C. Manny's.
16. Admire the ever-changing windows at Your Snappy Shop, 3544 W. Irving Park Rd. Which color will be featured next?
17. Pick up a garden ornament, flowering plant or just stroll through the Farmer's Market Garden Center at 4110 N. Elston.
18. For fresh flowers and a calming environment, visit Lexa's Creative Floral Design, 4433 N. Elston.
19. Buy fresh fish at the Fish Guy Market, 4423 N. Elston. Check out the specials on Tuesday and Wednesday.
20. Splurge and enjoy dinner at Wellfleet, the Fish Guy's occasional fine dining concept.
21. Visit the Farmer's Market at Independence Park on the first and third Sunday of each month through October 7th from 8:00 a.m. to noon.
22. Sample the music of The Delafields at www.thedelafields.com. West Walker resident Eddie Torrez is in the band.
23. While you're at it, sample WW teen phenom Sima Cunningham's music at www.simacunningham.com.
24. Admire the naturalized garden and twig fence in the 4000 block of Harding.
25. Admire the lovely terra cotta exterior of Heat Cool at 4001 N. Elston.
26. Take in a movie at the newly restored Portage Theatre, 4050 N. Milwaukee, or the LaSalle Bank Cinema, 4901 W. Irving Park Rd.

Favorite Things

27. Work out at the "Y," park, or Curves.
28. Join Carol Barry's yoga class, Wednesdays at 7:00 at Independence Park.
29. Register your child for a class at the park, library, or Kids Dance, 4100 N. Pulaski.
30. Join your child for a music class with Julie Helenius at the Irving Park Lutheran Church.
31. Worship at one of the many area churches, the Buddhist Temple or the Muslim Community Center.
32. Take your pet for a check up at Mayfair Animal Clinic, 4314 N. Elston.
33. Ride the bike path from Caldwell Woods (Milwaukee and Devon) to the Botanic Garden.
34. Bowl a few frames at Diversey River Bowl, 2211 W. Diversey.
35. Stay for a meal in the High Rollers Grill and Pizzeria.
36. Admire the paintings of Jackie Kazarian at the Independence branch library and the 17th district police station.
37. Visit the gnome carved from a tree on the east side of the 4100 block of Pulaski.
38. Take in some live music at the Abbey Pub, Baked Tomato, Chief O'Neill's or McNamara's.
39. Attend an Irving Park Fine Arts Series concert at the Irving Park Lutheran Church.
40. Play a set of tennis at Independence Park.
41. Shoot some hoops in the alley.
42. Send the kids to Magic Mushroom.
43. Watch a baseball, t-ball or men's softball game at the park.
44. Listen to a jazz band concert at Independence Park, August 3rd at 7:00 p.m.
45. Take the family to an outdoor movie at Independence Park, June 29th, July 27th and August 25th at dusk. Bring popcorn!
46. Take part in the library's summer reading program.
47. Join the adult reading group at the Independence branch, or the "I love reading club" (ages 8-13).
48. Sign up for salsa lessons at Chicago Dance, 3660 W. Irving Park.
49. Admire the retro orange and blue tile on the façade of the Thillens Building, 4242 N. Elston. (Proof that everything eventually comes back into style!)
50. Have your car maintained at one of the many auto repair shops, but especially Triangle Auto, 4060 N. Elston!

Thanks to Carol Barry, Roberta Bole, Liz Mills and Dorie Westmeyer for their submissions. If you have more suggestions to add to the list, email the *Wire* at west_walker_wire@yahoo.com.

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Kids, Come Play with Plays At Portage Park

There are two drama camps for kids at Portage Park this August. Led by professional actors from Chicspeare Production Company, both sessions will focus on creating a performance using a variety of senses – sight, sound, rhythm, movement, and humor! – to make sense of a script. Students who have completed 2nd grade up through those who have finished 8th grade are eligible to participate. There will be different material at each camp, so kids can come to one or both.



The camps meet Monday-Friday from 9:30-12 noon, with a closing performance at 11 a.m on the last day. The first session runs August 6-10; the second session runs August 13-17. The cost for each session is \$40. All sessions, as well as the performance, will be at the Cultural Center at Portage Park, 4100 N. Long in Chicago.

To register for either session, call (773) 699-2273 or e-mail chicspeare@earthlink.net. Do not call the park as its staff is not handling registration.

Chicspeare is a theater company based in Chicago specializing in Shakespeare; our name reflects our commitment to both the city and the Bard. Chicspeare is in residency at Portage Park through the Chicago Park District's Arts Partner program.



Dance in the Park this Summer

Chicago SummerDance and the Chicago Park District bring dancing to Athletic Field Park at 3546 W. Addison. These FREE events will take place three evenings this summer with dance lessons from 6-7 p.m., followed by live music & dancing from 7-9 p.m.

Wednesday, June 20th

- 6-7 p.m.: Ana Damen (East Coast Swing)
- 7-9 p.m.: The Outcast Jazz Band (Big Band Swing)

Wednesday, July 18th

- 6-7 p.m.: Tina Mangos (Salsa, Cha-cha)
- 7-9 p.m.: Latin Inspiration (Classic Salsa)

Wednesday, August 8th

- 6-7 p.m.: MayIHaveThisDance.com
- 7-9 p.m.: Rhythm Rockets (Jump, Rhythm & Blues)



Chicago Summer Dance

Hunger Walk Still Needs Participants

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is still in need of walkers to participate in the 22nd Annual Hunger Walk for the Chicago Food Depository.



All funds donated to the Chicago Food Depository through the walk will be banked for the various pantries, including the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.

The walk takes place on June 16th at Montrose Harbor, with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and the walk at 9:30 a.m. The fundraiser is a 2.5 mile walk along Chicago's lakefront. If you can't walk, sponsors are needed for registered Irving Park Food Pantry participants.

For more information on participating or making a donation please contact Pat Eisenhart at 478-4027.

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Office Report: 39th Ward



I hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend. Taste of Chicago will begin on Friday, June 29th, and will go through Sunday, July 8th at Grant Park (337 E. Randolph Street). There are tons of activities for everyone. Come and enjoy great food, drinks, and music.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Spring Clean and Green on Saturday, May 5th. I truly appreciate your effort to clean up and beautify our city and the 39th Ward. Your hard work and dedication is both exceptional and exemplary.

Anyone who is thinking of having a Garage Sale can pick up a Permit at my public service office. The permit is free of charge, and it takes only a couple minutes to fill out. All you need to bring with you is some kind of proof of residence (e.g. drivers license, state id).

As the price of gas continues to escalate, the Department of Consumer Services has issued the following tips to help consumers save gas and money:

- Maintain your vehicle. This will keep your car running optimally and saves gas.
- Clean out your car. Remove as much excess weight as possible. Extra weight makes the engine work harder.
- Follow the speed limit. Gas mileage usually decreases with higher speeds.
- Avoid rush hour. Sitting in traffic obviously is a huge waste of fuel.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact my public service office at (773)736-5594 or send an email to ward39@cityofchicago.org.

Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward



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Office Report: 40th District



Over the past few months I have shared with you the new laws relating to teen driving in the State of Illinois. In January, I informed you about the school attendance, 50-hours driving requirement, and a ban on cell phone use while driving. In February, we printed driving tips for teens, and tips for parents. In April, I encouraged you to make a contract with your teen. Today, I would like to share the new Graduated License program.

- The law would triple the amount of time from three months to nine between obtaining a learner's permit and a driver's license. It trims an hour from the curfew for 16 and 17 year old drivers and doubles from six months to one year, the period during which they can have no more than one teenaged passenger, except immediate family members. It also requires that parents attend hearings for 16 and 17 year olds who receive traffic tickets and want to obtain court supervision, and requires attendance at traffic school for drivers under 21 who seek court supervision for tickets.
- Provisional License
An applicant who is age 18 and who has not been previously licensed must hold an instruction permit for 6 months, rather than 3, before taking a road test. Applicants 19 and older must hold an instruction permit for 3 months before taking a road test.
- Full License
Requires 6 months conviction-free driving before a teen may move from the initial phase to full licensing (ages 18-20). There is a \$3.50 credit toward the fee for a full license for a provisional license holder who has no violations on his/her record.
- Parents you should also know that you can view your child's driving record online, at no charge if:
 - Driver is under 18 years old; and
 - Driver has an instruction permit, or a graduated license

Please feel free to contact my office if I can be of any assistance; the above is just one of the many State services offered at my office.

Richard Bradley, State Representative 40th District 3520 N. Pulaski Road, Chicago IL 60641 (773) 794-9444

Chicago International Irving Park

3820 N. Spaulding Avenue

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Chicago International Irving Park, at 3820 N. Spaulding Avenue, is a K-8 elementary school now accepting applications K-4.

For an application please contact Chicago International at www.chicagointl.org or call 312.651.5000.

CAPS Update: Beat 1723

The top 10 crimes for beat 1723 in the last month are as follows:

Simple battery	12
Domestic battery	12
Criminal damage to a vehicle	11
Theft (under \$300)	9
Theft (over \$300)	7
Assault	6
Burglary (forcible entry)	6
Retail theft	4
Criminal damage	4
Narcotics possession	4

Several calls have been made to the police reporting domestic violence at an address in the West Walker neighborhood. The police encouraged residents to continue to call to report domestic violence and also noted that beat 1723 has the highest rate of domestic violence in the district. There will be more details from the police in the coming months about a new group forming to address this issue.

On May 1 at 2:30 p.m. three pit bulls got loose from their yard in the 4100 block of Monticello and one of them attacked a child on his bike. Animal Control was called and eventually located the dog in the area of

Monticello and Montrose where he was captured and taken to the facility at 24th and Western.

The alley behind the library continues to be a problem area and has been mentioned at most of the recent CAPS meetings as a potential location for a police camera to be installed. Our CAPS facilitator, Ms. Stoller passed out petitions for residents to circulate throughout their neighborhoods in support of police cameras. Stay tuned for the next step in the process.



While Jensen Park (Wilson and Ridgeway) is outside our area, it is still worth mentioning the discussion that took place about this particular park. Many residents from the surrounding streets attended the meeting and clearly voiced their concern about what is happening in the park on a daily basis—gang activity and drug deals. Residents asked for more patrols by police on bicycles and in cars. The officers stated that there has been an increase of plain clothes officers in the park, but they will increase their presence. Several suggestions for community involvement were brought up, one being a smoke out where the neighborhood comes together for a cookout in the park—using the park for a positive event while building a strong neighborhood community. Many of the residents stayed after the meeting to discuss forming a Block Club, the first step in reclaiming their park. Free block club training is offered through CAPS. For more information, contact Chris Wright at Christopher.Wright@chicagopolice.org or 312/742-0961.

CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) meetings for 2007 for our beat are held at the 17th District in the community Room, 4650 N. Pulaski. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. monthly on the 3rd Wednesday and typically last one hour.

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 311 (Always request a tracking number)

17th Police District: 312.744.8346
 Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting: 3rd Wednesdays of the Month - 7:00 p.m. at 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski Road

39th Ward: Alderman Margaret Laurino
 773.736.5594 4404 W. Lawrence Ave.
 Email: ward39@cityofchicago.org
 Web: www.aldermanlaurino.com
 Constituent Night: Mondays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
(Call ahead. Meet Alderman Laurino to discuss Ward concerns.)

39th Ward Streets and Sanitation: 312.744.8163

33rd Ward: Alderman Richard Mell
 773.478.8040 3649 N. Kedzie Ave.
 Email: rmell@cityofchicago.org
 Web: www.33rdward.org
 33rd Ward Advisory Council: Third Thursday each month at Horner Park Fieldhouse, 2741 W. Montrose Ave.; 7:00 p.m.
(Discuss your issues with the advisory council)

33rd Ward Streets and Sanitation: 312.744.1451

40th District State Representative: Richard Bradley
 773.794.9444

20th District State Senator: Iris Y. Martinez
 773.283.7000

5th Congressional District: Rahm Emmanuel
 773.267.5926

Independence Branch, Chicago Public Library:
 3548 W. Irving Park Road 312.744.0900

Independence Park, Chicago Park District:
 3945 N Springfield Avenue 773.478.3538

Graffiti Removal Hotline: 312.744.1234
(Always request a tracking number)

Neighborhood Relations: 312.744.3774

Poison Control Center: 800.942-5969

Illegal Businesses, City Department of Revenue:
 312.747.5317

www.cityofchicago.org: All city departments

www.cookcountyassessor.org: Property assessments

www.cookcountytreasurer.org: Property taxes

www.legis.state.il.us: Check pending state legislation



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150 S Bloomington Rd
Bloomington IL 60108

Norridge Branch

7040 W Forest Preserve Dr
Norridge IL 60706

Park Ridge Branch (Main St)

104 S Main St
Park Ridge IL 60068

Park Ridge Branch (Touhy Ave)

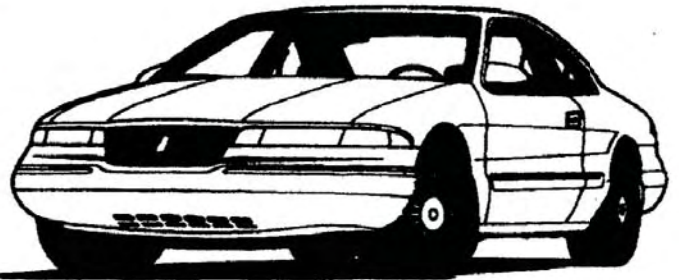
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