

WESTWALKER ——WIRE——

MAY 2009

www.westwalker.org

Art Institute, Summer Reading Program and WWCA Elections Headline May WWCA Meeting

For the first time in decades, the Art Institute will be able to guide visitors through its extensive holdings of Modern and Contemporary art in contiguous spaces, thanks to its opening of a new wing this month. Mark Pascale, WWCA resident, and a Curator in the Department of Prints and Drawings at the museum will give an overview of the Modern Wing at the May meeting.

Summer is just around the corner so that means so is the Chicago Public Library Summer Reading Program! It's a great chance to help children keep up their reading skills while school is out, and learn the enjoyment of good books. Margaret Dunne from the Independence Park Library will also be joining us to talk about this year's program.

Lastly, officer elections for the 2009-2010 year will be held. Please join us for the WWCA General meeting on May 19th at 7:30 in the Latvian Community Center, we look forward to seeing you!

Officers Nominated for 2009-2010

At the May 19th general meeting, the Nominating Committee will present a slate of officer candidates to serve during the 2009-2010 term. Nominations for the following officer positions are:

President: Mike Webber Vice President: No Nomination Secretary: Carol Barry Treasurer: John Minor

Candidates may also be nominated from the floor at the May meeting. At that meeting, the membership will elect officers to serve a one-year term beginning in September.

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 16 ● 9:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m.
West Walker Civic Association
24th Annual Neighborhood Garage
and Yard Sale
Application to participate on page 11

May 19 ● 7:30 p.m. WWCA General Meeting Latvian Community Center 4146 N. Elston Ave.

May 20 ● 7:00 p.m. Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting 17th District Police Station Community Room - 4650 N. Pulaski

May 24 ● 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Recipe for a Cloud. Learn how they are made, the various types, and why they look different. All ages program.
North Park Village Nature Center, call (312) 744-5472 to register

May 29 • 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Gallery 43, end of year art opening gala featuring student artwork St. Edward - Buckley Hall, 4343 W. Sunnyside Ave.

May 30 • 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Digital Nature Photography Workshop.
For beginning to intermediate
photographers. Bring your own
camera. Adult program.
North Park Village Nature Center,
call (312) 744-5472 to register

EXPANDED COMMUNITY
CALENDAR COMING IN JUNE TO
COVER THE SUMMER MONTHS!
IF YOU KNOW OF EVENTS IN JUNE,
JULY, AUGUST, OR EARLY SEPTEMBER,
PLEASE SUBMIT THEM TO
west_walker_wire@yahoo.com

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



<u>Dear Neighbor:</u>

On May 16, 2009, The Art Institute of Chicago opens its new addition, the Modern Wing, the most ambitious building project in its 130-year history. The evolution of this building stretches back ten years when former Director James N. Wood invited architect Renzo Piano to imagine a building to house collections of 20th and 21st century art, and to provide a link to the Southeast Asian collections that were displayed on the ground floor of McKinlock Court.

Fund raising for this building was hampered by the sad events of September 11, 2001, which also coincided with the Art Institute's staging of one of its most challenging and beautiful exhibitions of the decade, Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Studio of the South. Given the very real economic challenges faced by the museum—a continuing condition—it took much longer than anticipated to secure enough financial support to move ahead with the building, which encompasses 264,000 square feet of space, increasing the size of the Art Institute by a third. Led by current Director Jim Cuno, and endowed by many dedicated Chicagoans who are as devoted to advancing our city's cultural heritage as those who founded the institution, the building will house the chronological collections of Modern European painting and sculpture, Contemporary Art, Architecture and Design, with special exhibition spaces for Photography, Film and Video, and a roof-top sculpture court. As well, the majority of the first floor features an extensive footprint of classrooms for Museum Education, as well as a convenient drop-off driveway for school groups—a mainstay of the museum's audience.

As your neighbor, and a Curator in the Department of Prints and Drawings at the museum, I look forward to the opportunity to give the residents in West Walker an overview of the Modern Wing at the May meeting. Hope to see you there!

Mark Pascale WWCA Board Member

WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed since our April issue is included below. If you still need to join or renew, visit our website at www.westwalker.org to download an application.

Mauricio Blanco
Ira & Lee Churgin
John & Nicole Groene
Amanda Hayman & Joshua Jones
Reid Johnson
Wayne & Michelle Niles
Roy & Renate Wasney

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 96 years of service to the West Walker Community

2008-2009 OFFICERS

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VACANT

Vice-President

Mike Webber 539-8346

Secretary

Carol Barry 478-5696

Treasurer

John Minor

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Editor

Beth Tigue

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

All story ideas, text and ads are due a week before the first of the month.

Submit ideas and text to: west_walker_wire@yahoo.com.

Please include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you.

For information on advertising, please see our Advertising Rates, Page 9.



WWCA General Meeting Minutes - April 21, 2009

Meeting opened at 7:37.

Mike introduced Jack Prikos from Farmers Market. Farmers Market is a family owned business right in the neighborhood. Jack has lots of new ideas for your gardening needs. Farmers is going green and offers sustainable and rooftop gardens, rain barrels, organic pesticides, seeds and soil, colorful edible gardens, earth boxes – and more. So why not stop on by Farmers Market and support our local garden shop. Special thanks to Jack for a great presentation with a lot of timely information.

John Eischen Caps Facilitator – Community Organizer. Get on his email for beat updates – john.eischen@ • chicagopolice.org. Call 911 if something looks off • –trust your instincts. Give full descriptions of what the • suspect is wearing, direction they are going and what • they are doing. The police department has a website • to report crimes if you cannot call. Chicagopolice.org • or caps.017.district@chicagopolice.org – but you must • have complete detail – (the 5 W's – Who, What, When, • Where, Why and How)

Correction to March Minutes:

Report odor hotline # 312-744-7672

With the above corrections, last month's minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report \$415 in Ad Revenue, Dues \$110

Printing Costs: \$576 Current Balance \$2209.72

110 Residents and 9 Commercial Firms are now West Walker members.

Art in My Back Yard: New program of Buy Land – June 5th Opening Night.

The Wire is in need of a new Editor as Beth Tigue is stepping down. Please contact one of the board members or email Beth at west_walker_wire@yahoo. com for more information

Adjourn 8:30

LIKE TO WRITE, EDIT, AND LAYOUT DOCUMENTS?

Dear Neighbor:

Want to assist WWCA from the comfort of your own computer?

Become the next Editor of the West Walker Wire!

- Time commitment is only a few hours a month, plus attendance at WWCA Board Meetings
- Previous Desktop Publishing experience preferred
- Train with the current Editor putting together the June issue
- Position begins at the end of August for your inaugural issue in September

Interested? Want More Information? Contact Wire Editor, Beth Tigue at west_walker_wire@yahoo.com or 773.539.9542













Movin' to the Music and Sonic Playground

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! New this summer for children ages two to ten! Come to Athletic Field Park on selected Tuesdays (June 9th, July 14th, and August 11th) from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Movin' to the Music. Pack a picnic lunch, bring a blanket, and join us on our new playground and water feature. We'll be playing a different genre of music on these selected Tuesdays. On September 2nd, we'll end with a special event called Sonic Playground. Join us on that day to hear local musicians use our playground as their instruments. (Weather permitting) Dates could be subject to change. As the event draws near, please call Athletic Field Park at 773,478,2889 to confirm dates.

AIMBY in Need of Space for Next Exhibit

ART IN MY BACK YARD (AIMBY) is seeking a storefront in the neighborhood for it's next art exhibition. If you have an empty space and are willing to donate it's use, the Wire will offer 3 months of advertising for free. AIMBY's shows bring visibility to the space (the last space used is now rented!) and provides a service to the community. It's a win/win situation! Contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766.

Editor's Note: The AIMBY exhibit has been postponed. Please visit www.artinmybackyard.com for updates.)

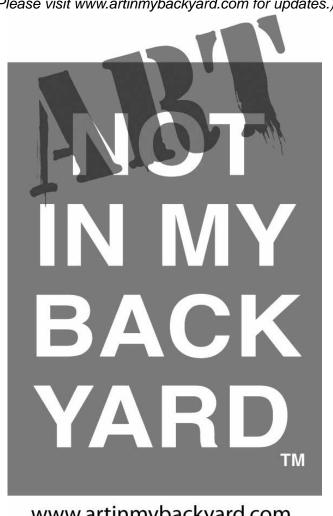
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The Value of Home Grown Fruits and Vegetables

How great it is to be finally able to work outside in the garden! So far, I seem to be having a wonderful year for dandelions. I'll have to get mulching...

Meanwhile, my fruit trees have been flowering, and I just got some veggies planted.

Maybe you live in an apartment or condo, or a rental house, or just don't have the time to manage a vegetable garden of your own. Don't despair! You can always come and volunteer at the Three Brothers Garden, on Belle Plaine and Pulaski.

A group of neighborhood volunteers started working on leveling the lot, and removing stones and rubble, and building raised beds, on April 25th, and the beds are planned to go in on May 9th. So, by the time you read this, we should be ready for seed planting. Please drop by and come help!

Our current methods of large-scale food production are heavily dependent on fossil fuel inputs, in the form of pesticides and fertilizers, as well as the fuel required to run planters, harvesters, and other large farm equipment. Food is transported in refrigerated vehicles for thousands of miles from farm to dinner plate.

We know this has an impact on our environment in so many ways – more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, less biological diversity due to pesticides, dead zones in the ocean due to runoff from farmland. Also, we shouldn't think that gasoline price will stay at current levels – I believe we will see it start to rise again, as the economy improves and demand, once more, increases. This will have an impact, once again, on food prices.

We need to find alternatives to mass-produced fruits and vegetables. And everything you can do will help.

Enjoy Spring, and get planting!

Michelle Kaicener - greenwestwalker@gmail.com

Website of the Month: http://www.postcarbon.org/



Chicago Park District Volunteer Stewardship Days

Volunteers are needed to help restore nature areas. Earn service hours and a great sense of fulfillment. Unless an age restriction is indicated, children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Activities may include trail maintenance, invasive plant species removal, brush cutting, seeding, or planting. Tools provided. No pre-registration required for groups of 10 or fewer. New faces welcome!

North Park Village Nature Center - 5801 N. Pulaski May 20, 24, 27, 31, June 3, 7, 10, 17; 9 am - 12 pm Call Bob Porter, 312.744.5472, for more info.

Bill Jarvis Migratory Bird Sanctuary - East of Lake Shore Dr. at Addison St.

May 23, 9 am – 12pm; June 13, 9 am – 2 pm 312.742.4072 Ages 18 & up

Winnemac Park - 5100 N. Leavitt St.

June 6, 9 - 11 am

312.742.4072 Ages 18 & up

Burnham Nature Sanctuary - 4700 S. Lake Shore Dr.

June 6, 9 am - 12 pm

312.742.4072 Ages 18 & up

Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary - 315 Montrose Harbor Dr.

June 6, 9 am - 12 pm

Meet at the "Magic Hedge" located between Montrose Harbor Drive and Lake Michigan. Parking is available on the street.

312.742.4072 Ages 18 & up

Housekeeping/Personal Assistant

Educated, trustworthy neighborhood mom available for:

- House cleaning, laundry, gardening, lawn care
- Errands (dry cleaning, groceries, etc)
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World War II Spy to Speak at St. John's Episcopal Church

Marthe Cohn, author of "Behind Enemy Lines-The True Story of A French Jewish Spy in Nazi Germany" will share her story on Sunday, May 17th at St. John's at noon. Marthe, a native of France, was in her late teens when Hitler was rising to power. She joined the French Army and became a spy who assisted in retrieving needed inside information about Nazi troop movements by slipping behind enemy lines in Germany She was decorated in 2000 with the Medaille Militaire, one of the highest honors in France. She will tell the story of her and her family's struggles and triumphs during the war.

2009 GIPNA Farmer's Market Dates are Set

For those of you awaiting your fresh foods, handmade goods, and locally roasted coffee - the time to stock up is almost here! GIPNA's popular Farmers Market is set to return to Independence Park. The markets will be held the second and fourth Sundays from June 14th through October 11th and are open 8:00 a.m. to noon. Official dates are as follows:

June 14 and 28 July 12 and 26 August 9 and 23 September 13 and 27 October 11

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CAPS Report

by Pam Maremont

This month's meeting was well attended. Several residents were present to voice their continuing concern with the Boehm Bar on Montrose Avenue. Patrons continue to be disruptive to the neighborhood, including parking illegally on Harding. Officers did surveillance over several nights, but did not observe any activity. The officers will continue to monitor the situation.

New issues raised included three armed robberies that occurred in the blocks between Irving Park and Cullom and St. Louis and Kimball, Two males with bandanas tied around their face wait at the end of the alley—usually in the early morning (5:30 a.m.) or late at night (10:30 p.m.) looking for people coming home from work. Officers encouraged residents to be alert and call 911 if they see anything suspicious. There has also been some increased drug activity in the 4000 block of Central Park, officers suspect the activity is gang related and promised to step up patrols in that area.

Statistics by type of crime in the West Walker neighborhood (March 18 - April 15, 2009):

Burglary (unlawful entry)	7
Domestic Battery	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	3
Theft \$300 and over	3
Criminal Damage to Property	2
Battery	2
Theft \$300 and under	2
Criminal Damage to vehicle	2
Offense Involving Children	2
Interfere with Public Officer	1

CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) meetings for 2009 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. The next meeting is May 20.

Margaret Laurino Alderman 39th Ward

39th Ward Public Service Office 4404 West Lawrence Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511 Ward Office: (773) 736-5594 Ward39@cityofchicago.org





City Hall, Room 203 121 North LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60602 (312) 744-7242

Irving Park Community Food Pantry News

Hunger Walk. The Greater Chicago Food Depository Hunger Walk will take place on Saturday, June 20, 2009. Money raised by our walkers and sponsors goes directly to our Depository account. That money is used to buy food for our clients. If you would like to walk for our pantry or sponsor a walker, please call or email the Pantry. More information will be on the Pantry's website shortly.

Donations Needed for Volunteer Luncheon. The Pantry is recognizing our regular volunteers at a Volunteer Luncheon in May. Donations of raffle prizes or a door prize would be welcome. Our volunteers contribute between 500 to 600 hours per month in service to the Pantry. Please call or email us if you are able to help the Pantry honor our volunteers.

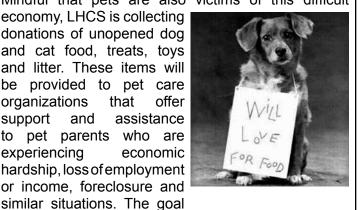
Irving Park Community Food Pantry E-mail: IrvPkFoodPantry@aol.com

Phone: 773-283-6296

LHCS Collecting Food for People & Pets

Little Helpers Community Services (LHCS) will be collecting food and other items during the West Walker Community Garage Sale on Saturday May 16th; between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Little Helpers Community Services is located at 4201 N. Elston Avenue in Chicago. LHCS will turn over all non-perishable human food or personal care items to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.

Mindful that pets are also victims of this difficult economy, LHCS is collecting donations of unopened dog and cat food, treats, toys and litter. These items will be provided to pet care organizations offer that assistance support and to pet parents who are experiencing economic hardship, loss of employment or income, foreclosure and



of this drive is to help keep pets with their families and thus reduce the number of abandoned, homeless or sheltered pets.

Little Helpers Community Services is a not-for-profit community organization focused on helping people and pets and improving our environment. For further information, please call 773-539-9410 or visit the LHCS website at www.lhcservices.org.



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39th Ward Report

Is your teenager looking for a summer job? Mayor Daley's **Youth Ready Chicago** program connects young people, ages 14 - 24, with paid internships, apprenticeships and jobs within Chicago's public and private business sectors. Each opportunity offers youth hands-on experience and an opportunity to gain marketable skills, supporting a successful transition from school into the workforce. To be considered, apply online at the program's website, www.youthreadychicago.org.

In City Council news, the **TIF Sunshine Ordinance** passed my Committee and the full City Council on April 22. This ordinance requires that the city's Department of Community Development post information about each of the city's TIFs on their website by July 30, 2009. Although media accounts would lead people to think this was a controversial measure, passage of this ordinance was never in doubt. Most of this information is currently available online, but not in an easily accessible format. Staff from the Department of Community Development worked diligently to develop a prototype for the site. Many thanks to them, as well as my Committee staff and the staff from the Committee on Finance, for their hard work and dedication to allow us to move this ordinance forward.

As this information about TIFs becomes available in an electronic format, I will add a TIF section on my website, www.AldermanLaurino.com. Since the **Irving Park/Elston TIF** in the West Walker community will be one of the newest TIFs in the city, information from this TIF should be available shortly after it passes the entire City Council.

Mark your calendars! On Monday, June 22, the City Clerk's office will be selling City Vehicle Stickers and Residential Zone Parking Stickers at my public service office (4404 W. Lawrence) from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please feel free to contact my 39th Ward Office at 773-736-5594 or Ward39@cityofchicago.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

West Walker Wire Advertising Rates Business Card - \$15/month #/months Total \$ (Must purchase a 3-month minimum) 1/4 Page - \$25/month #/months Total \$ (3.5" wide x 4.5" high) 1/2 Page - \$50/month #/months Total \$ (7.5" wide x 4.5" high) Full Page - \$100/month #/months Total \$ Business Name: Mailing Address: Contact Name: Contact Phone: Contact E-Mail:

- ALL AD ARTWORK must be black-and-white and is due a week before the first of the month.
- WE PREFER that ad artwork be submitted as a file attachment, sent in an e-mail to: ferrislaura@sbcglobal.net. Camera-ready "hard copy" versions also are acceptable.

Send all ad copy and payments (and any ad questions) to: Laurie Gardner, 4150 N. Springfield, Chicago, 60618 ferrislaura@sbcglobal.net 773-866-0665

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St. Edward School

Art Opening

Gallery 43, St. Edward's volunteer-staffed art program for children in Kindergarten through sixth grade, will host an end of year art opening gala. The gala will be held in Buckley Hall on Friday, May 29, 2009 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Each student will select one work of art that will be on display that evening. Refreshments will be served and there will also be a raffle for the kids. A school open house will also be held in conjunction with the art opening. Feel free to stop by and meet some current students and parents and meet some of the teachers and our Principal. For more information, contact Pam Flores at 773-583-5839.

Applications/Financial Aid

St. Edward School is currently accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year. Pick up your forms in the school office or call 773-736-9133 to have them mailed to you. Please note financial aid applications are also available.

Happenings at St. Viator

Student Named Illinois Geographic Bee Semifinalist. Congratulations to Joshua Hernandez, an eighth grade student, who achieved semifinalist status at the Illinois Geographic Bee. As a result of his high test score, competing against students across the 50 states, he was invited to complete at the state level by the National Geographic Society.

Two St. Viator Students Advance to State Finals for the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee. Hearty congratulations to Matthew Waldack, a sixth grade student, and Joshua Hernandez, an eighth grade student, who competed in the Regional Spelling Bee on March 8th. Matthew finished in 1st place and Joshua finished in 3rd place.

Registration for 2009-10. Registration is currently underway for grades preK-3 to 8th. Please be aware that there are a limited number of Preschool and Kindergarten seats available. Call the School Office 773-545-2173 for more information.

Belding Buzz

Let's Make the World A Better Place

Through the iEarn.org Project, Belding's 5th and 6th grade students are working with students from around the world on the theme "Making the World a Better Place." This website offers a variety of topics and projects to explore. The 5th and 6th graders have chosen "The Power of One", a project designed to raise awareness about global warming. Students blog with many students from around the world, learning about what they are doing in their countries to help this global problem.

Disney II Magnet School

Please join us in congratulating Disney II students and teachers on their continuous outstanding academic achievement, as evidenced by the Strategic Teaching and Evaluation of Progress (STEP) assessment data. The Third Quarter results show a steady increase from 68.5% to now 83% of students who are reading at or above grade level! The steady progress is consistent throughout all grades.

Auction and Fundraiser May 30th

Disney II PTA presents the ABCs: A is for Auction, B is for Benefit, C is for Community, on May 30th. It's an evening you won't want to miss! Community members are all invited to join us for the opportunity to mingle with Disney II teachers, staff, and parents. A fun night of dancing, cocktails, and hors doerves is all included in the \$50 price of admission. It's as easy as 1,2,3.... contact Stacey Nyman to buy your tickets today! scstnyman@sbcglobal.net or 773-267-3266.

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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: Deb Mell

773.267.2880

20th District State Senator: Iris Y. Martinez

773.283.7000

5th Congressional District: Mike Quigley

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.com: Property assessments

www.cookcountytreasurer.com: Property taxes

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

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West Walker Civic Association 24th Annual Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale Saturday May 16, 2009, 9am to 4pm - Rain or Shine

All West Walker residents are invited to participate in our 24th Annual Garage and Yard Sale

Cost to participate is \$5.00 for WWCA members and \$10.00 for non-members. Your \$5.00 or \$10.00 helps pay the cost of advertising and printing.

The Sale is advertised in the following newspapers and on line sites:

Chicago Tribune ● Red Eye ● Hoy ● Reader ● Reader On-Line ● Craigslist

Signs are posted on the main perimeter streets.

3,000 Maps indicating the location of each participating garage or yard are distributed the week of the sale.

Under *current city ordinance*, every home having a garage or yard sale must display a *Garage Sale Permit*, which must be acquired from the Alderman's office. The Garage and Yard Sale Committee will file the applications and obtain the permits for all paid participants.

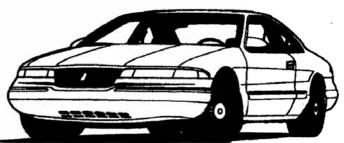
Your permit is delivered to your address the Friday before the sale.

Return the form below to have your address listed as a participant in the sale, along with your application fee **by May 12, 2009**. For further information call Bob Crowley at (773) 267-1921.

at (773) 267-1921.		
WE:	ST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION GARAGE AND YARD SALE Saturday, May 16, 2009	
NAME:		
ADDRESS:		
PHONE:		
E-MAIL:		
	rent member of the West Walker Civic Association. is my \$5.00 participation fee.	
I am not a fee.	member of the West Walker Civic Association. Enclosed is my \$10.00 participation	
Plea	ase make your check payable to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION	

Mail or drop off your form and payment to: Bob Crowley, 4125 N. Harding Ave, Chicago, IL 60618





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