



WEST WALKER WIRE

NOVEMBER 2010

www.westwalker.org

WWCA to Hold Proposed Residential Project Meeting on November 16

by Davor Engel, WWCA Vice President, Zoning Committee Chairman

ON NOVEMBER 16 at 7 p.m. there will be a special meeting of the WWCA at the Latvian Center to review and take public comments for a proposed residential development by Tom Lichter and his representatives for his property at 4247 N. Elston Ave. The actual address range is from 4247 to 4259 N. Elston Ave.

The parcel comprises six 25' wide lots and is currently gravel surrounded by a chain link fence. The parcel is zoned C1-1 and the proposed zoning is B2-2. Current permitted uses for each of these zoning designations can be found at www.amlegal.com/library/il/chicago.shtml under "Chicago Zoning and Land Use Ordinance," Chapter 17-3. The Zoning Committee and I have been working with Alderman Laurino's office to review the owner's proposals and work toward compatibility with the guidelines of the West Walker Vision Statement (available on the WWCA website). After numerous reviewed and previously rejected proposals, the Zoning Committee would like to receive public comments regarding the current proposal.

You are highly encouraged to attend this meeting. Your attendance and feedback as residents of West Walker is critical to the evolution of the West Walker that we reside in and the formation of the West Walker that the community wants it to be. Thank you, Neighbor.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**REMINDER: No November meeting.
See you December 21
at the WWCA General Meeting
and holiday party!**

November 16 • 7 p.m.
WWCA Special Meeting on Proposed Residential Project
Latvian Community Center
4146 N. Elston Ave.

November 17 • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Department of Health Free Flu Shots
Alderman Laurino's 39th Ward Office
4404 W. Lawrence Ave.

November 17 • 7 p.m.
Beat 1723 CAPS meeting
17th Dist. Police Station Community Room
4650 N. Pulaski Road

November 27 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
West Walker Holiday Art Fair
Irving Park Lutheran Church gym
4057 N. Harding Ave.

**Through December 4 •
during library hours**
Art Synthesis '10
Independence Park Branch Library
3548 W. Irving Park Road

December 12 • 2 p.m.
Performing Arts Series Holiday Concert
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding Ave.

December 18 • 6-9 p.m.
Winter Solstice Festival
North Park Village Nature Center
5801 N. Pulaski Road

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

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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Neighborhood Kids Celebrate at WWCA Halloween Party & Fall Fest

THE WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION celebrated fall with its annual Halloween Party and Fall Fest on Saturday, October 30 at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym. Neighborhood friends joined together for crafts and games, raffles, music, and refreshments. Eddie Torres performed fun traditional songs live on the accordion. Kirsten Gettings taught an engaging version of Michael Jackson's "Thriller" dance before leading the costume parade down Harding. Ninety cans of food were collected for the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.



Prize winners:

- Nat Darnieder—tickets to Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey circus (courtesy NBC5)
- Andrea Terry—\$25 gift certificate to Smoque restaurant
- Matt Olsen—\$50 gift certificate to Shokran Moroccan Grill
- Miiri Kotche—manicure from Unique Nails
- Beth Tigue—Julie Helenius kids music CD and \$75 toward class (courtesy Julie Helenius)
- Elaine Turck—Basket of festive Halloween decor (courtesy Dorie Westmeyer & Charles Rutenberg Realty)
- Tara McKee—Children's Tie Dye Fun Basket (courtesy Amy and Rick Sobin)
- Nat Darnieder, Sarah Steedman—tickets to Second City comedy show (courtesy NBC5)

Correct guess on the Tootsie Roll jar—Jack Kendrick

Thanks to everyone who gave time and energy to help organize and run the fabulous event:

Amanda Hayman, Josh Jones, Jen and Matt Olsen, Kirsten Gettings,



Eddie Torrez, Laura Ell, MarySue Witchger, Tarin Kendrick, Tara McKee, Theresa Rasmussen, Ellen Darnieder, Helen Lira, Liz Mills, Dorie Westmeyer, Laurie Gardner, Beth


Tidmarsh, Anne Marie O'Kelley, Sarah Steedman.

Many thanks to our friends and supporters who generously donated prizes:


- Congressman Mike Quigley, 5th District Illinois
- Tara McKee and NBC5
- Shokran Moroccan Grill, 4027 W. Irving Park Road
- Unique Nails, 3953 W. Irving Park Road
- Julie Helenius
- Dorie Westmeyer & Charles Rutenberg Realty
- Amy and Rick Sobin

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

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward



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



CAPS Report

From October 20, 2010

by Jane Nagle, CAPS Coordinator

Specific Issues Discussed at October 20, 2010 CAPS Meeting for Beat # 1723

- Attendees reported suspected drug activity on the 3600 block of Belle Plaine—generally a male with a pit bull—and on the 3700 block of Montrose.
- Attendees reported people (male and female couples seemingly working together) walking up and down streets looking in mailboxes. If you see such activity, please call 911 as well as the postal police.
- Outside the West Walker boundaries, on the 4200 block of St. Louis, there is a man using multi-colored lasers and randomly pointing them at individuals. Attendees reported that this person was shining lights into houses and also taking photos of people, including children. If you happen to see such activity, call 911.
- Attendees reported continued loud, raucous activity on the 3900 block of Montrose (and surrounding streets) on Saturday nights/Sunday mornings generally during the hours of 1-3 a.m. If you experience such activity, please call 911 and provide as much information as possible.

Statistics by type of crime in the West Walker neighborhood (September 15 - October 20):

Assault - simple	3
Attempted theft - shoplifting	1
Battery - aggravated	3
Battery - domestic battery simple	3
Battery - simple	2
Burglary (forcible entry)	1
Burglary (unlawful entry)	4
Criminal damage to vehicle	1
Criminal damage (criminal defacement)	2
Criminal damage to property	2
Criminal damage to vehicle	2
Criminal trespass to land	2

Deceptive practice - credit card fraud	1
Deceptive practice - fraud/confidence game	1
Non-criminal found property	2
Non-criminal lost property - telephone threat	1
Offense involving children - aggravated sexual assault of child family member	1
Public peace violation - reckless conduct	1
Public peace violation - bomb threat	1
Sex offense - criminal sexual abuse	1
Theft (\$300 and under)	1
Theft (over \$300)	6
Theft from building	3
Theft - retail theft	1
Weapons violation - unlawful use/sale of air rifle	1

The CAPS program is being revamped. Most officers are getting back on the street. Beat # 1723 will continue to have monthly meetings until the end of the year and, because it is such an active beat, it is expected that monthly meetings will continue. Other beats may have bi-monthly meetings with an opportunity to be heard at other beat meetings. Sgt. Barker will likely continue to be the beat officer for Beat # 1723. Please continue to attend meetings for Beat # 1723 as this may help retain our monthly meetings.

CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) meetings for 2010 for our beat are held at the 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski, in the Community Room. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. monthly on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next meeting is Wednesday, November 17.

Call 911 to report suspicious activity in your neighborhood and provide a detailed physical description of the individuals involved in any incident. Please visit the West Walker website at www.westwalker.org/pdf/narcotics.pdf to see the types of information helpful to the police in finding suspects. The more information that can be provided to police, the better they will be able to handle the situation.

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39th Ward Report



Dear Neighbors,

Have you gotten your flu shot? The city's Department of Health will be conducting their free annual flu shots on Wednesday, November 17 in my Ward office (4404 W. Lawrence) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The bad news is property tax bills are due to come out at the end of November. The good news is you might be entitled to a refund if you haven't been taking all the exemptions to which you are eligible. My office conducts one-on-one counseling with property owners to make sure they are receiving all of the tax exemptions they are entitled to. To date, this has resulted in savings of more than \$160,000 to 39th Ward residents. You can find more

information about property tax exemptions at the Cook County Assessor's website (www.cookcountyassessor.com). If you would like assistance in applying for property tax exemptions, feel free to call Jonathan in my office at 773.736.5594.

A reminder: City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 11 for Veterans Day. West Walker residents are welcome to join us at my annual Salute to American Heroes event at the Veteran's Memorial at Keeler and Lawrence on Sunday, November 7, at 1:30. I thank all of our veterans for their service to our country and wish you a happy Thanksgiving holiday.

If you need additional information about these or any other projects, please feel free to contact my 39th Ward Office at 773.736.5594 or Ward39@cityofchicago.org.

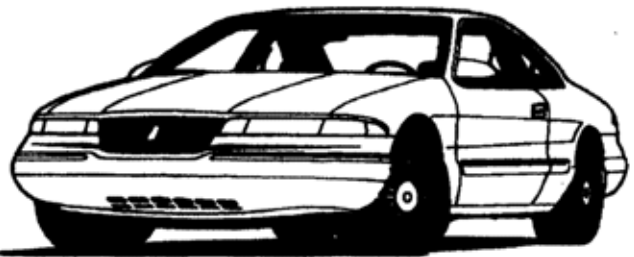
Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

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WWCA General Meeting Minutes

From October 19, 2010

The meeting opened at 7:11 p.m. Board members present: John Minor, Mike Webber, Davor Engel, Carol Barry.



Bridget Geraghty from Congressman Mike Quigley's office spoke at the October WWCA meeting.

Congressman Mike Quigley's representative Bridget Geraghty spoke. You can contact her at 773.267.5926. Please call on any issue, and they will help you or direct you. Congressman Quigley's office covers these issues: IRS, taxes, Social Security, Medicare, graffiti on mailboxes, grant writing for playgrounds. His website is www.quigley.house.gov. The district office is at 3742 W. Irving Park Road.

WWCA minutes were approved by the majority. Treasurer's report: \$2,300.95, with a \$500 bill for the printing. We currently have 21 members and two business partners. The treasurer's report was approved.

No CAPS meeting this month yet. CAPS minutes are published in the *Wire*.

Zoning committee proposal at 4247 N Elston. The developer would like to put the proposal before the community. The current proposal is a four-story condominium building. There will be a meeting on November 16 about on the project.

Melanie Reschke reports that there will be a fundraiser for PEBA on November 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person, \$30 at the door. Thai Town is in the works and it looks to be a nice layout. Finches Beer Brewing company will open next to Aye Aye Picante and will only sell to businesses, not the general public.

There will be a survey in the *Wire* looking at the services that WWCA provides. We want to see how we should format our organization to serve the neighborhood. Please take the time to fill out the survey (see page 11). Thank you for participating.

PC Mac was sold and a hair salon is moving in.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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Weatherization Kits Are Here!

by Michelle Kaicener, greenwestwalker@gmail.com

Great news! We have weatherization kits again this year! Quantities are very limited, so if you want to get a kit, please make sure you contact me.

I will be asking volunteers to help contact neighbors again, and I will also be at the next WWCA general meeting on December 21 with kits to hand out and do training, but please don't wait. Send me an email and reserve your kit today, and get more information.

Also, watch the West Walker website (www.westwalker.org) for news, to ensure you get information about your kit, or about any training sessions being held.

Contents of this year's kit:

- 2 62"x 210" window film kits
- 1 Brodkit insulating strip
- 1 Polypropylene V-shaped seal
- 1 Clear poly tape
- 1 Acrylic urethane sealant with caulk gun
- 2 100 watt CFL bulbs
- 1 EPDM rubber weatherseal
- 1 Weatherization guide
- 1 Installation checklist

Website of the month: www.chicagoclimateaction.org/

News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry

Irving Park Food Pantry Adds Board Member

We would like to welcome **Bruce Anderson**, who has joined the board of directors of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. Bruce replaces **Lois Schill**, who retired from the board. We will miss her many contributions and her cheerful presence.

Volunteers Needed: Mount Olive Church needs volunteers for its community food canvass, which aids the Pantry. Volunteers are needed to distribute flyers and make pickups at neighborhood homes. If you can help, call Roger Torbik at 847.827.2505.

Special Holiday Food Distribution: The Pantry hosts special food distributions in November and December to provide our clients with the fixings necessary for a holiday meal. Your monetary support allows us to purchase more food and provide turkey gift certificates.

Toy Collection: Please help us make the holiday season more joyful for the 300+ children of Pantry clients. New toys, books, and games suitable for infant to 12 years old are needed by December 13.

Special Thanks to:

Eight area **Walgreen's** stores collected food for the Pantry in October. Store managers Don Via and Andrew Pett worked on the Pantry's food line assembling bags during our October 6 distribution. Please visit our website at www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org for a list of participating stores.

Charlie Gjeldum visited with his mom after he asked her to contribute the money he received for his fourth birthday. What a great kid to think of others on his birthday!



Walgreen's store manager Andrew Pett (left) and Don Via work on the bag-assembly line at the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.

Food Drives:

Students at Haugan Elementary at 4540 N. Hamlin Ave.
Employees in the lab at Our Lady of Resurrection Hospital
Portage Park Field House Afterschool Program
Phi Delta Chi Fraternity, University of Illinois at Chicago
John Arena, 45th Ward candidate for alderman



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News and Events from Carlson Community Services



**Carlson
Community
Services**

**IPFAC Presents
Free Holiday
Concert, Sunday,
December 12**

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a free holiday concert featuring An Octave Above on Sunday, December 12 at 2 p.m. An Octave Above, one of the hottest a cappella vocal groups in Chicago, comprises eight professional vocalists who combine their talent with a love of a cappella harmonies. The group of four men and four women are also members of prestigious area Chicago-area choral ensembles, including the Chicago Symphony Chorus. They will perform holiday favorites along with doo wop, jazz, and pop standards. In 2007, An Octave Above recorded a Christmas album titled "Come on and Take a Sleigh Ride."

The concert will be held at the Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Admission to the concert is free of charge, although donations will be accepted. An informal reception with the performers follows the concert.



The a cappella vocal group An Octave Above will perform at the Irving Park Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 12 at 2 p.m.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Series, now in its 17th season, was begun by Roger L. Bingaman, director of music at Irving Park Lutheran Church. The intent of the series is to bring high-quality, professional musical and theatrical events to the Irving Park neighborhood.

Future concerts in the series include a children's performance on February 5, 2011 at 10 a.m. and classical music concerts on February 27 and April 10 at 2 p.m. All performances will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee receives funding from Carlson Community Services, a community service 501c3. The mission of Carlson is to serve the community with a variety of outreach efforts, including fine arts.

West Walker Holiday Art Fair to Be Held November 27

If you're looking for a holiday shopping destination Thanksgiving weekend, look no further than your own backyard! The Second Annual West Walker Holiday Art Fair will be held Saturday, November 27 from 10 a.m. to



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5 p.m. at the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym, 4057 N. Harding.

As many as 20 artists will be selling handmade jewelry, ceramics, recycled textiles, ornaments, candles, soap, art books, photography, letterpress cards, condiments from the Three Brothers Garden, and stuffed and papier mache birds and dolls. The sale will also feature a holiday hair style station as well as crafts and manicures for kids. Lunch will be available, provided by Gatabeerecres, the crepe makers from the Independence Park Farmers Market. Shoppers will be entertained by the bluegrass musicians who frequently play at the Farmers Market.

The Holiday Art Fair is a fundraiser for the Magic After-School Place (MAP) and the Three Brothers Community Garden. Proceeds from table sales and a raffle featuring the works of participating artists will go to support the after-school program and community garden sponsored by Carlson Community Services.

If you have questions about the West Walker Holiday Art Fair, contact Sarah Steedman at westwalkerartfair@sbcglobal.net or 773.539.1716. For more information about Carlson Community Services, visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

La Costa Theatre Presents *Stalk*

STALK, A CUTTING-EDGE MODERN MUSICAL, is running through November 28 as part of the 2010-11 season at La Costa Theatre, 3931 N. Elston Ave.

Stalk explores a young boy's loss of innocence through the fantasy world of *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Playwright and composer of the show, Stephen Gawrit, says, "*Stalk* started off as a strange dream and has blossomed into a monumental moment of my life. *Jack and the Beanstalk*, since childhood, is one of my favorite fairy tales, but I didn't just want to tell the story through spoken word. Surrealism, hyper-realism, folk music, and larger-than-life puppetry influence the adaptation of Jack's magical world to a contemporary setting complete with modern problems."



Shows on Thursday through Saturday are at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$15 for people under 25 or over 65. Visit www.stalkthemusical.com for more information.



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St. Edward School News

Our seventh- and eighth-grade math teacher, Sister Mary Emmeric, will be honored by the Mayfair Community with the 9th

Annual Salute to American Heroes award. She is being awarded this honor for being an outstanding educator.

St. Edward will host a fall open house to give parents a look at our preschool and kindergarten programs. Teachers and current parents will be available to answer questions. The open house will be held November 18 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the school gym, Buckley Hall at 4447 N. Lowell. Interested parents should RSVP for the event by calling the school, 773.736.9133.

A Boy Scout Pasta Dinner will be held in the school gym on Saturday, November 20 from 5 to 8 p.m.

The annual St. Edward Christmas Cookie Walk will be held in Buckley Hall at 4447 N. Lowell on Sunday, December 12 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come pick up some home-baked treats and browse for Christmas gifts.

CICS-Irving Park School News

Drive Award Winner

On October 15, the highly regarded DRIVE award was given to Jane Brown-Riff, middle school English/language arts, for her excellence in teaching and outstanding student performance. Mrs. Brown-Riff was nominated by her peers for the award. Only the top 1 percent of Chicago Public School teachers receives the DRIVE award, which recognizes their leadership and contributions to public education. We congratulate her outstanding achievement

Park View Lutheran School News

We will hold our annual Thanksgiving pot luck lunch following worship service on Sunday, November 21. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, please bring a non-perishable food item in addition to your dish for the pot luck.

We are also happy to share that one of our graduates, Stephen Gawrit, has written a musical titled *Stalk*, which is being performed through November 28 at the La Costa Theatre at 3931 N. Elston Ave.

Check us out at www.parkviewlutheran.org.

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\$2 Bottles of Old Style

Thursday

\$2 Taco w/chips

\$2 Bottles of Coors Light

Friday

\$7 All-You-Can-Eat Fish & Chips

\$2 Bottles of Bud Light





YOUR OPINION IS IMPORTANT! PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

Dear Neighbors:

The West Walker Civic Association (WWCA) is constantly striving to improve our efforts for our community. In order to serve you best, we need your input. Please take a moment to fill out the questionnaire and return it to: **Dorie Westmeyer, 4128 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago, IL 60618.** You can also fill out this survey online at **www.westwalker.org**.

A. WWCA MEETINGS

WWCA currently sponsors six community meetings annually. Typically there is a guest speaker followed by a community meeting.

- 1. Have you attended a meeting in the past year?
 - yes (go to question 2)
 - no (go to question 3)

- 2. If you have attended a meeting, did you find it beneficial?
 - yes (additional comments) _____
 - no (additional comments) _____

- 3. If you do not attend WWCA community meetings, please tell us why (check all that apply):
 - a. I don't know when or where the meetings are
 - b. I don't have time
 - c. The meeting time is not convenient
 - d. I can't bring my children
 - e. The speakers are not interesting to me
 - f. It should just be a community meeting without a speaker
 - g. I am just not interested in going to a meeting
 - h. The meetings run too long
 - i. There is no agenda for the meeting
 - j. Other (please specify) _____

- 4. If we continue with WWCA meetings, what type of meetings would you like to see? (check all that apply)
 - a. Brief community meeting
 - b. Social events for the whole family
 - c. Meeting on a weekend vs. a weeknight
 - d. Other speakers (please specify) _____
 - e. Other (please specify) _____

B. WEST WALKER WIRE

The West Walker Wire is a free neighborhood newsletter that is published and delivered 10 times a year to your home.

- 5. Do you read the West Walker Wire?
 - yes
 - no

- 6. Tell us how you feel about the Wire (check all that apply):
 - The information is helpful
 - The articles are interesting
 - I like that it is free
 - I like that it is delivered to my home
 - I wish there was more information about (please specify) _____
 - I wish it was delivered more in advance of the West Walker monthly meeting
 - I would like to save a tree. It should be an electronic newsletter

(more options at top of 2nd column)

- The WWCA should save printing costs by changing the Wire to an electronic newsletter
- I patronize businesses who advertise in the Wire

C. WEST WALKER WEBSITE

- 7. What would you like to see on the Website?
 - Crime statistics in our neighborhood
 - A place to submit my concerns
 - Local business coupon offers
 - Calendar of West Walker events
 - Event information
 - Links to (please specify) _____
 - Other (please specify) _____

D. WEST WALKER EVENTS

The West Walker Civic Association sponsors several events throughout the year.

- 8. Please tell us which West Walker events you attend:
 - The Winter Social (February)
 - The Garage Sale (May)
 - Walk West Walker Scavenger Hunt (May)
 - The 4th of July at Independence Park (July)
 - West Walker Cup Golf Outing (September)
 - The Halloween Fall Festival (October)
 - Art in My Backyard (AIMBY)
- 9. Would you like to see more West Walker sponsored events (check all that apply)?
 - Food drive for the Irving Park Pantry
 - Fundraiser for the homeless in our neighborhood
 - Holiday party
 - Sports day in the park (basketball, softball, soccer, etc.)
 - Family picnic
 - Carnival
 - Street fair
 - Taste of West Walker (sample food from neighborhood restaurants)
 - Ice cream social
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - We have enough events already

Additional comments or ideas _____

- 10. Are you a member of the West Walker Civic Association?
 - yes
 - no

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey!
 (Optional) Name _____
 Address _____
 Email address _____



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Seats 12 at 7:30 PM, \$100/person,
BYOB, reservation only.
wellfleetchicago.com.
Available for private parties evenings.

Afishianado Club

Join and get 10% discount all year!

For info on sales, coupons, cooking classes and events,
go to www.fishguy.com and sign up for our online newsletter and email alerts.
The FishGuy Market, Bill Dugan, proprietor

