

# WEST WALKER WIRE

SEPTEMBER 2011

[www.westwalker.org](http://www.westwalker.org)

## Reflecting Over the Past, Planning for the Future

by Michael Webber

The WWCA will be celebrating its 100th year as a civic organization in 2012. The needs and issues facing our community have changed many times over the years. The WWCA would like to enter our second hundred years as an effective voice for all members of the community. The WWCA has traditionally sponsored events, published the Wire, held general meetings with topical presentations, sponsored local groups such as the Irving Park Community Food Pantry and the Magic Mushroom summer program for children, coordinated the annual garage sale, and so much more.

What we need to do now, and continue to develop in the future, is ensure that the activities undertaken by the WWCA address the needs and concerns of the community. In order to do that, the most important things we need are feedback and manpower. In other words, we need the members of our community to tell us if they like what we are doing or if we are involved in activities that no longer reflect the needs of the community. If there is a new idea for WWCA involvement, we need to know. We also need the people to make things happen. In addition to the Officers and Board of the WWCA, there are dozens of people who provide a little of their time to support the WWCA.

We would like to keep the WWCA viable, responsive and accessible to all of the community. To do that, we all need to pitch in, if we can.

*Continued on page 5*

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor *by Mike Webber*
- 3 Celebrating NWSide's Newest Mural *by Marlena Ascher*
- 4 CAPS Report
- 5 39th Ward Report
- 7 News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry *by Craig Schutt*
- 8 News and Events from Carlson Community Services
- 9 Events from GIPNA
- 10 Neighborhood School News
- 11 News from Seanachai Theater *by Marlena Ascher*

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**September 11 & 25 • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
Farmers Market  
Independence Park

**Sept. 17 • 2 p.m. - Midnight**  
St. Edward's Oktober Fest  
4350 W. Sunnysdale

**Sept. 17 through Oct. 23**  
*Shadow of a Gunman*  
Seanachai Theater, Irish American  
Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox

**Sept. 18 • 2 p.m.**  
Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Concert  
Ben Melsky, Harpist  
4100 N. Harding

**Sept. 20 • 7 p.m.**  
Three Brothers Garden Book Discussion  
*Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollan  
4107 N. Pulaski

**Sept. 21 • 7 p.m.**  
Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting  
4650 N. Pulaski

**Oct. 1 & 2 • Sa 2/5 p.m., Su 1/4 p.m.**  
Circus in the Park  
Independence Park

**Oct. 15 • TBD**  
Irving Park Community Food Pantry  
Harvest Benefit  
4057 N. Harding

**Oct. 18 • 7:00 p.m.**  
WWCA General Meeting  
Latvian Community Center  
4146 N. Elston

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

# Dear Neighbor,

Everyone Loves a Circus! And we have a great one coming into the neighborhood on October 1st and 2nd, right here in Independence Park. Midnight Circus returns with an all new show and a brand new purple & blue little Big Top for the 2011 Circus in the Parks Tour. This one-of-a kind family-friendly event has amazed and delighted thousands of Chicagoans with all proceeds going toward Independence Park improvements. Please look elsewhere in the Wire for further information, or just visit [www.circusintheparks.org](http://www.circusintheparks.org) for information and tickets. See you at the Circus.

Our first West Walker meeting this fall will be on October 18, 2011 at the Latvian Community Center, 4146 N. Elston Avenue, at 7:00 pm. Please keep an eye out for the October Wire for more details on the meeting program.

As always, the WWCA is seeking additional volunteers to help us serve the neighborhood. Right now, we need a volunteer to serve as our meeting Secretary as well as one or more volunteers to deliver the Wire. If you want to help but don't feel those positions use your talents, let us know you want to help and we'll find a fit for you.

Please be safe, be aware and keep an eye out for all our school kids.

Mike Webber  
President, WWCA

A ONE OF A KIND FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT • AN ALL NEW SHOW

**INDEPENDENCE PARK • October 1st and 2nd**


# CIRCUS IN THE PARKS

## MIDNIGHT CIRCUS




**SHOW TIMES:**  
**Saturday, October 1st: 2 pm and 5 pm**  
**Sunday, October 2nd: 1 pm and 4 pm**

Tickets are available on line at [Circusintheparks.org](http://Circusintheparks.org)  
 All tickets \$15.00 each • Children 3 and under are FREE  
 Group tickets are \$12.00 each



PEOPLES GAS  
NATURAL GAS DELIVERY

Sponsored by the Chicago Park District, Peoples Gas, and the Independence Park Advisory Council (IPAC). The proceeds from this event will go towards improving the Independence Park playground.



## 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 99 years of service to the West Walker Community**

### 2011-2012 OFFICERS

President Mike Webber  
773.539.8346

Vice President Davor Engel  
773.202.1010  
[dengel@studiode.com](mailto:dengel@studiode.com)

Secretary Vacant

Treasurer Jack Prikos

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER  
Dorie Westmeyer

CAPS COORDINATOR  
Jane Nagle

Send crime concerns to **Nicole Price**  
at [crimealerts@westwalker.org](mailto:crimealerts@westwalker.org).

### WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Carol, Augie, and Gabie Barry  
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*The West Walker Wire is published monthly September through June 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](mailto:west_walker_wire@yahoo.com).

*Please include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space and content.*

*For information on advertising, please contact Shannan Bunting at [WWWire@solsticepr.com](mailto:WWWire@solsticepr.com)*

## Celebrating the Northwest Side's Newest Mural!

by *Marlena Ascher*

Community leaders, residents, and business people from all walks of life and all ages, artists and non-artists, from Old Irving Park, the Villa, Independence Park, West Walker, Mayfair, Jefferson Park, and Portage Park gathered together at Joe E's Unforgettable Lounge, 4206 West Irving Park Road, on the afternoon of Sunday, August 21 to celebrate the Northwest Side's newest mural, at the east railroad viaduct wall of Keeler at Irving Park Road.

Almost 50 Northwest Side volunteers created that mural, working diligently and doggedly through the fearsome humidity of June, July, and August. If anyone were to have doubted whether we have enough people to transform cultural life in this part of the city, this is convincing evidence that we do. Resoundingly, people want to collaborate with surrounding communities to transform this vision into reality: The Northwest Side will be known as a destination for the visual, performing, horticultural, and culinary arts.

Amy Hanks designed this newest mural which depicts Old Irving Park as an architecturally-rich community with a love for those four disciplines of art. Amy also directed the artist team. Marcia K. Martin served as the director of photography and public relations for this project. Marlena Ascher project-managed the effort from concept stage through protective-sealing. Howard Silver served as technical advisor. Anna Sobor served as project advisor. Elena Katz, designer and director of the Kolmar and Irving Park Road murals, was on the executive planning council. Alderman Tim Cullerton and his staff ensured the city's support. CA Development donated seed money to fund the creation of murals. J.C. Licht/EpcO Paint provided technical advice and excellent quality paint and protective sealant. All of the people at Joe E's Unforgettable Lounge supported the project by allowing volunteers to store ladders, buckets, paint cans, by offering lots of cold water and use of their restrooms. Thirteen Pins, Zebda Deli and LaVilla supplied refreshments for the celebration. Neil Shapiro and Laura Marie Sanchez offered arts perspectives.

We cannot thank this Northwest Side team of volunteers enough for their passion and sacrifice: Susan & Michael Carter, Connaley Martin, Zach Martin, Ben Martin, Kaede Polkinghorne, Lucie Polkinghorne, Sara Bishop, Charity Piet Miska, Rod Dougherty, Brian Fitzpatrick, Michelle



*Pictured from left: Marcia Martin, Karen Wehrle, Rod Dougherty, Samantha Schultz, Rachel Kadavy, Ben Martin, Amy Hanks (art director/mural designer), Kaede Polkinghorne, Rev. Kara Wagner Sherer, Brian Fitzpatrick, Michelle Buchecker, Zach Martin, Maureen Taylor, Charles Bocock, Elena Katz, James Natoli, Susan Carter, Dave Ramos (J.C. Licht/EpcO Paint), Mike Carter, Rita Sattler (38th Ward chief of staff), Mike Sanks (J.C. Licht/EpcO Paint), 38th Ward Ald. Tim Cullerton, Sara Bishop, and Jim Mohr (Joe E's Unforgettable Lounge). Photo by Claudia Hine*

Buchecker, Samantha Schultz, the Kosloskus family, Kara Wagner Sherer, Maureen Taylor, James Natoli, Charles Bocock, Erika Cespedes, Linda Park Moy, Phoebe Moy, Kelly McGrath, Melissa Arning, James Pulker, Rachel Kadavy, Erin Diener, the Elias family, the LaSota family, Jessica Fosh, Adam Vasquez, Gaby Billings, Juli Walter, and Anne Bekker. If you know some of these people, be sure to tell them how much you appreciate what they have done.



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# CAPS Report

Beat #1723, July & August, 2011

by Jane Nagle, CAPS Coordinator

The corner of Monticello and Belle Plaine and the immediate surrounding area continue to be an issue with respect to reported criminal activity. At the CAPS Meetings, among other things, there were reports of multiple instances of shots fired, suspected drug dealing and gang activity. The police are monitoring the situation. If you see any of this activity, call 911 immediately so that police may respond to an incident in progress. If you do not want to provide your name, state that you wish to remain anonymous when you begin speaking to the 911 operator.

Auto vehicle thefts have dramatically increased in the 17th District, with over 500 vehicles stolen in 2011 thus far and 80 of such thefts occurring on our beat. Please see the Vehicle Theft Alert insert from Commander Staples for auto theft prevention tips.

While going to press, it was reported by a neighbor that late in the evening of Thursday, August 25th, over 30 vehicles had tires slashed on and around the 3800 block of Cullom. If you have any information relating to the incidents or if your vehicle's tires were slashed and you have not reported it to the police, please contact 311 to make a report.

CAPS meetings for our beat are currently held monthly at the 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski, in the Community Room. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, September 21. As always, call 911 to report suspicious activity or individuals in your neighborhood and provide a detailed physical description of the individuals involved in any incident, including clothing, shoes and vehicle descriptions. For incidents which are no longer in progress, remember that rather than calling 911, you may call 311 to have a police officer complete a report for incidents such as theft, criminal damage to property, lost property and other non-emergency situations.

## Have a CAPS issue?

You can submit concerns to CAPS online at <https://portal.chicagopolice.org/portal/page/portal/ClearPath>. Then, on the left-hand side, click "Report a concern about an issue affecting your neighborhood."



# 39th Ward Report



With budget constraints impacting government services, it has become more important than ever for elected officials to partner together. I've been working closely with the state elected officials in the 39th Ward to bring as many resources as possible to our constituents. I am pleased to inform you that State Representative Deb Mell

was able to obtain state funds for street resurfacing in the 39th Ward. As a result, the following West Walker blocks will be resurfaced this fall: 4000 N. Hamlin (Irving Park to Belle Plaine), and 4300 N. Hamlin (Montrose to Cullom).

As Chairman of the City Council Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety, I've been working closely with the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Mayor Emanuel on the city's new Pedestrian Plan. CDOT held meetings throughout the city to solicit feedback, as they formulated the draft of the plan. Although the initial public meetings have concluded, you may submit your ideas and suggestions on how to improve the pedestrian environment in Chicago at <http://chicagopedestrianplan.org/your-big-ideas/>. My Committee and CDOT will plan a series of meetings at year's end to present the draft plan to Chicago residents.

Finally, congratulations to Three Brothers Garden, recipient of one of the five nationwide DeLoach Community Garden awards. Many thanks to the 39th Ward residents and friends who took the time to vote for this treasured community asset.

As always, please contact my office at 773-736-5594 or [Ward39@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Ward39@cityofchicago.org) with any concerns or questions. For more information on these and other events, sign up for my e-newsletter at [www.AldermanLaurino.com](http://www.AldermanLaurino.com)

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

Continued from front page

## What Can I Do for West Walker?

What do you like to do? If you like to take walks, think about delivering the Wire. Concerned about gangs and graffiti? Help represent the WWCA at CAPS meetings. Good with computers? Help update our website. Have the gift of salesmanship? Help solicit ads for the Wire. Enjoy party planning? Help organize the Winter Social or Harvest Festival. See a need that needs to be addressed and need help to make it happen? Let us know. There are many ways to help, and a good fit for any volunteer.

## What Can the WWCA Do for Me?

Call or write to let us know. Bring it up at one of the general meetings. Go to the WWCA website and press the "Contact Us" button to send an e-mail. Call one of the officers – phone numbers are published in the Wire. In order to help the community, it is important for everyone to let us know the needs of the community. Feedback is important. If we are doing it right-or wrong-let us know. If we aren't doing it at all, pass that idea along and we can see how we can help. With your help and ideas, the WWCA can only get better. ☺

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Ward39@cityofchicago.org



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## WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of May 31st appears below.

Gary Abrams  
Derek Clark  
Peter & Carla Forster  
Karen Kreinik  
The McKee Family  
Bill Palmer  
Jal Tshuhara

James Banas  
Joe & Elba Dankowski  
Doug & Gail Irvin  
The McCarthy Family  
Michelle Niles  
Wayne Steger  
Maureen & Paul White

## Renew Your Membership!

WWCA MEMBERSHIP runs May 1 through April 30 annually. Your dues help fund a variety of items:

- Ten issues per year of the *West Walker Wire*, delivered to residences and businesses in West Walker, free of charge.
- The annual community garage sale.
- Area non-profit groups like the Irving Park Community Food Pantry, Independence Park, and Independence Library.
- Free e-mail updates on neighborhood events and area crime.
- Free special events, like the Halloween Party and Fall Festival and 4th of July celebration at Independence Park.
- The Art In My Back Yard artistic series.

Bring your 2011-2012 dues to our next WWCA meeting on Oct. 18th! Or you can mail in the application below.

## WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012

Check one: FAMILY \$15  BUSINESS \$20  SENIOR \$5 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print. Write your name as you would like it to appear in the *West Walker Wire*.)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note your e-mail address if you would like to receive e-mail updates:

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION  
Mail or drop off your application and dues to: Jack Prikos, 4238 N. Avers Ave., Chicago, IL 60618

## News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

### Attend the Pantry's October Harvest Benefit!

The Irving Park Community Pantry is holding a fundraising Harvest Benefit on the afternoon of **Saturday, October 15th**, at the **Irving Park Lutheran Church gymnasium** (4057 N. Harding). It will feature entertainment, food, beer and wine, a raffle and activities for the entire family.

The event is being coordinated by Janet Middleton, who is working with the Pantry's new Development Committee, headed by Rich Bradley. Proceeds will directly benefit the Pantry and help us provide food and support on a monthly basis to nearly 1,600 people in more than 600 households. Watch our Facebook page for more updates!

### Foodstuffs Needed

Due to cutbacks in government donations in recent months, the Pantry continues to need a number of staples that are in short supply. We appreciate any food donations of these items in particular: rice, dried beans, cookies and treats, chips, crackers, pretzels, Jell-O, juice, soup (family-sized portions OK), pasta, pasta sauce, peanuts or any nuts, granola bars, energy snacks/bars. Donations can be brought to the Irving Park United Methodist Church at 3801 N. Keeler Ave. on Wednesday mornings (when the Pantry is open) or left at the bottom of the stairs through the Grace Street entrance any time during church operating hours.

### Grants Received

The Pantry recently received a grant from Operation Rice Bowl to support our on-going Nutrition Classes, which are held several times during the year to help clients prepare tasty and nutritious dishes with the foods we supply to them. The Pantry also received a grant from the Greater Chicago Food Depository's Urgent Needs Program to help to buy operational equipment and to cover fuel and food-pickup expenses. Special thanks to Gloria Price, who writes the grant requests that procures these necessary funds.

### School Supplies Update

Thanks to everyone who donated school supplies in August so we could distribute them to our clients throughout the month. Those contributions helped to ensure our clients' children were prepared for the school year. We continue to distribute supplies through September 14th if you can still contribute! About 100 bags of supplies have been distributed to clients weekly.

Special thanks to the kids at the Magic Mushroom Summer program at Irving Park Lutheran Church, as well as the congregation of Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, who collected and donated a mountain



*Volunteers who created school-supply packs for client's children on August 17th comprised (l-r): Ethan and Faith Stein, Melinde Madsen and Maddie Mette.*

*Photo by Craig Shutt*

of supplies! Special thanks also to an anonymous donor from Carter Westminster Presbyterian Church, who contributed \$500 for school supplies! Their early contributions ensured our distribution got off to a good start and clients' children were assured of getting a complete packet of supplies throughout the month.

### Whole Foods Donation

Thanks to all our Facebook friends who voted for the Pantry in the Whole Foods Market Sauganash Donation Vote. Our friends helped put us over the top with the most votes which won the donation. Best of all, our close competitor who ended up in second place did so well that Whole Foods made a donation to them as well. What a great win-win! Thanks to Whole Foods for their generosity to helping those in the Irving Park neighborhood.

### Visit us at the Farmers Market

Don't forget to stop by the Pantry's table at the Farmers Market at Independence Park (3548 W. Irving Park Road) during its operation every other Sunday. We'll have brochures that outlines the services we provide to the community, and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and accept donations. The remaining dates are September 11, 25 and October 9.

### Visit us on Facebook

Our Facebook page now has about 230 friends! Come check us out online to keep up to date on online activities, new events and other news and comments about the Pantry and our volunteers. The pantry added 57 households with 162 people. Thanks to everyone in our neighborhood for helping us feed the growing number who need our assistance!

## News and Events from Carlson Community Services



**Carlson  
Community  
Services**

*Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, serves the Irving Park*

*community with a variety of outreach efforts.*

### Affordable After-School Care & Tutoring at MAP

If your child struggles to complete their homework assignments, start the school year off right with help from the Magic After-School Place (MAP). The program is sponsored by Carlson Community Services and is held in the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym at 4057 N. Harding. Children in 1st -- 6th grade are picked up from Belding and Murphy schools and are walked to the program by staff members. Children from other schools may attend the program, but transportation must be provided.

In addition to homework help and tutoring, MAP offers healthy snacks, a nurturing environment and weekly mentoring by high school students. The program meets Monday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuition is reasonably priced at \$25 per week.

High school students seeking community service hours may call the program director, Aryn Fletcher. For more information, contact Aryn at 773-426-0533 or e-mail [abfletch80@att.net](mailto:abfletch80@att.net).

### Lyric Opera Harpist to Open IPFAC Season



The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee (IPFAC) is pleased to announce the first concert of the 2011-2012 Performing Arts Series. Lyric Opera harpist Ben Melsky will perform in a solo recital on **Sunday, September 18th at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding** in Chicago. Melsky will

perform selections from J. S. Bach, Benjamin Britten and Paul



*Celebrating the installation of a water system at Three Brothers Garden are (from left) Carlson Board Chair Rich Wielock, Executive Director Liz Mills, State Rep. Deborah Mell, Irving Park Food Pantry Board President Kate Roche, Irving Park Lutheran Church Pastor Brooke Petersen and 39th Ward Alderman Margaret Laurino. The garden is located at 4107 N. Pulaski. Photo by Grace Wielock*

Hindemith. Free will donations are welcome; a reception with the artist will follow the concert.

Melsky, an Evanston native, began playing the harp at age eight. He holds both Bachelor's and Master's of Music from Northwestern University. As a soloist, he performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. as part of the Millennium Stage Conservatory Project, won the 2008 Northwestern University Concerto Competition, and performed with many orchestras. Recently he was recorded at the Goodman Theater's production of *Animal Crackers*.

Upcoming concerts in the series are: A holiday choral concert on Sunday, December 11th at 2:00 p.m.; the Avanti Guitar Trio on Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.; and cellist Dorothy Deen accompanied by pianist Roger L. Bingaman on Sunday, April 29, 2012.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Series enters its 18th season, bringing high quality, professional musical and theatrical events to the Irving Park neighborhood. For more information, contact Roger Bingaman at 773-267-1667, or visit [www.carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://www.carlsoncommunityservices.org).



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## Independence Park Events

### The Big Top Is Coming to Independence Park!

Lions and tigers and elephants – oh no! When Circus in the Parks raises its tents in Independence Park, there won't be any of those, but you will see high-flying acrobats and aerialists, clowns, contortionist, and even an amazing dog!

The Independence Park Advisory Council (IPAC) invites you to gather family and friends, young and old, on Saturday and Sunday, October 1-2. There will be two shows each day (2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday).

Please go to [circusintheparks.org](http://circusintheparks.org) now to purchase your tickets. Tickets are \$15 each and group discounts are available. IP's share of the proceeds from this event will be earmarked for improving the playground.

This is the 4th year of Circus in the Parks in Chicago but the first involving Independence Park, so turn out to make it a smashing success! If you can't attend the circus at Independence Park, visit one of the other five Chicago parks hosting circuses throughout the fall. Proceeds from ticket sales are split equally between the participating parks! Check [circusintheparks.org](http://circusintheparks.org) for locations and schedule.

IPAC needs your help! Volunteers are needed for both buildup to the circus and on the day of activities. Contact JoAnne Pepper at 312-286-9132 or send her an email at [peppers56@hotmail.com](mailto:peppers56@hotmail.com) for more information. And please think about coming to an IPAC meeting, which are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Independence Park field house. All are welcome. Come out, have a good time, help raise funds for park improvements, and enjoy the circus! See you there!

### Fine Wine and Cheese Party Postponed

As many of you know, Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA) has been hosting the popular Fine Wine and Cheese Party each fall since 2006 to benefit construction on the Women's Building, which has raised more than \$50,000 towards our green bungalow project, the Independence Park Bungalow Renovation Project (IPBRP).

In 2007, we committed to then-Chicago Park District Superintendent Tim Mitchell to raise a total of \$200,000, half of which would come from the state. To date, we have raised a little more than \$80,000. In 2009, our State Rep, Deb Mell (D-40th), secured the \$100,000 from the

state. That grant has been tied up for some time, but we are told that it should soon be released.

Our goal is within reach, so why postpone our biggest fundraiser? The answer is that there has been virtually no construction activity at the Bungalow for more than a year. The Park District has reported that bids have been sent out for the masonry and a contractor was secured for the geo-thermo system, but still no activity.

This puts us in the difficult position of asking you, our neighbors and loyal supporters of the project, to once again contribute even though we have nothing to show and progress is at a standstill. Additionally, we are disturbed by the condition of the construction fence and lack of care to the property.

We do think that this project will go forward at some point in the future. As soon as activity resumes, we will plan another festive and fun party, one that will bring in the balance of the funds that we need to fulfill our commitment. We hope the city will meet its commitments as well.

Thank you for your past and future support.



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jeffreymfearn@hotmial.com**www.smallbusiness-solutionsinc.com****St. Edward School**

We are off to a great start! We welcomed over 50 new families to our community and they are quickly acclimating to our school.

Our Annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Saturday, September 10th from 3-5 p.m. This school event brings together the school community and is a great way for new and returning families to socialize. The kids love building their own ice cream sundaes with all the toppings.

St. Ed's Oktober Fest will be held from 2 p.m. – 12 a.m. midnight on Saturday, September 17th. The event will feature kids' activities until 6 p.m. with a cotton candy and popcorn machine, games and prizes, and face painting. At 6 p.m. the evening festivities begin, featuring bands and food. There is also a raffle so buy your ticket for a chance to win! Please stop by or call the parish office, located at 4350 W. Sunnyside Avenue, 773-545-6496.

St. Edward School, now celebrating its 101st year, provides a quality, Catholic education to children from three-year old preschool through eighth grade. St. Edward students enjoy an average student-teacher ratio of 18:1, and the school features an extensive music program as well as art, gym, sports, chess, and Spanish at all grade levels. Our students matriculate to highly selective CPS and Catholic schools in Chicagoland. The School is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or by visiting [www.StEdwardSchool.com](http://www.StEdwardSchool.com).

**CICS-Irving Park**

We are excited to have our first school year with all grades K-8 in place! Our current enrollment is 515 students. Ms. Janet Heiman is our Director, and we welcome Mr. Joe Terrasi as our new Assistant Director.

In addition, all students will enjoy music education for the entire school year for the first time. Our music teacher, Mr. James Coleman, will have his hands full helping our students find their inner musical voice!

Finally, Ms. Ann Kauth is chairing our Green Committee, and she and her helpers worked this summer to set up our vegetable garden and composter. We are excited to provide our students the opportunity to see nature in their own backyard, and get a "green" perspective.

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## Seanachai Theatre Update

by Marlena Ascher

### Summer Camp

This year, Seanachai's summer camp production was Charlotte's Web, an award-winning children's novel by acclaimed American author, E.B. White. Hats off to seventeen sweet, smart, adorable Northwest Side children who created the sets, made their costumes, and performed the play twice at Irish Fest after only six days of preparation and rehearsal. These children were amazing!

Our excellent theatre students were: Casey Daly, Haly Dare, Gillian Flatley, Frank Fowler, Elliott Graziano, Savannah Graziano, Colette Hamaj, Olivia Ide, Madeleine Jirgal, Bella Lorenz, Olivia Marton, Sara Mullen, Lucy O'Donnell, Gabriella Rivera, Sophia Rivera, Cece Rodriguez, and Isabel Wallery.

Many of these children have attended our summer camp in prior years, and their desire to return each summer is heartwarming. The camp provides behind-the-scenes production and performance experiences that teach self-confidence, teamwork, voice projection, and communication. As much as the children enjoyed these two weeks of summer camp, the actors who worked with them may have enjoyed it even more. It was definitely a labor of love.

If you have children who are interested in next summer's camp, contact Seanachai in late May-early June to register your budding thespians. Summer is the time to bloom!

### Shadow of A Gunman September 15 - October 23

The first play of Seanachai's 2011-2012 season is *Shadow of A Gunman*, the story of a gentle poet mistaken for an IRA terrorist during the legendary conflict of Dublin in the 1920s.

Its director is John Mossman, who has written, produced, and directed numerous award-winning short films, documentaries, and videos. He is the 2002 recipient of the "Best Director" award from the Midwest Independent Film Festival. He is co-founder and associate director of The Artistic Home, a theatre and training program for actors and directors in Chicago. As an actor, he has appeared in numerous theatres throughout the United States as well as in film and television. He currently teaches directing at Columbia College.

This has the earmarks of being another great theatre experience - the highest quality storytelling, acting, and directing right here in our own backyard on the Northwest Side.

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#### Wednesday

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\$6 Half Slab w/fries

\$2 Leinenkugel Drafts

#### Thursday

\$.50 Wings of Fire

\$7 Pitchers of Coors light or Miller Lite

#### Friday

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

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### DISCOVERING GOD

Fall programming is starting! Join the fun as we dive into God's word!

#### Who

All kids 4 years old through 5th grade

#### What

An awesome time of worship

#### When

Sundays at 10 a.m. starting September 18



#### Welcome

to Hope Reyes, our new Director of Children & Family Ministries,  
and to Michael Bates, our new Student Pastor!

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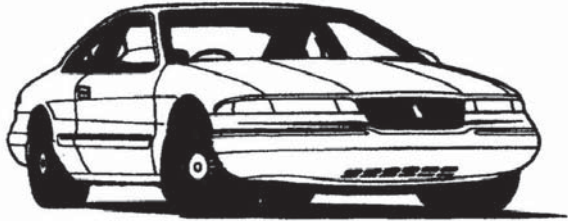
**Sunday worship** - Holy communion served weekly  
10 A.M. (ENGLISH) - Vickie Hadaway, lead pastor  
NOON (SPANISH) - Cecilia Obret, mission pastor  
Jonathan Braun - director of music  
Hope Reyes - director of children & family ministries  
Michael Bates - student pastor

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