

WEST WALKER WIRE

JANUARY 2012

www.westwalker.org

Sharing in Song for Hands to Help Ministries

For the third year in a row, friends and neighbors gathered on the evening of December 19th to trek out into the cold to carol for Hands to Help Ministries. Going door-to-door, carolers sang for donations to Hands to Help Ministries, which assists the homeless and those in crisis. Carolers included members of the local churches, neighbors, and Brownies from Disney Magnet School. Afterwards, carolers enjoyed cookies and hot cocoa provided by Irving Park United Methodist Church. By the end of the evening, Hands to Help collected \$1110.00. Thank you to all of the carolers and neighbors who donated their voices and money for a good cause!

Help your Community!

Hands to Help Ministries seeks a part-time outreach case worker with a background in Social Work and experience with street outreach. For more information, visit the website at handstohelpministries.org/jobopening or call 773-725-9026.

Volunteer opportunities in the form of grant writing, office assistance and help with mailings, publicity and fundraising events are available. Please call Kara Wagner Sherer at St. John's Episcopal Church at 773-725-9026. Hands to Help Ministries is located at 3857 N. Kostner Avenue in Chicago.

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat., Jan. 14 • 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

St. Edward's Market Day
Buckley Hall, 4447 North Lowell

Tues., Jan. 17th • 10 a.m.

NWSHC "Staying Put" Leadership Mtg.
Mather's Cafe, 3235 N. Central

Wed., Jan. 18 • 7 p.m.

17th District CAPS Meeting, Beat #1723
4650 N. Pulaski

Sat., Jan. 21 • 7 p.m. to Midnight

St. Edward's Big Red Rocks Fundraiser
Gymnasium, 4451 N. Lowell

Thurs., Jan. 26th • 7 p.m.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents:
Plymouth State Chamber Singers
IPLC Sanctuary, 4100 N. Harding

Sat., Jan. 28th • 2 to 4 p.m.

St. Viator Open House
4140 West Addison

Sun., Jan. 29 • 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

St. Edward's Open House
4343 W. Sunnyside

Wed., Feb. 1 • 9 – 11 a.m.

St. Edward's Open House
4343 W. Sunnyside

Sun., Feb. 26th • 2 p.m.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents:
Presents: The Avanti Guitar Trio
IPLC Sanctuary, 4100 N. Harding

March 15 through April 22

A Moon for the Misbegotten,
Seanachai Theatre, 4626 N. Knox

Tues., Mar. 20th • 7 pm.

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,

I would like to extend a greeting and hopes of a Happy New Year to all. The new year is often a time of reflection as well as a time to imagine self improvement and envision a better future and world.

Resolutions are often viewed as a once a year activity. But personal experience (as well as some research) shows that resolve isn't really influenced by the calendar. We should all strive to take the time to identify things that will make our lives, or the lives of those around us, a little better. It doesn't have to be earth-shaking or life-changing. It doesn't have to start on January 1. It may not even become apparent until Spring or Summer. But when you find yourself saying "wouldn't it be nice if..." take the time to see if there is some little thing you could do to nudge things in a better direction. Everyone sees things differently, and not everyone will act to make the same change. But a lot of people making many little improvements will make things better for everyone.

Here are a few resolutions I hope to see:

- Commit random acts of kindness.
- Hold that door.
- Use "Please" and "Thank You" more often.
- Drive slower.
- Give a little back.
- Pick up some rubbish; even if it's not yours.
- Make eye contact.
- Say "Hello" to people – neighbors and strangers.
- Take better care of yourself.
- Walk, don't drive.
- Vote.
- Help those less fortunate.
- Put down the cell phone.
- Think Green.

There are hundreds of ways to make our lives and neighborhood a richer and better experience. Find one that's right for you, and we will all benefit.

Mike Webber,
WWCA President

Help Others eat more vegetables
 Be Thankful Hike Often
RECYCLE Be Present
 pay it forward

Your Voice Matters! Mark Your Calendars!

The next WWCA general meetings are March 20th, April 17th and May 15th (third Tuesday of the month) at the Latvian Center, at 7:00 pm. Be on the lookout for information regarding our Winter Social in the coming months!

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

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EDITOR

Lee Samsami Stein

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.

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



39th Ward Report



I hope everyone in the West Walker community had a very Happy Holiday Season. After your celebrations are over, you can recycle your Christmas tree at North Park Village, 5801 N. Pulaski, Jan. 7-20, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The trees will be chipped and made into mulch, which will be available for residents to pick up Friday, Jan.

13 -20, while supplies last. Please make sure to remove all ornaments, lights and stands before dropping off your tree. Decorations, tree lights, wreaths, garlands or household recyclable materials will not be accepted.

I am hosting a Senior I.D. Day on Wednesday, January 18, in my 39th Ward Public Service office (4404 W. Lawrence), from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. when the Mobile Unit from the Secretary of State's Office will issue State of Illinois photo identification cards. Cards are free for individuals over 65 years of age and \$20 for those under 65. The Secretary of State's office will accept cash, check, Discover, Master Card and American Express.

Please join us on Thursday, January 19 at 6:30 pm, for my annual Property Tax Appeal Seminar, at the Salvation Army Church Gymnasium, 5040 N. Pulaski. Commissioner Michael Cabonargi, Cook County Board of Review, will help you appeal the assessment on your home to keep your property taxes as low as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my public service office at 773-736-5594 or e-mail us at Ward39@cityofchicago.org.

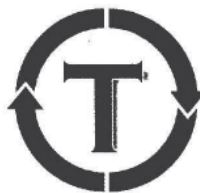
Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

CAPS News

The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, January 18, at 7:00 p.m. at 4650 N. Pulaski.

Do You 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."



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News from Irving Park Community Food Pantry

by Craig Shutt

Thanks to All for Holiday Help to the Pantry!



Volunteers continue a Pantry tradition by joining hands before opening for the holiday distribution to say a prayer of thanks, and the chance to help neighbors in need.

All of us at the Irving Park Community Food Pantry would like to thank our neighbors who helped make our annual holiday distribution on December 21st

such a success. The Pantry gave a special distribution of a holiday dinner (featuring Cornish hen, chicken or turkey, depending on the size of the family plus all the trimmings) to an estimated 385 households consisting of more than 1,300 family members.

We also allowed clients with children to shop our "Gift Room" of donated toys to provide a toy and book for more than 380 kids. Your efforts ensured that our neighbors and all of their children were able to celebrate the holiday in ways that we may take for granted.

Those activities followed a big month in November, when the Pantry served 2,160 people in 781 households. Those numbers represented 254 more people in 99 more households than we served in October. Clearly, the need continues to grow in our neighborhood due to the bad economy, and your continued help is gratefully appreciated by all of us.



Sandra Schwarzbeck, Bridget Larsen and Pam True prepare the intake table to start clients on their way to receiving a holiday meal's worth of groceries during holiday distribution on December 21st.

Toy Thanks

Special thanks to the U.S. Marines Corps' Toys for Tots program (3034 West Foster Ave.), which donated many toys to help ensure we had the distribution of age-specific toys for our clients to choose from.



Santa (Cody Cousino) and his head elf (Anna Cohn), shown in the Pantry's Gift Room, helped greet clients' children during the holiday distribution on December 21st.

Coat Thanks

We want to give special thanks to Mrs. Contreras, manager of the Burlington Coat Factory (1710 N. Kostner Ave.), who helped arrange a weekly donation of about 70 gently used coats each week during our annual coat distribution in November and December. It was a big help to ensuring clients could get a warm coat to fit to help them through the cold winter ahead.



(l to r) Jay Skilton, Linda Torrez, Anna Besmann, Leslie Washington and Steven Ballard get in the spirit as they prepare bags of food for clients.

We also want to thank Lori Marshall at Mayfair Presbyterian Church (4358 W. Ainslie), whose congregation donated eight boxes of coats during our drive.

Clothing Donations

We are **unable to accept** donations of clothing, and we would appreciate all such donations being diverted to another organization. Clothing donations that we receive are given to the St. Viator Resale Shop at the church (4140 W. Addison St.), which benefits the St. Vincent DePaul Society. They are open for donations during operating hours, Thursday through Saturday 9 a.m. to noon.

Food Drives

In addition to the many organizations we mentioned last time, we want to thank these groups for holding food drives that helped us during the holiday season: Belding Elementary School (4257 N. Tripp), JFH Educational Academy (7642 West Irving Park), Our Lady of Resurrection



Medical Center (5645 W. Addison), St. Viator Mistletoe Market, and Terraces of Irving Park Homeowners Association.

For more information about our food pantry, contact Executive Director John Psiharis by email at info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org or by phone at 773-283-6296. For volunteer and food drive inquiries, contact Lee Samsami Stein at volunteer@irvingparkfoodpantry.org or call 312-608-1465. We are also on the web! Visit us at irvingparkfoodpantry.org or “like” our page on Facebook!

We thank you for all your time, food and monetary donations during the holiday season and throughout the year. As the Greater Chicago Food Depository says: “If every 1 in our great city gives 1 dollar, 1 can of food or 1 hour of time, no 1 will go hungry!”

NWS Housing Center Wants to Help Seniors “Stay Put!”

Did you know that the northwest side of Chicago has a larger than average percentage of older adults staying in their homes? This area is a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC). The Northwest Side Housing Center work with the older population and the agencies that serve them to develop leadership and creative solutions to the challenges facing this population. This includes access to transportation, affordable housing and other services that can help them “stay put” in the community.

Are you looking for ways to get involved in your community? Would you like to join other mature adults in making your neighborhood a better place to live? A group of energetic, northwest side older adults meet monthly to work on issues that will improve the community and help them live independently.

Come to our next “Staying Put” Leadership Meeting, which will be on Tuesday, January 17th at 10 a.m. (always the third Tuesday of every month) at Mather’s More than a Cafe, located on 3235 N. Central. We are working on door-to-door transportation for seniors on the northwest side as well as a senior-teen link program that would help seniors “stay put” in the neighborhood. Call Vanessa Quiles at 773-283-3888, ext. 23 for information.

The Northwest Side Housing Center (NWSHC) is a 501(c) (3), nonprofit organization aming to meet the needs of the residents of the northwest side. Foreclosures doubled in the last ten years, victimizing homeowners, without any counseling resources for assistance. A group of residents worked together to provide services so desperately needed.

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WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA!
Welcome to our new members as of January, 2012!

Thomas & Nancy Walker

Bruce Winston and the
Chicken Works & Salad Company

It's Membership Renewal Time!

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 March 20th, or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER WIRE AD RATES

	<u>1 TIME</u>	<u>3 TIMES</u>	<u>6 TIMES</u>	<u>10 TIMES</u>
Business card <i>(3.5" wide x 2" high)</i>	NA	\$45 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$90 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$125 <input type="checkbox"/>
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1/2-page ad <i>(7.5" wide x 5" high)</i>	\$60 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$165 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$330 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$520 <input type="checkbox"/>
Full-page ad <i>(8" wide x 10" high)</i>	\$120 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$330 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$660 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,050 <input type="checkbox"/>

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- The *Wire* is published 10 times a year (September through June).
- ALL AD ARTWORK is due on the 20th of the month prior. High-resolution pdfs, tiffs, and jpgs (black-and-white) are preferred. Microsoft Word files and camera-ready "hard copy" versions also are acceptable.
- WE PREFER that ad artwork be submitted as a file attachment and sent in an e-mail to: WWWire@solsticepr.com.

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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

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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

Seanachai Theatre's Next Play Opens in Less Than 11 Weeks

By Marlena Ascher



Mark your calendars: March 15-April 22. Seanachai Theatre is preparing its production of this season's second play, *A Moon for the Misbegotten* which will be performed Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons. If you love theatre, do not miss Seanachai's March 22nd dinner-theatre evening where you will enjoy a delicious dinner in an intimate setting as well as an educational interaction with the director and actors before and after the play. There is nothing like this experience anywhere else in the city!

The play *A Moon for the Misbegotten* (a sequel to *Long Day's Journey into Night*) is the last play Eugene O'Neill (1888-1953) wrote. It was not successful until some years after his 1953 death. The play is a unique blend of comedy, tragedy, autobiography, and imagination and has been recognized as one of O'Neill's greatest theatrical achievements. O'Neill is considered to be the father of American drama. He was awarded the Noble Prize for Literature and four times was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

The director Kevin Theis has been an director, actor, producer, and writer in Chicago for over 20 years. He began his relationship with Seanachai in 1995 when he directed its second show, *The Clearing*. Since then, he has directed productions at many Chicago theatres including the Royal George, Greasy Joan & Co, Lifeline, CT20 Ensemble, and Oak Park Festival Theatre. As an actor, Kevin has performed at the Goodman Theatre, Next Theatre, Lifeline, City Lit, Buffalo Theatre, Oak Park Festival Theatre, Peninsula Players, and CT20 Ensemble where he served as artistic director. In addition, Kevin is a founding member of Shanghai Low Theatricals, a group of crafts people engaged in the development of literary adaptations for, but not limited to, the stage.

Renowned Chicago actor Brad Armacost has appeared in performances at Chicago Shakespeare, Goodman, Steppenwolf, Northlight, Organic/Touchstone, Remy Bumppo, Royal George, Provision. Film credits include *Repetition, The Company, Eight Men Out, Backwoods,* and *Barbershop 2*. Television credits include *The Untouchables, Early Edition, Missing Persons,* and *Angel Street*. Brad has appeared as the narrator with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's *The Rite of Spring and Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. He is currently performing in *Elizabeth Rex* which runs through January 22 at Chicago Shakespeare Company.

Steve Pickering is an award-winning actor, designer, and playwright who has lived and worked in Chicago for over two decades. He is a founding member and project manager for Shanghai Low. Steve has been artistic director of Next Theatre and artistic associate for the Organic Theatre. He began adapting literary works in 1990 with Lewis Carroll's *The Hunting of The Snark* for Next Lab. Steve has performed on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in London's West End, and over 30 productions at Goodman. He completed over 700 performances of Robert Falls' Tony Award-winning Goodman production of *Death of A Salesman* with Brian Dennehy. Steve just completed his critically-acclaimed production of *St. Nicholas* by Conor McPherson here at Seanachai.

Carolyn Klein has been a member of Seanachai's ensemble since 2008. She played Agnes in *Dancing at Lughnasa* produced by Seanachai in February 2010. Carolyn is both an actor and a director. Her other Chicago credits include work with Chicago Shakespeare, Next Theatre, Strawdog Theatre, Profiles Theatre, and *The Hypocrites*. She holds a BFA from Western Michigan University and an MFA in Acting from Indiana University-Bloomington.

Seanachai Theater is located on the 3rd floor of the The Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 North Knox Avenue in Chicago. To order tickets, call 866-811-4111 or purchase online at seanachai.org.

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
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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.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Two Delightful Concerts!

Plymouth State Chamber Singers The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present The Plymouth State University Chamber Singers in concert Thursday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. This 19-member group is an auditioned ensemble of university students majoring primarily in voice performance/pedagogy, music education, theatre, and music theatre. Plymouth State University is a small liberal arts school in the lakes region of central New Hampshire. The Chamber Singers have performed throughout the United States, Canada, England, South Africa, Vietnam, and most recently, Italy. The PSU Chamber Singers perform heartfelt, energetic and exciting programs of beautiful choral music from around the world. The Fine Arts Committee is delighted to welcome the Plymouth State Chamber Singers to Chicago.



Plymouth State Chamber Singers will perform on January 26th.

The Avanti Guitar Trio, February 26th On Sunday, February 26th, the Chicago-based Avanti Guitar Trio will perform at 2:00 p.m. Rooted in the classical guitar tradition, the Avanti Guitar Trio performs an eclectic variety of music including works from the Renaissance through Romantic eras, music from Spain and Latin America and arrangements of folk and pop tunes. They also perform contemporary compositions that make use of improvisation, effects pedals and electronics. The trio is comprised of Thomas Clippert, Julie Goldberg and Jeffrey Silva.

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Avanti Guitar Trio will perform on February 26th.

Avanti Trio members graduated from some of the country's most prestigious conservatories and universities. Each has performed a a soloist throughout the country and all are currently teaching at Chicago area universities.

Both concerts will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church. Admission is free, but a free-will offering will be taken.

The final concert of the season will feature cellist Dorothy Deen accompanied by pianist Roger L. Bingaman on Sunday, April 29th at 2:00 p.m. Please note that artists and concert dates are subject to change.

All concerts will be held in the sanctuary of Irving Park Lutheran Church on 4100 N. Harding. The Irving Park Fine Arts Series, now in its 18th season, was begun by 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. IPFAC 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. For more information, contact Roger Bingaman at 773-267-1667, or visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

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Disney II Magnet School

The holiday season has been a busy one for the Disney II community!

On December 21st all students, led by music

director Mr. Barnhart, amazed audiences with two spectacular holiday concerts, "A Season of Fun," and "Paint the Town December." In addition to class singing performances, the Disney II Choir ensemble accompanied most acts as did the Disney II Orff Band participants. The students, who practiced diligently for weeks, were delighted to show off their skills, and parents were amazed with the talent presented.

Last month was report card pick up. Many students were rewarded with various awards including, Honor Roll, Principal's Honor Roll, and new this year, Principal's High Tea. High Tea rewards up to four students in each classroom for school spirit, increased effort, community service, and academic progress.

Disney II students have spirit! In keeping with monthly "Spirit Days," last Friday was "College Spirit Day." Students were encouraged to dress in their favorite college attire (or that of their parents). There were a curious number of Notre Dame Fans in the house.

Many thanks to the Disney II families who "sponsored a child" this Christmas season at Lydia Home. Every child was sponsored thanks to the generosity of the Disney II Community. In fact, there were more families wanting to assist than children in need. Fortunately, Lydia Home graciously accepted new, clean towel sets for children in need as well as toys for the "sponsor a child" program.

In keeping with the holiday spirit of giving, many from Brownie Troop 20213 participated in a caroling event with Hands to Help and the Irving Park United Methodist Church. Together, they raised \$1,018 for Hands to Help which provides services to those in need in the Six Corners area. Our brownie troop made a big impact on this event and collected the highest amount of donations among all of the caroling groups. These girls know how to give back to the community.

The famous Pilot Light Chefs made yet another visit to Disney II this month. Our children, who often cringe at the sight of fish on their own dining room table, tasted and actually enjoyed entrees such as "salmon soup."

In a culminating multi-thematic concept, chefs also presented and discussed dishes made with honey, a topic 3rd graders have been analyzing as they study bees, and foods that go from liquids to solids, a science unit being studied by 1st graders.

Extreme Gym Makeover/Annual Fund Drive

As the Disney II community grows, so does the need for a larger, more modern performance space. The Disney II gymnasium is not solely utilized for sports and physical education. It is a meeting and conference room, a performing arts space, and much more. The space, however, is sorely antiquated for any sort of performance or athletic competition. Some necessary updates include soundproofing the gym, stage and lighting modernization, electronic scoreboard inclusion, as well as efficient and comfortable seating.

Our goal as parents is to preserve and promote the educational programs of Disney II and ensure that they are on par with the best public and private schools in the country. We can no longer depend on tax revenue to fund public school needs at the appropriate level. We must come together to fund important initiatives ourselves! In order to begin the MAKEOVER in the summer of 2012, we need to raise these funds this year! Should you, as a community member, wish to support this fund drive, please refer to the Disney II website, www.disneyiimagnet.org, or call the school (773) 534-3750. Ultimately, we wish to make this space an asset to not only the students and families of Disney II, but to the community at large.

Finally, the Disney II Community wishes the entire Irving Park community a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2012. We thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

CICS-Irving Park School

We're Number One!

CICS-IP is very proud to have been ranked number one among CPS Charter Schools for the percentage of students in grades 3rd-8th passing the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) with test scores that met or exceeded state standards. Articles published in the Chicago Tribune and Sun-Times on November 30th showed we had 92.5% of our students at that level.

NWEA Testing

Starting in January, students will undergo NWEA testing. The Northwestern Evaluation Assessment (NWEA)



provides products and services to measure and promote academic student growth and school improvement. Students also use these results to set their own academic goals for the coming school year.

Grant Winners

4th grade teacher Deena Heller was one of 300 teachers awarded a Chicago Foundation for Education (CFE) Small Grant that encourages teachers to “design and implement innovative curricular projects.” She will get \$250 to use for supplies and materials for an upcoming social studies unit.

7th grade teacher Shula Bien won a CFE grant for a project called “Reading for Your Rights: Exploring Social Justice Issues through Literature.” The goal of this project is to cultivate a sense of global citizenship in students. Her aim is to build a library that is an excellent resource for inquiry into social justice issues.

St. Edward School

Thank you to all who were able to attend and support our holiday events. Our Christmas Tree sale was wildly successful, with the Farmers Market Garden Center running out of garland! Our 22nd Cookie Walk and Breakfast with Santa were sold out.

Open House Events

We invite you to visit our school community. St. Ed’s Open House for prospective families is Sunday, January 29 from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. or on Wednesday, February 1 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. This is an excellent way to meet our faculty, speak with current families and learn what makes St. Ed’s such a special place for your child to learn. For more information, please contact Jenn Hegener at RSVP@STEdwardSchool.com.

St. Edward’s Market Day

Did you know that you can do Market Day thorough St. Ed’s? This is an easy way to stock up on freezer items such as frozen vegetables, ravioli and biscuits for those nights that you’re in a pinch for dinner. Our next Market Day will be on Saturday, January 14 from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. in Buckley Hall. And for added convenience, you may order online at www.MarketDay.com.

Big Red Rocks Fundraiser

On Saturday, January 21 from 7:00 p.m. to 12 midnight, St. Ed’s gym will be rocking! Come to our annual Big Red Rocks, with proceeds benefiting our scholarship fund. The bands are always great with lots of school and community

members participating. Be on the lookout for the final list of performers – it’s going to be an awesome night.

January 29 kicks off Catholic Schools’ week. St. Ed’s celebrates our school community during this week with Parent Appreciation Day, School Spirit Day, Student Appreciation Day and Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day. Parents are invited to visit their child’s classroom, students accent their uniforms with our school colors, and there is always a special performance planned for the students. The week culminates with a special breakfast for the heart of our school, our faculty and staff, which is prepared by our St. Edward Parent Organization.

St. Edward School, located at , is now celebrating its 101st year, providing a quality, Catholic education to children from three-year old preschool through eighth grade. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or by visiting www.STEdwardSchool.com.

St. Viator School

Spotlight on 1st Grade Reading

Our first grade students are fortunate to have many great opportunities to read each and every day! The children visit our well-equipped library on a regular basis, participate in the Junior Great Books language arts program and visit the reading specialist to develop their skills. One of their favorite reading activities is Hearts Club, a special volunteer based program. Members of the parish and school community volunteer to read with the St. Viator 1st graders. The volunteers meet weekly with our little ones to share their time and love of reading. Small groups of 1st graders are placed with each volunteer to listen to a story. As the year progresses, the 1st graders will start to read to the volunteers! It is amazing to see the students grow as readers in just a few short months.

Open House

Find out what St. Viator can offer your child. Visit our Open House on Saturday, January 28th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The strong curriculum at St. Viator School includes the recently launched Rosetta Stone language learning program, the fine arts program Art Zone, a dedicated science lab, the Junior Great Books reading program and an up-to-date computer lab. Visit our entire school and meet some of our faculty, staff, and parents who will be able to answer all of your questions. For more information, please call the school office at 773-545-2173 or visit our website at www.stviatorchicago.org.

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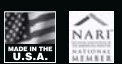
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