

# WEST WALKER WIRE

JUNE 2012

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

## Fourth of July Festivities at Independence Park!

YOU AND YOUR FAMILY are invited to celebrate Independence Day at Independence Park for the annual 4th of July festivities. Decorate your bikes, trikes, kids and dogs and walk in the annual parade around the park! The parade line-up begins at 10:00 a.m. Parade will be followed by fun family games such as the Egg Toss, Sack Races, and Running Races. West Walker will be there to quench your thirst with refreshing lemonade as we all get together to celebrate America's Independence!



## Help Create the New Mural!

Do you love the murals in the neighborhood? We want you to be part of the next one! Old Irving Park Association wants your help to make our next mural beautiful. No skills required, just a passion for the arts. Volunteers of all skill levels needed for the following dates: July 12, 19, 21 and 26 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.) We will be beautifying the CTA Pulaski exit on the Blue Line just south of Irving Park Road. Visit us on Facebook: [facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc](http://facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc)

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor • Totally Awesome 80s Prom
- 3 WWCA General Meeting Minutes • News From Independence Park Bungalow Renovation Project • WWCA Garage Sale Recap
- 4 Do You Want More Cultural and Dining Options?
- 5 39th Ward Report
- 6 News From St. John's Episcopal Church
- 7 News and Events from Carlson Community Services
- 8 News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 10 Neighborhood School News • Dog Bite Prevention Seminar
- 11 Swedish Covenant Summer Event • Thank You From Senachai

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Saturday, June 16 • 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Totally Awesome 80s Prom  
Independence Park Fieldhouse  
3945 N. Springfield

### Wednesday, June 20 • 7:00 p.m.

CAPS Meeting Beat 1723  
4650 N. Pulaski, Community Room

### Saturday, June 23 • 7:00 a.m.

GCFD 27th Annual Hunger Walk  
Soldier Field (Registration 7:00 a.m.,  
Step-Off at 8:30 a.m.)

### Sundays, June 24, July 22, Aug. 26th

#### Time TBD — Community Meals

Irving Park United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall, 3801 N. Keeler  
*To volunteer contact: Tina at [bwf79@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bwf79@sbcglobal.net) or Lindsey at [leelton@gmail.com](mailto:leelton@gmail.com)*

### Thursday, June 28 • 6:30 p.m.

*Learn About Natural Childbirth*  
Bloom Yoga Studio, 4663 N. Rockwell

### Tuesday, September 18 • 7:00 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting  
Latvian Community Ctr., 4146 N. Elston

### Sundays • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Independence Park Farmers Market  
3945 N. Springfield  
*(See page 4 ad for specific dates)*

### Tuesdays • 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Three Brothers Garden Harvest  
4107 N. Pulaski (behind Irving Park  
Lutheran Church) - *Weather Permitting*

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

# Dear Neighbor,

THIS YEAR is the 100th Anniversary of the West Walker Civic Association. I think the Association has done a great deal to live up to its Mission Statement, but we are also at a moment of transition. Although the needs of the community and the events sponsored by the WWCA have grown, the number of people volunteering to keep the association running has fallen. Without the support of volunteers, we cannot function. Below is only a partial list of positions we need to fill. Please consider what you can do to help and contact me or any other officers to volunteer or ask questions.

Wire carriers for Monticello & Irving Park routes

Run the July 4th Event at Independence Park

WWCA Officers

WWCA Secretary

Spearhead new neighborhood banners

Manage the Website

Additional ad sales support

Wire article contributors

Revitalize "Art in My Backyard"

Work with North West Arts Project

None of these positions take a great deal of time when there are many volunteers to share the load. I hope you will take time to consider what you can do to help your neighbors and your neighborhood.

Mike Webber

WWCA President



## Totally Awesome 80s Prom

Relive the music, the fun, the glory, and the clothes! Independence Park Advisory Council is sponsoring a Totally Awesome 80's Prom on Saturday, June 16th from 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. at the Independence

Park Fieldhouse at 3945 North Springfield Avenue. This is a fundraiser you don't want to miss! The \$40 ticket price includes appetizers and a dessert bar, featuring food from Smoq̄ue & The Abbey Pub

Cash bar and prom photos will be available at the 21 and older event. You can nominate your friends, neighbors or yourself for prom court and party like it's 1989! There are a limited amount of tickets available, so purchasing your tickets in advance is strongly recommended! Visit [www.ipac-chicago.org](http://www.ipac-chicago.org) to buy your tickets today!

# 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 100 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  
Glenda Begecke  
Judy Cicero  
Connie Engel  
Patti Freko  
Amanda Hayman  
Peg Klimek  
John & Betsy Minor  
Mark Pascale  
Tricia Ramirez & Mike Hawlitzky  
Melanie Reschke  
Pat & Marianne Turk  
Max & Charlie Webber

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](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)*



Front of Bungalow, preparation for masonry work.

## Independence Park Bungalow Renovation Project Back on Track

By Lynda Olander, IPBRP President

The Independence Park Bungalow Renovation Project (IPBRP) formed in 2006 for the purpose of raising money and developing community excitement surrounding the green renovation of our Arts and Crafts jewel set on the corner of Hamlin and Byron in Independence Park. This “grand” bungalow is the only city owned (Chicago Park District) bungalow. The intention of the renovation was to incorporate today’s green practices while maintaining its historic character. It will serve as a model for bungalow owners throughout the city and state and continue to be a community center for Independence Park.

Under the guidance and support of 39th Ward Alderman Marge Laurino, the project took shape. The community has embraced this project committing to the Chicago Park District to raise \$100,000 toward the renovation. Through various fund raisers IPBRP has raised \$85,000 to date.

The project moved slowly but steadily from 2006 through 2010. In 2011 it seemed to stop from all outward appearances, but behind the scenes the financing of this \$1.3 million dollar renovation took place. Early in 2012, IPBRP was informed that the project was fully funded and that the work would begin. And begin it has. Three contracts have been issued: Geo thermal heating and air, masonry and the interior/ exterior construction. The workers have been on site daily with a planned re-opening in early July. IPBRP will host a Ribbon-Cutting Wine and Cheese Party in early August. Details will be announced soon. To keep up with the project, visit our web site at [www.greenbungalowproject.org](http://www.greenbungalowproject.org).

# WWCA General Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2012 - Officer Present: Mike Webber

April General Meeting minutes approved by voice vote.

Mike Webber reported the current General Account balance to be \$5262 and the banner account \$853.


Melanie Reschke reported on recent PEBA activity, including the PEBA and Peterson Pulaski Business and Industrial Council “Festa Del Sole” networking meeting at “al dente” restaurant, 3939 W. Irving Park Road, on June 11, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. and the plans to open a Day Care business at 4015 N Pulaski later this year.

Mike Webber discussed local crime issues and need for additional volunteers to support the West Walker mission.

Submitted by Mike Webber

## WWCA Garage and Yard Sale Basks in the Sunshine

The 27th Annual West Walker Garage Sale was blessed with sunny skies and warm temperatures. Over 90 families participated, and everyone got a chance to browse and visit. Many thanks to Bob and Kevin Crowley and Melanie Reschke for their work on the sale. It gets a little better every year due to their efforts.



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# Farmers Market

**Ten Sundays  
in 2012**Open 9 am  
to 1 pm:

- **June 10**
- **June 24**
- **July 8**
- **July 22**
- **August 12**
- **August 26**
- **September 9**
- **September 23**
- **October 14**
- **October 28**



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## Do You Want More Cultural and Dining Options?

If you want more cultural entertainment and dining options on the Northwest Side, please join our grassroots group of people willing to work to make this cultural development goal happen.

Almost 100 people from community associations, cultural institutions, theatres, churches, schools, businesses, and residents gathered at Chief O'Neill's Restaurant in early May to begin the strategic plan for transforming our arts vision into reality. The Northwest Side will be known as a destination for the arts -visual, performing, horticultural, and culinary.

Siobhan and Brendan McKinney, owners of Chief O'Neill's Restaurant at 3470 North Elston, hosted this large group action strategy meeting, providing a beautifully-decorated room overlooking their garden and serving beautifully-presented complimentary wine and appetizers.

Owners of four restaurants, Chief O'Neill's, Shokran, Gale Street Inn, and Café Soroni, helped plan this event. Among the participants were Mike Webber of West Walker Civic Association, Liz Mills of Carlson Community Services, Smoque, Mid City Nissan, CA Development, Six Corners Association, Mayfair Civic Association, Mayfair Park Advisory, Old Irving Park Association, Portage Park Neighborhood Association, Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association, Avondale Neighborhood Association, Independence Park Farmers Market, Copernicus Center, Irish-American Heritage Center, St. John's Episcopal Church, Irving Park United Methodist Church, Schurz High School, Seanachai Theatre, Prop Theatre, Factory Theater, Chicago College of Performing Arts, Northeastern Illinois University, North River Commission, and a significant number of artists and art-lovers of all ages and from all walks of life.

By the meeting's conclusion, everyone's input was gathered in answer to these primary questions: What do you want our future to look like? How will we get there? What time, talent, and/or treasure will you contribute?

Responses will be shared at the next meeting when we identify what we have to do and who is doing it. Do you want to participate in creating our desired future? Contact Marlena Ascher at 773-481-1749 marlenaascher@sbcglobal.net.

# 39th Ward Report



Dear Neighbor,  
 It's that time of year again! All City Vehicle Stickers and Residential Parking Permits expire on June 30. Vehicle stickers may be purchased online at the City Clerk's website, <http://www.chicityclerk.com/ezbuy/index.html> or in person at City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle Street, Room 107 or the Clerk's Satellite Office at 5430 W. Gale Street. Both offices are open, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If you want to avoid the lines, stop by my 39th Ward Public Service Office (4404 W. Lawrence) for the annual City Sticker Sale on Monday, June 11, from noon – 6:00 p.m. to purchase your city sticker and residential permit parking sticker. If you received a renewal form in the mail, please bring that along with you. If you did not get a renewal form, bring in the previous year's form or have the following information available: year, make and model of the vehicle; state license plate number; owner's driver's license number, and old City Sticker number.

Do you need to clean out your files? Are you worried about identity theft? Bring your old and unwanted papers and documents to the 39th Ward Office! In conjunction with the City Sticker Sale, I am providing a free paper shredding service, also on June 11, from noon until 6:00 p.m. in the parking lot at Kostner and Lawrence. Your papers will be shredded safely and securely and there is no limit to the amount you can bring.

The Chicago Sustainable Backyards Program is once again offering residents up to 50% back on local purchases of trees (up to \$100 rebate) native plants (up to \$60 rebate), rain barrels (up to \$40 rebate, and compost bins (up to \$50 rebate) in 2012. Visit their website (with the long URL) at [http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdot/provdrs/conservation\\_outreachgreenprograms/svcs/chicago\\_sustainablebackyardprogram.html](http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdot/provdrs/conservation_outreachgreenprograms/svcs/chicago_sustainablebackyardprogram.html) or contact 312-743-9283 or [rainbarrel@cityofchicago.org](mailto:rainbarrel@cityofchicago.org) with any questions.

As always, please feel free to contact my office at 773-736-5594, or [Ward39@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Ward39@cityofchicago.org), with any questions or concerns.

*Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward*

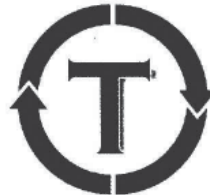


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## Irving Park Lutheran Church

*Sharing the Good News!*

Reverend Brooke Petersen  
 3938 West Belle Plaine Avenue, Chicago IL 60618  
 Office: 773-267-1667 Fax: 773-267-6707  
[www.iplc.org](http://www.iplc.org)



**Continuing the Journey!**

**SUMMER SCHEDULE**

9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
 Chicago Metropolitan Synod

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

<b>Emergency</b>	911
<b>Non-Emergency</b> (request a tracking number)	311
<b>17th Police District</b>	312-744-8346
Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting: third Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m. at 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski Road	
<b>17th District CAPS Phone</b>	312-742-4410
CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org	
<b>Alderman Margaret Laurino</b> , 39th Ward	773-736-5594
4404 W. Lawrence Ave.	ward39@cityofchicago.org
www.aldermanlaurino.com	Constituent night: Mondays, 6-8 p.m.
(Call ahead. Meet Alderman Laurino to discuss Ward concerns.)	
<b>39th Ward Streets and Sanitation</b>	312-744-8163
<b>Alderman Richard Mell</b> , 33rd Ward	773-478-8040
3649 N. Kedzie Ave.	rmell@cityofchicago.org
www.33rdward.org	33rd Ward Advisory Council:
Third Thursday of each month at Horner Park Fieldhouse, 2741 W. Montrose Ave., 7 p.m. Discuss your issues with the advisory council	
<b>33rd Ward Streets and Sanitation</b>	312-744-1451
<b>Deb Mell</b> , 40th Dist. State Representative	773-267-2880
<b>Iris Y. Martinez</b> , 20th Dist. State Senator	773-283-7000
<b>Mike Quigley</b> , 5th Congressional District	773-267-5926
<b>Independence Branch, Chicago Public Library</b>	
3548 W. Irving Park Road	312-744-0900
<b>Independence Park, Chicago Park District</b>	
3945 N. Springfield Ave.	773-478-3538
<b>Graffiti Removal</b> (request a tracking number)	312-744-1234
<b>Neighborhood Relations</b>	312-744-3774
<b>Poison Control Center</b>	800-942-5969
<b>Illegal Businesses, City Dept. of Revenue</b>	312-747-5317

## WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of June 1st, 2012 appears below:

Megan Banovic	Beverly Birch
Philip & Roberta Bole	Chris Cameron
Margaret Ceja	Martha Donnelly
Kirsten Gettings	Robert & Rosemary Holbach
Alvina Jung	Chris & Deb Kloet
Doreen & Michael Kolasinski	Helen & Mark Lira
Renate Lux	MarySue Martranga
Diane McCarthy	Angela Motiejunas
Jane Nagle	Chris Newman
Chris Novak	Ellyn Nugent
Thomas & Ok Hui Pierce	Lynette Pitcock
Linda Projansky	Barb Rieffel
Sacred Heart Mission House	Tapestry Fellowship
Helen Taylor	Beth & Lachlan Tidmarsh
John & Vanessa Velez	Dorie & Mel Westmeyer
MarySue Witchger	Ellen & Gary Zacny

### 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 Irving Park Community Food Pantry, Independence Park, and Independence Library.
- 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.

Bring your 2012-2013 dues to our next WWCA meeting on September 18th! Or you can mail in the application below.

## WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013

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



### Historic Organ for Old Irving Park

...and a gourmet dinner to toast it! St. John's Episcopal Church is delighted to announce the purchase of a "new" organ. This instrument will enhance the music in our worship and the musical life of the wider community. The Lancashire-Marshall organ was built in Moline, Illinois in 1891,

which means the style and sound of the instrument match the time period of our sanctuary (built in 1888). The genius of master craftsmanship means that this organ is flexible enough to accompany the music of many eras and current beats! The organ has been purchased from Good Shepherd Lutheran in the Elmwood Park neighborhood of Chicago and will be moved and installed by the Bradford Organ Company of Chicago later this year.

For more information about this beautiful instrument please visit our website [www.stjohnschicago.com](http://www.stjohnschicago.com) and click on "Our New Organ." Our goal is to raise \$75,000, the total cost for the instrument and installation. You can help us reach our goal by sending a donation to "The Organ Project" at St. John's Episcopal Church 3857 N. Kostner.

You are also cordially invited to the Benefit Dinner on Saturday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's. Tickets are \$50 and include a gourmet dinner and drinks, live music, and celebration! To R.S.V.P. call 773-725-9026 by Tuesday, June 5. We look forward to sharing the gift of music through future concerts featuring this great instrument.

### Mural at Addison and Avondale!

Paint Day for the Mural at Addison and Avondale is scheduled for June 21st from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you are interested in helping to paint, please contact Kelsey at [mural.addison.avondale@gmail.com](mailto:mural.addison.avondale@gmail.com) with the information listed below, and she'll reply to confirm your time. The deadline to register is Sunday, June 10. Email Kelsey Krzyston at [mural.addison.avondale@gmail.com](mailto:mural.addison.avondale@gmail.com) with the following information: 1. Name(s) of person(s) who will participate; 2. Adult or child? (Children 12 and under must have adult supervision the entire time); 3. Contact info: phone, email; 4. Pick your time (Top 3 preferences): **A.** 9:00am-10:15am; **B.** 10:15am-11:30am; **C.** 11:30am-12:45pm; **D.** 12:45pm-2:00pm; **E.** 2:00pm-3:15pm; **F.** 3:15pm-4:30pm.

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**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](mailto:Ward39@cityofchicago.org)



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*You can pay your WWCA dues with either  
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West Walker website ([www.westwalker.org](http://www.westwalker.org))!*

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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.*



*Three Brothers Garden volunteers Sarah, Patrick and Lynette prepare the season's first delivery to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.*

### **Harvest for the Hungry!**

Have an hour or two to spare on Tuesday evenings? Then join your neighbors for the weekly harvest of vegetables at the Three Brothers Garden. The garden, a project co-

sponsored by Irving Park Lutheran Church and Carlson Community Services, provides fresh produce to the clients of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. Last year, 786 lbs. of vegetables were harvested for the food pantry. Since its establishment in 2009, over 2100 lbs. of produce have been donated to the pantry.

Each Tuesday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., volunteers pick vegetables, wash them and bag them for distribution at the food pantry on Wednesday morning. Volunteers also work on maintaining the garden by staking plants, weeding and re-seeding. Working in the garden is a great way to meet new people and relieve stress! Twice a month a pot luck supper is held after the harvest. The food is delicious and plentiful...all are welcome to share!

Is your church, book group, scout troop, neighborhood, or employer interested in doing a service project? Harvest as a group! No prior garden experience required. The garden is located behind IPLC at 4107 N. Pulaski Rd.

If you'd like to be added to the volunteer e-mail list, please contact Liz Mills at [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org), or call 773-398-6766. Or just show up on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., weather permitting. To learn more, visit [www.carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://www.carlsoncommunityservices.org).



*50 Shades of Grey Matter celebrate their victory at Trivia Night.*

### **Trivia Night Raises over \$6,000 for MAP**

Carlson's Spring Trivia night proved to be another successful fundraiser for the Magic After-School Place and a fun night for participants! In a grueling contest that included questions that ranged from Native American tribes to TV cops and state license plate slogans, 12 teams participated for cash and bragging rights. "Fifty Shades of Grey Matter" ultimately prevailed, and promptly donated the \$150 in prize money back to the MAP Program.

Thanks to Round Sponsors Prudential Rubloff; Connie & Davor Engel; Alderman Margaret Laurino; Representative Deborah Mell; and Lichter Realty and to NBC5, Ryan Partnership and Paddy Mac's Pub for ticket and bar donations. Event Chair Helen Lira, trivia masters Rich McDermott, Meg Buchanan and Bill O'Callaghan along with judges Debra and Kevin O'Shea did a fantastic job of running the contest. Event volunteers Holly VanEssen, Loretta Aylward, Darcie Wolf and Shay Depies kept the libations flowing and the score tallied.

Thanks to the generosity of participants and a matching grant from the North Cook County - Chicago Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, \$6,000 was raised for the MAP program which provides affordable, quality after-school care to 30 students at Belding and Murphy schools. Fundraisers like Trivia Night help keep program tuition affordable for working families. Approximately 80% of the students enrolled in the program come from low income households.

Watch for information about Carlson's next Trivia Night in October, or sign up to receive an e-mail notice by contacting Liz Mills at [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org).



## News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt



*Executive Director John Psiharis accepts the donation from Mariano's Store Director Ted Obis and Foundation Administrator Connie Jones. Pantry Operations Manager Jim Byrne (beside Connie) and Hogan Hawkins (beside Ted) looked on (and loaded the groceries) with some of Mariano's staff. Photo by Craig Shutt.*

### Walk with the Pantry on the 23rd!

Irving Park Community Food Pantry is signing up walkers and taking donations for the 27th annual Hunger Walk to be held on Saturday the 23rd at Soldier Field. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and walkers step off at 8:30 a.m.

Best of all, participants don't need to actually walk the 5K (3.2-mile) route along the lakefront—they just need to be present that morning to encourage the others. That includes kids! And IPCFP receives a bonus credit to our account from the sponsor, the Greater Chicago Food Depository, for each walker. We also receive bonus funding up to \$5,000 to supplement what we raise in our own account.

To participate in the Walk to benefit the Pantry, click on the Hunger Walk link on the Pantry's website ([www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org)) or visit the Greater Chicago Food Depository ([www.chicagosfoodbank.org](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org)) and click on the Walk logo in the lower right corner. You can participate in three ways:

1. Organize a Hunger Walk Team of at least 10 walkers. Each walker signs up pledges to sponsor their walk. Click on the Sign Up link and then click Start A Team.
2. Join the Team. Individuals can join the Pantry's walkers and raise funds. Each walker gives us a bonus payment from GCFD. To join, Click on the Sign Up link, then click Join A Team and Search for "Irving."
3. Donate to a Hunger Walk Team. Sign a walker's pledge sheet, bring a donation to the Pantry office or donate online at our Hunger Walk site. Click on the Donate Today link, then Search for a Team, and search for "Irving." Every

donation we receive earmarked for the Hunger Walk will help us receive bonus funds from GCFD.

When signing up or donating, please use the Pantry's agency number (#A00113) when requested to ensure your donations are distributed to IPCFP and we receive credit toward our total.

### Donations

Great thanks to the people at Roundy's Supermarkets and the staff at Mariano's Fresh Market (3350 N. Western Ave.) for selecting the Pantry to receive a pallet of 2,595 pounds of food and a \$500 donation from the Roundy's Foundation in April. This was the sixth year that the foundation has donated to food pantries in its communities in Illinois and Wisconsin.

### Check out our website!

Stop by our new website at [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org) to learn about Pantry news and events, read the regular blog and learn how you can help those in need in our neighborhood. Also "friend us" on Facebook to keep up with news, photos and current events. We currently have more than 370 Friends!



*(l-r): Volunteer of the Year Jay Skilton, and Appreciation Award Recipient Jim Byrne*

### Volunteers Appreciated!

Jay Skilton was presented with the Volunteer of the Year award from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry for his unceasing efforts, including service on the board of directors, serving

as the client contact point each Wednesday during Pantry hours and participating in fundraising events.

Jim Byrne, operations manager at the Irving Park Community Food Pantry, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation from the Pantry for all of his efforts to keep the Pantry running smoothly, from picking up groceries to preparing and distributing them each Wednesday.

These presentations were made during the Pantry's Volunteer Appreciate Luncheon at Sabatino's Restaurant on May 30th.



## St. Viator School

### Science Fair Winners

Eighth-grader Tiani Salgado and seventh-grader Natalia Brzezinski represented St. Viator

School at the May 7 Science Fair at the Illinois Junior Academy of Science on the University of Illinois campus in Urbana. The girls' exhibited projects, and their time and hard work were rewarded with Silver Certificates.

### Congratulations to Our 2012 Graduates

We are proud to say that, once again, our graduates have been accepted into the high schools of their choice, including St. Ignatius, Loyola, St. Patrick, Guerin Prep, Resurrection, Walter Payton and Lane Tech. We are confident that the foundation they received at St. Viator will allow them to grow to new heights in high school.

### Graduate Honored

St. Viator graduate Eric Villalpando is this year's salutatorian at St. Patrick High School. Eric, who also received a Mathematics Merit Award, will attend the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

### Pre-K Expansion

St. Viator will expand its Pre-K Program for 3-year-olds for the 2012-13 year to include a full-day option. Starting in August, Pre-K 3 options on Monday, Wednesday and Friday will be half-day from 7:50 to 11 a.m. or full day from 7:50 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.

### Registration

Registration for next year is currently underway for all grade levels. St. Viator, with programs for children from 3 years old through eighth grade, offers academic excellence, smaller classes and an outstanding world-language program. For more information, call 773-545-2173 or visit [stviatorchicago.org](http://stviatorchicago.org).

## CICS-Irving Park School

### Inaugural Convocation

CICS Irving Park School will hold their first 8th Grade graduation on Tuesday, June 12th. Some of the schools that our scholars have been accepted to include: Walter Payton, Von Steuben, Mather, Westinghouse, Northtown, Northside and Golder College Prep. Congratulations!

### Be An Activist For Schools

We have our very own Facebook page! Check it out! "Like" us, and advocate for our school! There are a number of links to support Charter Schools locally and state-wide, and to support Equal Funding for Charter Schools. Become an advocate for your child's educational rights! [www.facebook.com/CicstrivingParkPumaPtO](http://www.facebook.com/CicstrivingParkPumaPtO)

## Dog Bite Prevention Program Works With Cleveland School

On Wednesday, June 6th, Central Bark owner Bonnie Lemperis and her Dog Bite Prevention crew conducted a very important educational seminar at Grover Cleveland Elementary School on 3121 W. Byron. Children in kindergarten through third grade were taught what signs to look for in an aggressive dog. Seminar focused on what to do if a strange dog approaches a child on the street and even how to approach a dog that is familiar to them.

"Little known facts about dog bites are that children are more likely than adults to be bitten by a dog. In fact, they are more likely to be bitten in the face and to require medical attention more often than an adult. We are trying to get out there and inform children on the do's and don'ts of dog interaction and keeping our children safe around dogs" says Central Bark owner, Bonnie Lemperis.

At the end of the seminar, all of the children in attendance received coloring and puzzle sheets to reinforce what they learned.

Chicago native, Bonnie Lemperis has been a passionate dog owner since she was a young girl. She has fostered dogs for a variety of animal rescue organizations throughout the state, has been trained in dog-behavior, and is even certified in pet first-aid. Bonnie is the owner of the local Central Bark Doggy Day Care facility on Pulaski Road, a one-stop-shop for everything dog, and winner of Chicago Magazine's coveted "Best of Chicago" award in 2010. Bonnie can be reached at 773-736-3641 or at [chicagoavondale@centralbarkusa.com](mailto:chicagoavondale@centralbarkusa.com)



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## Learn About Natural Childbirth

You are invited to attend a free 1-hour presentation, "Learn About Natural Childbirth," on Thursday, June 28, at 6:30 p.m., at the Bloom Yoga Studio on 4663 N. Rockwell. Learn about a range of natural childbirth options from various perspectives. Listen to several midwives from Swedish Covenant Hospital, including Sherri Ruerup, certified nurse-midwife and Director of Nurse-Midwifery, and hear from a panel of women who will discuss their experiences with childbirth. To make a reservation, call 773-878-6888. To learn about all of Swedish Covenant Hospital's Community summer events, visit [www.WellCommunityChicago.org](http://www.WellCommunityChicago.org) or call Dawn at SCH Community Relations at 773-878-8200, ext. 3080.

## Seanachai Theater: Thank You!

This season's plays were: Sean O'Casey's *The Shadow of A Gunman* and Eugene O'Neill's *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. We worked hard to give you extraordinary theatre experiences, and we are gratified by your overwhelmingly positive feedback, friendship and partnership. Thank you to Alderman John and Jill Arena and Cyd Smillie, arts liaison for the 45th Ward, for attending our special performances; to Portage Park Neighborhood Association, West Walker Civic Association, Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association, and Old Irving Park Association for regularly publishing articles about us. Thank you to Gregg Kobelinski and Wayne Bush of Copernicus Center for donating your beautiful annex space for our 2012 Ceili fundraiser, and to Khalid Kamal of Shokran Restaurant; George Karzas of Gale Street Inn; Sofia and Rocco Georgiev of Café Soroni; Enzo and Angelo Pagni of Sabatino's; Lois Lee of Hot Woks Cool Sushi, John Panvino of Porretta's; Dirk Fucik of Dirk's Fish & Gourmet and Anne and Fred Plewa of Honey Baked Ham for donating your amazing food for the Taste of the Northwest Side theme at our Ceili fundraiser. Thank you to George Borovik, of Portage Park Chamber of Commerce, for being at all of our events. Thank you, Joe Angelastri and Ed Bannon, of Six Corners Association, for enthusiastically welcoming us to the neighborhood. Thank you to Northwest Side visual artists, T.J. Hine, Laura Marie Sanchez, Bobbie Bolociuch, Paul Robertson, Heather Aitken, Maria Martinez, Sarah Steedman, Prisana Saegnduan, George and Pat Clark, and Judith Querciagrossa for being such great partners and for enhancing the quality of our fundraising events. And last but not least: Thank you to all of you wonderful people who came to see our work. What a great season!

*The Seanachai Ensemble*

## Help us make a difference!

*This year we are excited about:*

- Helping to feed families in Haiti • Providing school supplies to local children
- Supporting the neighborhood Hands to Help ministry
- Making sure all of God's children know our doors are open to them
- Continuing our commitment to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- Starting to provide a community meal to those in need one Sunday a month



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 NOON (SPANISH) - Cecilia Obret, mission pastor  
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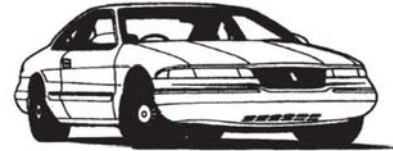
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