



WEST WALKER WIRE

SEPTEMBER 2015

www.westwalker.org

West Walker Civic Association Reaches Out to FAA Regarding Noise

On August 10th, President Michael Webber sent a letter to the Federal Aviation Administration on behalf of the West Walker Civic Association, regarding the O'Hare noise issue. In it he explained that the new Berteau runway to be opened in October greatly concerns WW residents, increasing the noise, and decreasing the quality of life in the area.

The letter further requested that the FAA, CDA, City and the Mayor work together to:

- keep the diagonal runways open.
- better distribute day and night traffic across all 10 runways.
- increase the descent path of aircraft so they are higher up for farther distances from the airport.
- better monitor and enforce aircraft height to reduce the incredible number of low flying, noisy aircraft.
- require airlines to have less noisy aircraft.
- expand the noise abatement funding to a broader area of homes impacted by the new runways.

WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor • Independence Library News • Horner Dog Park
- 3 Maker's Mart St. • John's Free Concerts • Coffee Nest
- 4 CAPS Report
- 5 39th Ward Report
- 6 News and Events from Carlson Community Services
- 7 News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 8 Neighborhood Church News
- 9 Trolley Tour & Homebuyer Fair
- 10 Neighborhood School News
- 11 IPAC Events
- 12 Filament Theater Presents "Fog Island"
- 15 **Special Pull-Out Page: Safer Neighborhood Tips**

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Sept. 15 • 7:00 p.m.

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

Wed., Sept. 16 • 7:30 p.m.

CAPS Meeting Beats 1722 & 1723
4650 N Pulaski, Community Room

Fri., Sept. 18 • 7:30 pm

Chicago Gay Men's Chorus
St. John's Episcopal Ch., 3857 N. Kostner

Sat., Sept. 26 •

Paddy Mac's Block Party & Pig Roast
Paddy Mac's, 4157 N. Pulaski

Sun., Sept. 27 • 2:00 pm

IPFAC Presents Christopher Richard
IP Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 3 & 4 • 2 pm, 5 pm

Circus at Independence Park

Sun., Oct. 18 • 3:00 pm

Music 803 plays Lester & Schubert
St. John's Episcopal Ch., 3857 N. Kostner

Tues., Oct. 20 • 7:00 p.m.

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

Wed., Oct. 21 • 7:30 p.m.

CAPS Meeting Beats 1722 & 1723
4650 N Pulaski, Community Room

Fri., Oct. 23 • 7:00 p.m.

Carlson's Trivia Night
IP Lutheran Church Gym
4057 N. Harding

Sun., Oct. 25 • 3-5 p.m.

Beer & Wine Tasting / Silent Auction
Benefit for Irving Park Food Pantry
Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St.

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

Call for Artists for Maker's Mart

St. John's Episcopal Church Second Annual Arts Festival seeks artists and artisans to sell their works on Saturday, October 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. during our St. John's Maker's Mart at St. John's Episcopal Church. All items must be handmade or made of recycled materials in the category of Art, Food, Crafts/Toys/Home Goods. Artists can also offer an Interactive Maker Activity.

Contact Susan Boeman at boemanation@att.net or call 312-307-2679 for the application. If you would like to offer an interactive class, please include the project you intend to teach, appropriate age range, cost of workshop, and what participants will make. There is no application or display fee, but artists will be asked to contribute 10% of sales to St. John's. A limited number of artists will be accepted depending on available space. The application is due to Susan Boeman, curator, by Tuesday, September 8 at boemanation@att.net. The church is located on Chicago's northwest side, on the corner of Byron and Kostner.

St. John's Concert Series Presents Two Free Fall Concerts

Chicago Gay Men's Chorus, Friday, September 18 at 7:30 pm. Are you a good boy or a bad boy? Are you a saint or a sinner? Following up on last season's fabulous "Some Like It Hot: Disney Edition Cabaret," members of the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus brings you our summer cabaret, "Saints & Sinners." A night filled with pop, Broadway, standards, and performances that are sure to put a shine on your halo or sharpen up your devil's horns. A cast of 18 singers from the chorus will perform.

Music 803 plays Lester and Schubert, Sunday, October 18 at 3:00 pm. Enjoy an afternoon of William Lester's Quintet for Strings (At Thumbby Court) and Franz Schubert's Piano Quintet (The Trout) performed by members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra: Rachel Goldstein, violin, Susan Synnestvedt, violin, Wei-Ting Kuo, viola, Gary Stucka, cello and Lester's grandson, Stephen Lester, bass. Mio Nakamura will join on piano. William Lester was a longtime composer and church organist in Chicago. All concerts are free and open to the public. St. John's Episcopal Church is located at 3857 N. Kostner.

The Nest Pop Up Coffee Shop at St. John's

The Nest is a new pop up coffee shop serving free coffee and pastries (donations welcome) every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8-10 am in our garden on nice days, or inside the front door at 3857 N. Kostner. You can sit and relax or take it to go. Stop by and try it out!

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor

How's the Real Estate Market?

Hi Neighbors,

The summer real estate market in West Walker has been good! You may have noticed a few more homes for sale in our neighborhood. Although there are more for sale than last year, homes are selling more quickly and at a higher price! Here is a quick recap:

- **Single family homes:** 7 single family homes sold in West Walker in the last month. The average sale price was \$376,000 up from \$348,000 in August of last year. That's an 8% increase. The average time to sell was only 33 days. There are 8 homes under contract with an average asking price of \$443,000. And another 12 homes for sale with an average asking price of \$402,000.
- **Multi-family homes:** 3 sold in the last 3 months at an average sale price of \$368,000. They sold on average in 28 days. There are 2 more under contract at an average asking price of \$259,000. And 5 multi-units for sale in West Walker with an average asking price of \$543,000.
- **Condos:** 7 two bedroom condos sold in West Walker in the last 3 months at an average sale price of \$195,000. That's a 27% increase compared to last year!

The Fall real estate market shows no sign of slowing down. So if you, or anyone you know, is thinking of buying or selling, please call me for a free consultation.

Call Dorie, your Neighborhood Realtor 847-989-4870

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CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723, August 19, 2015

by Liz Mills, CAPS Coordinator

In response to several daytime shootings in and around the West Walker area, the West Walker Civic Association leadership and several residents are taking action to improve communication about crime to the police and our community. The first step is to resume monthly CAPS meeting reports in the West Walker Wire. Watch for additional efforts in upcoming issues of the Wire and e-mail blasts. Please see page 14 for tips on calling 911 and ideas for how to keep our neighborhood safe.

August 17th Civic Association Meeting with Commander Voulgaris

Seventeenth District Commander Elias Voulgaris was introduced at a meeting of civic leaders sponsored by Alderman Laurino (39th) on August 17th. Commander Voulgaris is a 30 year veteran of the CPD who came to the 17th District from the 19th District in Wrigleyville. Commander Voulgaris described himself as a no nonsense guy whose first priority in the 17th District is stemming gang activity. His second priority is to attend

to quality of life issues – trespassing, drinking in the public parkway, public urination – small things that affect residents’ enjoyment of their neighborhood. He wants greater interaction between his officers and residents. He will organize outdoor roll calls and encourages positive loitering events. He has directed patrol cars to get off the main streets and patrol side streets and alleys where crimes more frequently take place. Let the CAPS office know of upcoming block parties and they’ll request to have Beat officers stop by.

Although overall crime is down in the 17th District, Commander Voulgaris is acutely aware of the increase in shootings in West Walker and the surrounding areas. Residents are encouraged to attend CAPS meeting to share their concerns.

Beat 1722 & 1723 CAPS Meeting, August 19th

Reported by Helen Lira

Present: Beat facilitators, 2 Beat officers (1723), Commander Voulgaris, Alderman Carlos Rosa (35th Ward), Alderman Laurino (39th Ward)

KEY ARRESTS: Commander Voulgaris talked about the arrest of two suspects in the 3500 Belle Plaine shooting

continued on page 5

JUST SOLD!



4115 N. Springfield

“As the realtor who handled the recent sale of our house, Dorie provided us with the perfect combination of professionalism and personal support and encouragement. Her knowledge of the market and the neighborhood is top notch. She guided us through any minor glitches and was just a phone call away at any time. We would recommend Dorie Westmeyer to anyone looking to sell (or buy) a home, particularly in the Irving Park area.”

— Jim & Judy Cicero

Thinking of buying or selling? Call for a free consultation!

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Your Neighborhood Realtor

Dorie Westmeyer
Broker, MBA, ADPR

39th Ward Report



I HOPE THIS UPDATE FINDS you having enjoyed your summer. It has certainly been a lively couple months in the 39th Ward and the entire City of Chicago. From neighborhood street festivals and block parties to summer concerts and Movies in the Park, residents have had no shortage of ways to

enjoy the nice weather and experience all that our great communities have to offer. Here's some exciting news about changes in your own neighborhood.

New Police Commander I am happy to welcome Elias Voulgaris, our new Commander in the 17th Police District. Commander Voulgaris is a 30-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department with a wealth of knowledge on how to keep our neighborhood streets some of the safest in the city. Commander Voulgaris has proven to be accesible and eager to work closely with residents.

Removal of Two Red Light Cameras Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) has determined that two intersections (Montrose/Pulaski & Foster/Elston) have become safe enough for motorists and pedestrians to warrant the removal of two red light cameras. I support this decision and I urge CDOT to continue deactivating these automated traffic devices as circumstances warrant.

Gang Members Apprehended On August 17th, Chicago Police arrested two members of the Simon City Royals for their alleged involvement in the shooting of a former gang member along the 3500 block of West Belle Plaine. While we welcome this good news, it is important for residents to keep their eyes open and call 911 to report suspicious activity. I commend Commander Voulgaris and the entire 17th District for their quick action.

Thai Town is Here! Thai Town (4461 N. Pulaski, in the former 17th Police District), is a new, world-class Thai restaurant owned and operated by internationally renowned Chef Arun. In addition to serving the best Thai food, Thai Town will also function as a local community center. I'm thrilled to welcome this newest addition to our ever-growing community. Stop in and see for yourself why everyone is talking about this great new restaurant!

As always, we are available to assist you, your family, or business. Please contact us at 773-736-5594 or email ward39@cityofchicago.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

continued from page 4

on August 17th. Suspects were apprehended by police officers and a gang tactical unit as they tried to escape. Both are documented gang members (Simon City Royals). The Commander stated this was an internal gang issue. Bail was denied both suspects. Of the last four shootings in area, three involved the Simon City Royals.

The Commander stressed how important it is for community members to alert police (911) about suspicious individuals and actions in the neighborhood. Report suspicious individuals or shots fired, even if you're not sure if it's fireworks. If you are not satisfied with the response of the call taker, ask to speak to a supervisor. Alert your neighbors to call 911 also. The more the police are alerted to illegal activities or suspicion of, the more arrests there will be and guns taken off the street. Example: community members called 911 about suspicious individuals/activity in Jensen Park (4600 Lawndale). Police responded and found a gun.

PROBLEM BUILDINGS: (*Homes, buildings or stores where criminal or nuisance activity occurs.*)

4300 Ridgeway: Apartment Building where shooting occurred. Alderman Rosa reported that he has met with the landlord and the problem tenants are being evicted. Rosa said the landlord has been outside cleaning up around apartment and seems committed to handling issues. **4032 Hamlin:** A documented gang member implicated in the 4400 Kedzie shooting was was founding hiding in this house three weeks ago and was and arrested. **ACTIONS:** There was an Outdoor Roll Call held at 3500 Belle Plaine (site of the shooting) on Friday, August 21 at 7pm. It was well attended by the community. Seventeenth District Police Commander Voulgaris was present as well as Alderman Rosa.

As always, call 911 to report suspicious activity or individuals in your neighborhood and provide detailed descriptions of the individuals and vehicles involved in any incident. Even if a neighbor has already reported the incident or activity, other neighbors should make separate calls. The police often look at the number of calls for service in determining the allocation of officers and resources with respect to a particular situation or incident. 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 7:30 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 16, 2015. Please contact me at lizmills@sbcglobal.net if there are issues that you would like addressed at the CAPS meeting.

News and Events from Carlson Community Services



Carlson
Community
Services is a
501(c)(3) non-
profit connecting

the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service.

Save the Date!
Carlson's Trivia Night
Friday, October 23rd, 7:00 p.m.



Baritone Christopher Richard will open the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's Season with a solo recital on Sunday, September 27th at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Baritone Christopher Richard, Sunday, September 27, 2:00 p.m.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee kicks off its 21st season with a voice recital by baritone Christopher Richard on Sunday, September 27th. The recital will feature classic repertoire from composers Ralph Vaughan Williams and Maurice Ravel as well as music theater and popular songs. Richard will be accompanied

by Roger Bingaman on piano. The concert will be held at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Admission to the concert is free, though free will donations will be accepted. A reception with the artists follows the concert.

Christopher Richard holds degrees from Butler University and the University of Southern California. He has performed with DuPage Opera Theatre, Bowen Park Opera, Light Opera Works and Drury Lane Oakbrook. He

has appeared with Sarasota Opera, Indianapolis Opera, the Aspen Music Festival Opera, Brevard Music Center, the Mexico National Chamber Orchestra, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra and the New World Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Richard teaches private voice lessons at Oak Park & River Forest High School and is Music Director for Chicago Opera Theater for Teens and Light Opera Works Youth Programs.

Other concerts in the Fine Arts series are a Christmas concert on December 6th at 2:00 p.m., a winter piano concert (date TBD) and a concert by jazz vocalist Frieda Lee on Saturday, April 16th. The concert featuring Lee, a celebrated Chicago jazz artist, will be a fundraiser for Carlson Community Services, which sponsors the Irving Park Fine Arts concert series.

Three Brothers Garden Update

Although the start of the season was wet and cool, hot and sunny weather in July and August has produced a bounty of vegetables at Three Brothers Garden. Through the end of August, nearly 500 lbs. of vegetables have been donated



Two sets of three sisters helped harvest at Three Brothers Garden this summer, prompting the organizers to consider a name change to Three Sisters Garden!

to clients at Irving Park Food Pantry – and we're still growing and harvesting! We've averaged 10 volunteers at each harvest, including high school students through Schurz High School's BuildOn intern and mentoring program. Volunteers have been led by our summer intern, Alexandra Madsen, a sophomore at St. Olaf College.

Also this summer, volunteers from Three Brothers Garden were pleased to help build an herb garden for Food Pantry clients at Irving Park United Methodist Church, which houses the Pantry. One of the missions of Three Brothers Garden is to encourage the establishment of other community gardens.

Three Brothers Garden is located at 4107 N. Pulaski and is a program of Carlson Community Services. The committee that oversees the garden work is headed by Rebecca Haneberg and Ruth Olech. All vegetables grown in the garden are donated to Irving Park Food Pantry clients. Harvests take place every Tuesday night from 5-7 pm, weather permitting. Join us! For more information, contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766.

Dorsi Thillens Finnegan

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News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

Pantry Beer & Wine Tasting October 25th

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry will hold its second annual Beer & Wine-Tasting event from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 25th at Abbey Pub (3420 W. Grace St.). Tickets are \$40 apiece, with funds used to aid our food-purchasing budget.

A variety of wines from around the world will be available, as well as craft beers from Chicago and other locations. In case you were wondering, there is no Bears game that day. To order tickets, call 773-283-6296 or order online at www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.

Pantry to Distribute Winter Coats in October

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry will be distributing winter coats to our clients in October, so please check your closets for any gently used coats that you can do without and bring them to the Pantry. They can be left with food donations at the bottom of the stairs at the Grace Street Entrance at the Irving Park United Methodist Church or delivered on Wednesday mornings during the Pantry's operating hours (9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.). All sizes and shapes of heavier coats for winter, for children and adults, are needed.

New Herb Garden Dedicated

Thank you to everyone who attended the dedication of our new herb garden near our entry door at Irving Park United Methodist Church on July 25. It was a beautiful day and we appreciate the turnout at our festivities to introduce the garden. We thank everyone who contributed time, money and effort to install the garden and get it off to a good start. Thank you to all of our special guests, including State Representative Jaime Andrade, Alderman John Arena and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Frank Avila, as well as representatives from community groups that have supported our efforts.

The garden has been planted with a variety of herbs this year, with the intent to expand to plant vegetables (lettuces, radishes, tomatoes, etc.) next year in the first full growing season. Each of the boxes of herbs is being offered for "adoption," allowing different groups to help care for it, weeding and seeding the herbs. Adopters to date include Irving Park Hispana United Methodist Church (cilantro), Irving Park United Methodist Church Youth (rosemary) and Carlson Community Services - Three Brothers Garden (basil).



The ribbon-cutting for the Pantry's new herb garden in late July included a number of dignitaries, including (l-r, starting fourth from left): State Representative Jaime Andrade, Alderman John Arena, Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis, former United Methodist Church Pastor and current Irving Park United Methodist Church member Lowell Allen, Irving Park Baptist Church Pastor Samuel Cocar and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Frank Avila. Photo: Craig Shutt

Other boxes are still available to adopt. We also are looking for donations to help us obtain an arbor, a secondary bench and security lights. If you are interested in adopting a box or helping with these needs, please contact Vicci Rodgers at viccirodgers@gmail.com.

In August, we began harvesting and distributing fresh basil, rosemary and thyme from the plants recently installed. About 25 small bags of herbs were distributed to clients within minutes of being picked. Thank you to Mimi Nguyen, who harvested the herbs and will continue to do so on a weekly basis this summer.

The clients were quite surprised and excited to receive them. One intended to make a rosemary chicken, while another mentioned making spaghetti sauce. We are pleased we can make use of the garden already and have it be so well received! Please stop by whenever you are walking by Keeler and see how well our volunteers' efforts have paid off. Thanks also to the FDC Foundation for its grant money and support to help make the garden a reality.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who have helped to make this new service a success and hope we can continue to see this program grow so we can serve even more households.

Irving Park Lutheran Church Wants Bell-Ringers!

Always wanted to join a bell choir? Beginners Welcome! Join us at Irving Park Lutheran Church at Harding and Belle Plaine (near Irving Park Road and Pulaski). Practice with us a few times (Wednesdays at 7 pm, 9/9 and 9/30) before the first performance Sunday, October 4th at the 10:30 am service. Then practice again two times (Wednesdays at 7pm, 11/11, 11/18) to perform again on November 22nd. No cost to you. You do not have to be a church member. You do not need formal musical training. You just need to be able to count. Make beautiful music with a great group of people! For more information, call 773-267-1666 or stop in the church office.

Parade Around the Block, Sunday September 13th at 9:15-10:15 am with Irving Park Lutheran Church. All ages are welcome for a potluck brunch at 9:15 in Fellowship Hall, where we'll be making friendship bracelets! Then we walk up and down the 4000 block of Harding, and take a picture on the church steps. Join us, or come out and wave at us! Worship is at 10:30 am.

Sing with Us Join Chancel Choir at Irving Park Lutheran Church! Enjoy fine music, beautiful worship, and be part

of a great group of people. The rehearsal schedule is designed to accommodate busy lives and encourage drop-ins; come whenever you can—you don't even need to sit with the choir during church! Our rehearsal schedule includes: Special Summer Wednesday evening, 9/9 at 8 pm. After that, every Sunday at 9:30 am (except 2nd Sundays) and one Wednesday per month (after the 2nd Sunday) at 8 pm.

Inquiry & Information Sessions Saturday 9/19 and/or Monday 9/28 Why Christian? Why Lutheran? Why Irving Park Lutheran Church? Why Me? If you are interested in learning more about and/or joining our church, join us for a casual but meaningful hour of conversation. Bring your questions, and bring your friends: Saturday September 19, 10-11 am and/or Monday September 28, 7-8 pm. Let Pastor Bouman know you are coming: erinbouman@sbcglobal.net or 773-267-1666.

News from Irving Park United Methodist Church

Fall Back to Basics!

Does life seem way too complicated? This fall, we are offering opportunities for getting back to basics that make sense in several areas of life: faith on Sundays at 10 am,



DO YOU KNOW ABOUT OTHER RECENT ACTIVITY IN YOUR AREA? I DO!

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- 4039 N. Springfield
- 3572 N. Kolmar
- 4634 N. Kostner
- 4111 N. Eddy
- 4126 N. Keystone
- 3721 W. Byron #3

If you are considering selling or buying a home in the area, contact the Realtor who really knows the neighborhood...and lives here too! Call me for a property consultation today!



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Money on Wednesdays at 7 pm with Financial Peace University, and Health (TBA). Email irvingparkumc@comcast.net for more information. We will also be offering some special events for singles, seniors and families this fall that will incorporate these ideas.

Putting First Things First for Families Sunday, September 27 at 6 pm. This is a family-focused event with conversation, interactive activities, and a potluck supper to help families covenant together around what is more important to them.

Youth Program We will be kicking off the program year with Back to School dodgeball at Sky High on Friday, September 18th. The 5th through 8th grade group will gather regularly on the fourth Sunday of the month at 11:30 am at the church and our 8th through 12th graders will meet on the first Sundays of the month at 6 pm at our program minister's home. In addition to our regular meetings, we have a combination of service and volunteer opportunities in addition to fun events. All young people are invited to join us for an exciting program year!

Children's Ministries Our new Deep Blue curriculum for children PreK to 5th grade starts September 6. All children are welcome! Make plans now to join us for worship on Sundays at 10 am beginning September 13.

Broadway Show Our Broadway show will be performed in December. Rehearsals begin in October on Mondays from 4:30-6 pm. Watch for more details coming soon!

Trolley Tour and Homebuyer Fair Attracts Potential Buyers to Belmont Cragin

For the second year in a row, the Northwest Side Housing Center and Spanish Coalition for Housing partnered to host a First Time Homebuyer Fair. This year's event was held at Blackhawk Park in the Belmont Cragin neighborhood and gave potential homebuyers the chance to speak with banks, lenders and real estate brokers about the home buying process and how to access resources such as down payment assistance and low-interest loans. The highlight of the fair was free trolley rides for attendees to visit four homes for sale in the Belmont Cragin neighborhood.

Thank you to Spanish Coalition for Housing for co-hosting and all of the banks, lenders, real estate brokers and other vendors for making the event a success! To become a First-Time Homebuyer yourself, join us for our next series of classes starting September 12. Please email Julio Rodriguez at jrodriguez@nwshc.org to sign up.

the Cabin at Old Irving

A neighborhood tavern



Visit our website and register for [The Cabin Club](#) to receive periodic updates on Special Events and Specials.

Also be sure to Like Us on Facebook to always get the latest on what's happening at The Cabin!

We hope to see you soon!

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**Farmers Market
 Garden Center**

4110 North Elston, Chicago, Illinois 60618

www.gardenchicago.com



**St. Edward
 School**

Thanks to the generous financial support of our parents and the parish, all St. Edward classrooms now have air conditioning.

Also, our gym has been updated with new mats.

Athletics are back! Bitty Basketball is offered for students in pre-k through 3rd grade on Sundays. Kids learn basketball basics, and compete in games against each other.

Rehearsals for "Shrek: The Musical" are in full swing. We are thrilled to continue our partnership with Youth Company Chicago, part of Windy City Theatre Company. Students in grades 1-8 participate in weekly rehearsals, learning about all that goes into a theater production. Look for more information about performances in early January.

Save the Dates! Saturday, October 3 is St. Edward's Homecoming Parade, Junior Varsity and Varsity Games, followed by Homecoming Family Dance in Buckley Hall. Saturday, October 17 is Science Spooktacular, 6-8 pm in Buckley Hall. Saturday, October 24 is Oktoberfest, from 2-11 pm in the St. Edward parking lot. Prospective Family Pre-K

**ALDERMAN JOHN
 ARENA**

45

Join us for Ward Night
 Tuesday evenings from 5-7PM

Contact the 45th Ward Office

4754 N. Milwaukee Ave. • Chicago, IL 60630
 Phone: 773-286-4545 ward45@cityofchicago.org
 www.ward45.org

Paddy Mac's
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- Wednesday: Rib Special \$7.25 Half/\$12.50 Full Slab
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and Kindergarten Open House is Wednesday, October 28 from 5:30 to 7 pm in Buckley Hall. St. Edward School is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information, call 773-736-9133, or visit stedwardschool.com.

CICS-Irving Park School

Ring, Ring Goes the Bell! Our 536 students began the new school year on August 24th. CICS Irving Park is part of the Distinctive Schools network of high-performing charter schools. Last Spring, our school was awarded a \$30,000 Breakthrough Schools NGLC grant, which set the stage for a personal learning redesign of the school. The grant will support teachers in fusing best practice teaching strategies and technology-enhanced learning to ensure greater student growth. Please visit our updated website at www.cicsirvingpark.org.

First PTO Meeting The Puma PTO invites all to join us at our first meeting Thursday, September 24th at 6 pm where you can share your thoughts and concerns. Afterwards, join us for a social hour at Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St.

Proven Results There is compelling evidence across a range of measures that Distinctive Schools campuses are preparing students well to succeed in high school, putting them on a strong path for success in college, careers and life. In the Spring of 2015, 36% of Distinctive Schools 8th graders were accepted to Chicago's most competitive high schools.

Independence Park Advisory Council Events

Independence Park BEER Fest Come to the tennis courts at Independence Park on **Saturday, September 19th from 4-8 pm** and enjoy over 15 local craft beers, unique food trucks, and support your local park! Tickets on sale now! Visit independenceparkchicago.com/2015-independence-park-beer-fest/.

The Circus is Coming! Saturday, October 3, 2 pm & 5 pm and Sunday, October 4, 2 pm & 5 pm. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$15 ages 2-18 or \$14 for groups of 20 or more. Proceeds from ticket sales are split between all participating parks and will directly benefit a new playground at Independence Park. Our goal is to sell out all shows! Can't make it to the shows at Independence Park? Support our fundraising efforts by attending Circus In Parks at another location. "LIKE" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ipacchicago or visit our webpage at independenceparkchicago.com to stay updated about IPAC events. Buy your tickets today before they sell out at www.midnightcircus.net/.

DRUM and PERCUSSION LESSONS

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Monday to Saturday 10-6
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...If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

2 Corin 5:17

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

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Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594
Ward39@cityofchicago.org



City Hall, Room 300
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 744-7242



Filament Presents World Premier of "Fog Island"

Filament Theatre announces the world premiere of Tomi Ungerer's *Fog Island* adapted by Chicago playwright Emily Dendinger with original music by Tim McNulty. This award-winning children's book by internationally renowned author Tomi Ungerer has been developed for the stage in partnership with the Filament Acting Company and Artistic Director Julie Ritchey. Performances for this folkloric ghost story begin September 25th and run through November 1st at Filament Theatre (4041 N. Milwaukee).

When the fog refuses to lift from their sleepy Irish fishing village, siblings Cara and Finn must take matters into their own hands. The children take to the sea, only to find themselves washed ashore on the mysterious and dangerous Fog Island. This spooky adventure story asks what it means to grow up and face your fears. Filament's adaptation will be enjoyed most by everyone ages six and up. Runs September 25 through November 1st, Fridays at 7:30 pm, Saturdays at 3 pm and 7:30 pm and Sunday at 3 pm. Tickets are \$14-\$20 and go on sale September 1st at filamenttheatre.org. Email boxoffice@filamenttheatre.org or call 773-270-1660.

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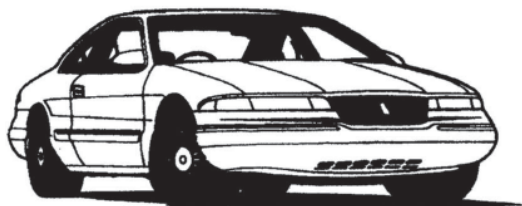
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Cut here and hang it on your fridge!

Tips From 17th District CAPS for Making our Neighborhood Safer

While this list is not all inclusive, it may help you find projects that are the right fit for your issues. Always remember to include your local police in projects to address criminal activity in order to increase your chances of successfully addressing the problem.

Conduct a neighborhood canvass

The purpose of the canvass is to identify not only issues around your block that may need to be addressed, but also to identify resources, such as businesses, libraries, parks and community organizations, that can help your block club implement projects. When canvassing the area around your block, also talk to other residents to find out if there are other block clubs in the area that may be interested in doing joint projects. Gather resident's names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses to form phone/text trees.

Organize a neighborhood clean-up

Criminals are attracted to neighborhoods that appear dirty or unkempt. Regular clean-ups will deter criminal activity by bringing people out and visible on the street. The City, through the Clean and Green program, can loan your block club tools throughout the year to help you keep your block looking good. You can also use this as a way to meet all the neighbors on your block and get them involved.

Organize an alley numbering project

Alley numbers help speed response from police, fire and paramedics who under certain circumstances may need to respond through the alley. Alley numbers may be provided to groups by your local police district through a grant provided by the Allstate Foundation.

Establish a phone tree

A phone tree can provide a means for neighbors to first call 911 to request the police when a crime occurs and to then communicate among themselves. A phone tree lists residents according to their address and can be a rapid communication and reporting system for the block club.

Work on problem buildings

One bad building can ruin a whole block; one bad store can ruin a whole neighborhood, but you and your neighbors can help make a real difference when it comes to problem buildings. By working with police and other City Departments, you can help hold landlords or store owners accountable for criminal or nuisance activity that may be occurring on their property.

Start or participate in a neighborhood garden

Beautification efforts make the neighborhood more pleasing for everyone and, again, are a deterrent to crime. Gardens could be planted on vacant lots, in the parkway or in traffic circles. You might also consider a vegetable garden, allowing all the neighbors to share the fresh produce throughout the summer. Don't forget—recruit young people in your neighborhood to help maintain and care for the garden. The City can provide training and assistance to groups who want to start a garden through the Greencorps program. Three Brothers Garden at 4107 N. Pulaski is also a resource and welcomes volunteers at its harvests every Tuesday from May to October.

Become a Court Advocate

Often criminals go free because victims and witnesses are afraid to go to court. By volunteering with your Police District's court advocacy group, you can provide vital support to victims and witnesses. Attending court or administrative hearing proceedings also shows judges that the community is concerned about an issue and visibly demonstrates the impact crime has on you and your neighbors.

Celebrate

Block parties are a Chicago tradition throughout the summer, but you don't have to confine your celebrations to just one day. Smaller events can be easily organized throughout the year. Keep these tips in mind when requesting emergency police, fire or medical services:

Tips for Callers to Chicago's Emergency Communications Center (9-1-1)

17th District Chicago Police Department

4650 N. Pulaski / 312-742-4410

FACEBOOK PAGE: CAPS-017th District-Albany Park

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Commander Elias Voulgaris,

Elias.voulgaris@chicagopolice.org

CAPS Sgt. Anderson, 312-742-4588,

CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org

Beat 1722 & 1723 CAPS Meeting (West Walker is Beat 1723) is the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the 17th District Community Room.

- When placing a call to 9-1-1, if you encounter an extended ring cycle, do not hang up and redial unless the ring lasts more than a few minutes. You will only delay your access.
- In most instances, calls will be answered before the caller even hears a ring. However, under some circumstances, heavy call volumes will occur and extensive rings can happen. If all call takers are busy, calls are held in the order in which they are received and are distributed to call takers in that order as soon as they become available.
- When providing information about an incident, be as descriptive as possible. You will be asked to give identifying information about any persons or automobiles involved in the situation. The more information you can provide, the more information dispatchers will be able to relay to responding police units.
- **If you do not want your name given to responding police units, be sure to inform the call taker. There is a box that the call taker will activate so that you will remain anonymous.** The only way for this to be deactivated is with your approval upon contact by a supervisor.
- Calls for police service are dispatched on a priority basis. Any situation that represents an immediate threat to life, bodily injury or major property damage or loss is a high-priority dispatch. These calls are to be dispatched within 10 minutes.
- Incidents where there is no immediate threat to life; no one was injured in the incident; the incident is not in progress; the offender is not in the immediate area, and the incident does not involve a major loss or damage of property are of a lower priority. These calls are to be dispatched within one hour. If your call is not a high priority, as defined above, you will be informed that a unit will be sent when available.
- Use the police non-emergency number 3-1-1 when a personal police response will not affect the outcome of an incident. By using the non-emergency number, you will help ensure the availability of adequate resources for emergency situations.
- When calling for emergency medical services and the nearest ambulance is more than 18 blocks away, a fire engine or truck will be sent prior to the arrival of the ambulance. Members of the fire suppression company are all trained in basic life support techniques and can administer emergency care until the arrival of paramedics.
- Ambulance service is provided only in real emergencies -- situations that cannot wait. Minor illnesses and routine transfers to medical facilities are referred to private ambulance services. The City does charge a fee for ambulance service; however, no one will be denied service because of inability to pay.

NOTE: 17th District Commander Voulgaris has advised 9-1-1 callers to request to speak to a supervisor if they are unsatisfied with the 9-1-1 call taker's response. The Commander emphasized that it is important to call 9-1-1 whenever a resident sees suspicious activity. The more calls made by neighbors, the higher the priority given the incident.



WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA!
A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of September, 2015 appears below.

Carol Barry
 Ursala & Richard Berger
 Beverly Birch
 Philip & Roberta Bole
 Al Cerkan & Patricia Ruch
 Dale & Conni Heminover
 Daniel Kaminski
 Mike & Doreen Kolasinski
 Alvin Jung
 Brad & Anna Lassila
 Catherine Lawler
 Helen Lira
 Renate Lux
 Kevin & Wanda McDonald
 Naomi Miyamoto

Sean & Karen Murray
 James & Hannah Naisbitt
 Chris Newman & Melanie Nelson
 Christopher Novak
 Susan Pyne
 Joel Reese & Jeanne Pozy
 Jesus Romo
 Sarah Steedman & Christopher Bushell
 Fran Strulovitch
 Jeffrey & Linda Tsuhara
 Tom & Nancy Walker
 Mike Webber
 Dorie & Mel Westmeyer
 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 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 2015-2016 dues to our next WWCA meeting on September 15! Or mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016

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: Sue Gregoire, 4106 N Springfield, Chicago, IL 60618



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- Family Wednesdays
- Ten Buck Tuesdays



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