



WEST WALKER WIRE

JANUARY 2016

www.westwalker.org

Save the Date!

for the West Walker Winter Social

Saturday, February 27th, 2016
at Independence Tap
3932 W. Irving Park Road, 7 to 10 pm
More details to follow!

Help Save the West Walker Garage Sale

2016 will bring the 31st Annual WWCA Garage Sale on May 14. We need one or two volunteers to step in to continue the wonderful organization that Bob and Kevin Crowley and Melanie Reschke have brought to this event for years. Bob is available to mentor a new Garage Sale volunteer and provide a blueprint for a smooth, successful event. This has been a highlight of the neighborhood, and a great tradition worth keeping. Please contact Mike Webber at 773-539-8346 or webber.wwca@gmail.com to volunteer or for more information.

WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor • Hands to Help Ministries
- 3 Tree Recycling • New Independence Library • Wire Submissions
- 4 CAPS Report
- 5 39th Ward Report • News from Irving Park Lutheran Church
- 6 News and Events from Carlson Community Services
- 7 45th Ward Report
- 8 Neighborhood School News
- 9 News from Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 10 News from Irving Park United Methodist Church
- 11 FAFSA Workshop • Vehicle Registration Notices
- 12 Snow Removal Ordinance
- 13 News from Filament Theater

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat., Jan. 16 • 3:00 pm
 FREE FAFSA Workshop
 Northeastern U. Office of Financial Aid,
 3990 N. Avondale

Wed., Jan. 20 • 7:30 pm
 CAPS Meeting Beats 1722 & 1723
 4650 N Pulaski, Community Room

Wed., Jan. 27 • 5:30 - 7:30 pm
 Hands to Help Soup & Bread
 The Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia

Tues., Feb. 9 • 5 - 7:30 pm
 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper,
 IPLC Gym, 4057 N. Harding

Sat., Feb. 13 • Time TBD
 Arts & Hearts Show
 IPUMC, 3801 N. Keeler

Sun., Mar. 6 • 5 - 7 pm
 Carlson Community Services'
 Soup & Bread
 IPLC Gym, 4057 N. Harding

Sat., Apr. 30 • Time TBD
 Fine Arts Concert & Benefit for
 Carlson Community Services
 featuring Frieda Lee Stevenson
 Irving Park Lutheran Church
 4100 N. Harding Ave.

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

Dear Neighbor,

WELCOME TO 2016. I'm sure for many of us, we are glad to see 2015 behind us. May 2016 bring healing, security and comfort to everyone.

I would like to encourage everyone to join us on February 27, 2016 for the West Walker Winter Social, being held again this year at the Independence Tap at 3932 West Irving Park Road, from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. We are dropping the price this year to \$5.00 a person. We are going to forego the hot hors d'oeuvres, but will have plenty of munchies and bar snacks. More information will be in the March Wire.

The neighborhood has seen an increase in crime, particularly home and garage invasion, car theft and robbery. Always keep your homes and cars locked, and be aware of your surroundings when walking outside. Try to walk with another person if possible. Report all suspicious activity and attend CAPS meetings to ensure all necessary information is given to the police.

As noted elsewhere in the Wire, the WWCA is seeking one or two volunteers to assist with the annual Garage Sale. After many, many years, Bob Crowley is ready to hand this event on to another volunteer. I would like to again thank Bob and Kevin Crowley and Melanie Reschke for their invaluable work in making this event a success year after year.

There are no scheduled community meetings until March. Until then, stay warm, stay safe and read the weekly e-mail blasts for updated community information.

Mike Webber
President Pro Tem, West Walker Civic Association

Warm up with Hands to Help Ministries' Soup and Bread on January 27th

Share soup with Hands to Help Ministries on January 27th at the Hideout, 1354 W Wabansia Ave, Chicago from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Hands to Help is excited to be part of the 8th season of Soup and Bread. Each week during the cold winter months, Soup and Bread welcomes hungry guests to share a warm bowl of soup, learn about service organizations in their community, and meet new friends.

Hands to Help is a grassroots organization started with the help of area churches and fellow neighbors in the Portage and Irving Park communities. Our small staff of two plus many volunteers provides resources to neighbors on the brink of homelessness and those who have become homeless. Each year we serve an average of 100 neighbors.

One of the neighbors Hands to Help is currently serving is Sally. She lost her home and was living in the park when she visited Hands to Help's office hours on a Wednesday morning at St. John's Church on Byron and

Continued on page 3

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 over 100 years of service
to the West Walker Community**

2015-2016 OFFICERS

President Pro Tem Mike Webber
773.539.8346

Vice President Pro Tem Davor Engel
dengel@studiodo.com

Secretary Vacant

Treasurer Sue Gregoire

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Dorie Westmeyer

CAPS COORDINATOR

Liz Mills

Send crime concerns to Ed Gardner
at westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com

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Connie Engel

The Gettings

Jim Medd

Mark Pascale

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

Tricia Ramirez & Mike Hawlitzky

Rick & Melanie Reschke

Max & Charlie Webber

Charlie Westmeyer

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*



Christmas Tree Recycling Through January 16

The city asks residents NOT to leave your Christmas trees in the garbage. Instead, Chicago residents can take Christmas trees to one of 24 recycling locations throughout the city. In addition, starting January 11, residents can pick up free mulch at six locations. For drop off and mulch locations, Go to www.goo.gl/kij3ui today!

Campaign For a New Independence Library

Please “like” our Facebook page by searching for “New Independence Library” to stay updated on our progress, see all the press, and learn about how you can help. You can also visit www.aldermancarlosrosa.org/independence and download a blank petition to circulate; or sign the petition online. Do it today! We need a new library!

Submit to the Wire!

The West Walker Wire welcomes ads and articles from all of you! The February issue deadline is January 25th. Please keep contributions down to a 1/2 page of news (approximately 400 words/2,400 characters). Submit to: Lee Samsami Stein, Wire Editor, west_walker_wire@yahoo.com. If you want to place an ad, contact Shannan Bunting at WWire@solsticepr.com. Remember, that you can also post your events on our online community calendar at www.westwalker.org/calendar.html.

Continued from page 2

Kostner. A volunteer assisted her in finding temporary housing and provided her with resources for rent. After her hospitalization for an acute asthma attack, Hands to Help helped her sign up for health insurance to provide her with preventative care and treatment to avoid additional emergency room care. Once her disability claim is processed, Hands to Help will assist her in finding permanent housing.

We look forward to sharing soup with you on January 27th. For more information visit Hands to Help’s website at www.handstohelpministries.org, Facebook, or Twitter (@Handstohelpchgo). No admission, no set charge for your meal, and all proceeds go to Hands to Help. See you soon.

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

What Can We Expect in 2016?

- 1. Home prices are expected to increase 5.2%.** Great news for sellers. Buyers, if you have been waiting to buy a home, now may be a good time.
- 2. Mortgage rates may increase by 3/4% by 4th quarter 2016** according to the Mortgage Bankers Association and Fannie Mae. The Fed also just increased the Federal Funds Rate for the first time since 2006. This can impact future mortgage rates. A \$350,000 loan today costs \$1661 per month. With the 5.2% home price increase, a \$350,000 home now costs \$368,200. Add in the projected mortgage rate increase from today’s current rate of 3.95% to 4.6%. That same home mortgage will cost \$1888 per month. \$227 per month more!
- 3. The market is more stable.** The number of distressed sales are decreasing and single family new construction is increasing.
- 4. Generational shifts will make 2016 a good year to sell.** Millenials (age 25-34) will continue to buy their first home. Gen Xers and older Baby Boomers will be buyers and sellers. Gen Xers will be upgrading and older Baby Boomers will be thinking about retiring.
- 5. Rents are increasing more than home prices.** It is more affordable to buy in 3/4 of the US.

I want to wish you a very Happy & Healthy New Year!

If you, or someone you know, is looking to buy or thinking of selling, **please call me for a free consultation.** I’ve lived here for 20 years. I love our neighborhood and I know the Chicago market.

Sources: Chief Economist Jonathan Smoke Realtor.com; Core Logic; Wells Fargo

**Call Dorie, your Neighborhood Realtor
847-989-4870**

Dorie Westmeyer
CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY
 Your Home. Your Future. Our Experience.

Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com www.DorieWestmeyer.com

CAPS Report

Beat 1722 & 1723 CAPS Meeting December 16, 2015

Present: Beat facilitators Carla Elliott, Heather Aitken from Beat 1732, 2 Beat officers CAPS Officer Maryjane Parks and CAPS Sgt. Michael Anderson, Ald. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa (35), Ald. Deb Mell (33), Representative Jaime Andrade (40th Dist.), Representative from the office of Ald. Margaret Laurino (39).

The meeting began with a presentation by an officer from the 911 Call Center. The officer explained that when calls come in to the center there are three priorities:

1. Crimes against people that involve threats to life such as shots fired or battery.
2. Imminent threat to people such as gang members loitering, suspicious occupants of a car or major property damage.
3. Disturbances such as dog barking, illegally parked vehicles, noise complaints.

Calls are answered in that priority. If you make a call to 911 and request the police, you should get a visit from

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.

an officer, but if it's a lower priority, you may not see the officer for several hours. The 911 call taker is instructed to ask specific questions about the description of person's involved or vehicles. The officer made a point to say that they are not doing this to delay a response, but they need to get critical descriptive information. When calling 911, you may ask to remain anonymous, but you should say this at the start of the call. The only time a call taker will ask if you wish to remain anonymous is if the call is in response to gang activity or narcotics.

Continued on page 13

SOLD!



4904 W. Byron

“Dorie is a pleasure to work with. Knowledgeable, professional, caring and nurturing through this home buying experience. As a woman purchasing a home by myself it could have been a dreadful experience. Thanks to Dorie, I would do it again.”

— *Jasmin Colton*

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

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Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com 847-989-4870 www.DorieWestmeyer.com

Your Neighborhood Realtor

39th Ward Report



I HOPE EVERYONE in the West Walker community had a very Happy Holiday Season. After the celebrations are over, you can recycle your Christmas tree at North Park Village, 5801 N. Pulaski, from January 2 – January 16. The trees will be chipped and made into mulch, which will be available for residents

free of charge, while supplies last, starting on January 11. Please remove all ornaments and lights before dropping off your tree. Decorations, tree lights, wreaths, garlands or household recyclable materials will not be accepted.

The city's Shared Cost Sidewalk Program is an extremely popular program in which homeowners share the cost of sidewalk repair with the City. Thousands of Chicagoans have been a part of this program, taking advantage of the low cost, exceptional value and ease of participation. Senior citizens and those with disabilities may qualify for a further discounted rate. CDOT will open the 2016 program at midnight, on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Applicants can begin calling 311 or accessing the city's service request website <http://www.cityofchicago.org/311> as soon as the program opens. Participation will proceed on a first-come, first-served basis. The program typically reaches capacity quickly, so you are encouraged to apply early. Please note that if you applied for the program in previous years, you must apply again in 2016.

If you live in a condominium building, the deadline to apply for a condominium refuse rebate for costs incurred in 2015 is quickly approaching. Applications for the rebate must be submitted to our 39th Ward office no later than Friday, January 8, 2016. Your Property Management Company or Condominium Association may submit one application. Please do not delay. Application forms and additional information are available at the Committee on Finance website at <http://www.committeefinance.org/condo/index.asp>. If you have any questions about the Refuse Rebate program, please contact my City Hall staff at 312-744-7242.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact my public service office at (773) 736-5594 or email us at ward39@cityofchicago.org. You can also register for my e-newsletter on the upper right of my website, www.AldermanLaurino.com, or send us an email at Ward39@cityofchicago.org.

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward



Irving Park Lutheran Church's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & Bake Sale is February 9

Join us Tuesday, February 9th from 5 pm to 7:30 pm. at the IPLC Gymnasium on 4057 N. Harding. As always, we'll be serving delicious Swedish & regular pancakes, lingonberries, apple topping, and sausages, along with orange juice, coffee and you can finish off by purchasing a sweet from our bake sale table. This is IPLC's primary fundraiser for the Magic Mushroom Summer Program, which is in it's 41st year! Registrations for the 2015 Magic Mushroom Summer Program will be accepted at the supper. This year, Magic Mushroom is making some big changes - wonderful changes! Visit us on Facebook (Irving Park Lutheran Church), Twitter (@IrvingParkLC) and future Wire newsletters to stay updated on the latest! For supper tickets, or questions about Magic Mushroom, call 773-267-1666!

Conversational & Relational Trainings in January - How to do a "1 to 1"

Learn about having conversation that matter! Irving Park Lutheran Church invites anyone who is interested to join us for a 90 minute training on Saturday January 16 at 10:30 am or Saturday January 23 at 2 pm. We'll be led by Greg Pierce from the James Company. The art of the "1 to 1" is a life skill, and a way to be more connected to your community -- Join us! (For more information, contact Pastor Bouman at erinbouman@sbcglobal.net or 773-267-1666.)

Sunday Adult Bible Study 9:15 in the Chapel Join us this January as we begin a new study series, in a new location—the chapel! We'll be reading and discussing *The Beatitudes: Developing Spiritual Character* by John Stott. A description of the book: "The beatitudes reveal to us eight qualities that bring God's blessing: meekness and mercy, poorness in spirit and purity of heart,

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.

MAP Program Holds 3rd Annual Talent Show



It's the Whip and Nae Nae at the MAP Talent Show!

The Magic After-School Place (MAP) held its third annual talent show on December 18th. The acts included comedy (knock-knock jokes), magic tricks, singing and dancing. Family members and friends were amazed at the MAP kids' talents!



MAP kids break out their dance moves for the Third Annual Talent Show.

The talent show was the culmination of eight weeks of dance instruction by Chicago Loves Dance. The kids got to show off what they learned -- hip hop for the girls and break dancing for the boys. Funding for the dance instruction was provided by individual donors and the Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association.

MAP serves 50 kids from Murphy and Belding schools, 80% of whom come from low-income households. MAP's affordable tuition and engaging programming keeps kids safe and offers peace of mind to working parents.

MAP is a program of Carlson Community Services, a 501c3 non-profit. Its mission is to connect the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through culture, education and service. To learn more, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Dorsi Thillens Finnegan

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Save the Date for Soup & Bread!



Laurie Gardner (left) and Kirsten Gettings provide soup service with a smile at Soup & Bread for Carlson. The event will be held March 6th at the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym.

Soup & Bread for Carlson Community Services will be held on Sunday, March 6th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church gym, 4057 N. Harding Ave. Up to 10 satisfying soups from local restaurants and neighborhood cooks will be served along with delicious breads to benefit Carlson's programs. The planning committee is forming now - if you'd like to volunteer to help or have a soup to suggest, contact Liz Mills at lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org.

45th Ward Report



As we move deeper into winter, I ask that you keep your elderly neighbors in mind when the snow falls. Shoveling your sidewalks, and those of homebound and elderly neighbors, makes for safe passable walkways for all. If you are on a corner, please shovel the sidewalk all the way into the crosswalk. The city code requires

that the sidewalks be shoveled the day it snows, or the following day if it snows overnight. I hope it never comes to that and you'll do it as often as needed to help everyone enjoy a safe walk through our neighborhoods.

Beginning Jan. 1, all recyclables must be placed in the blue cart loose without a bag. Recyclables contained in bags of any kind will no longer be accepted. This change is intended to not only help our environment, but also reduce unnecessary costs incurred by the City as a result of contaminated blue carts. Any bag at all keeps haulers from seeing if non-recyclable materials are in the blue cart. Plastic bags also contaminate the recycling stream

and damaging the equipment at sorting facilities. Find tips on recycling and take a recycling quiz at the city's new recycling website, www.recyclebycity.com/chicago.

The third open enrollment period for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) lasts until January 31, 2016. The Affordable Care Act helps individuals find health insurance. Additionally, there are subsidies individuals and small businesses can secure to help pay the cost of the insurance. Please note that failure to obtain health insurance can result in a tax penalty. You can find and compare health plans, figure your costs, and find in-person help with securing health insurance at the Get Covered Illinois website, www.getcovered.illinois.gov.

If you would like more timely updates on the happenings of the 45th Ward, sign up for my weekly email newsletter at www.ward45.com. As always, you can reach us at 773-286-4545, or at ward45@cityofchicago.org.

With warm regards, John Arena, Alderman, 45th Ward

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!

www.thecabinatoldirving.com

facebook.com/thecabinatoldirving

4104 North Pulaski Road, Chicago IL 60641
773-481-4183



St. Edward School

Registration opens on Sunday, January 31, 10:45 am! Until 1:30 PM, St. Ed's will have its Open House and Registration for 2015-

16 school year. We invite you to visit our school, meet our amazing faculty, see our state-of-the art science lab, and talk with our fabulous families! Tours begin in the gym, 4447 N. Lowell. Mass will be held at 9:30 am; we invite all families to meet our parish community.

Another open house will be held on Thursday, February 4, 9 - 11 am while classes are in session. Tours begin in the main building, 4343 W. Sunnyside. This is a perfect time to see our students and teachers in action.

On Monday, January 11th we will hold our monthly Community Event. Stay tuned for details. Don't cook that night and come out to support our school. Thank you!

Basketball is in full swing at St. Ed's. Our 5th - 8th grade boys are playing in the North West Catholic Conference, competing against local schools. Our 4th grade girls are also playing this winter in a local league. Check the website for details and game schedules.

We celebrate Catholic Schools week, beginning with our Open House on Sunday, January 31st We will celebrate our community, our students, our nations, our vocations and our faculty, staff and volunteers. Please plan to visit us during this week and find out why St. Edward School is such a special Catholic school community.

For over 100 years, St. Edward School has provided a Catholic education to children from three-year old pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. We have an average student-teacher ratio of 18:1, and feature an extensive music program as well as art, gym, sports, chess, and Spanish at all grade levels. Our students matriculate to

highly selective CPS and Catholic schools in Chicagoland. Our school is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or visit www.stedwardschool.com.

Disney II Magnet School

Traffic & Student Safety Update

The Disney II Local School Council has approved implementation of a new traffic pattern for its Lawndale campus, beginning January 4th. The purpose of the change is to improve the safety of students and drivers and to alleviate traffic congestion for the school's neighbors.

Traffic on the 3900 block of North Lawndale will flow in one direction (southbound) to facilitate dropoff and pickup of students who arrive or leave school via car Monday through Friday, from 8:40 to 9:10 am and 3:45 to 4:15 pm. Please exit from the neighborhood using Hamlin, Monticello, Springfield or Dakin Avenues. This policy is supported by school staff and parent volunteers. Permit parking remains in effect on block of 3900 N Lawndale, southbound only. Questions or feedback? Email Mrs. Cardenas at jcardenas28@cps.edu.

CICS-Irving Park

Winter Concert 2015 A great time was had by all at the CICS-IP Winter Concert. This year featured all grades performing songs and also music provided by the after-school students in the Rock Band club! Students, staff and families celebrated with song, dance and comedy before starting the holiday break.

Smoque-In! CICS-IP teachers and staff enjoyed a wonderful Holiday lunch with the excellent food provided by Smoque BBQ. Many thanks to Barry Sorkin and his friendly staff. Please visit Smoque BBQ at 3800 N. Pulaski and find out why so many people say it's the best BBQ in the city!

Plant Explorers Students from the CICS-IP Plant Explorers program are featured in the Chicago Botanic Garden website! The students constructed tiny terrariums to make living ornaments for the holidays...how cool is that?

Upcoming Events Our Cheer Squad will complete in the Lake Zurich Cheer Competition this month. Our Math Club will compete in the Chicago Junior Math League competition in January. We will hold our annual school

Email: farmers.market@hotmail.com
Ph. 773.539.1200
Fax 773.539.1482

**Farmers Market
Garden Center**

4110 North Elston, Chicago, Illinois 60618

www.gardenchicago.com

Continued on page 10

News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt



Jaime Guerro, founder/CEO of Urban Farm Eatery, showed off programs at the Food Science Lab at Schurz High School to Pantry Board Member Sara Yoest and Executive Director John Psiharis during a recent visit. The lab plans to provide the Pantry with micro-greens, greens and vegetables soon.

FDC Grant Aids Pantry Programs in 2016

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is pleased to announce that the FDC Foundation has provided us with a grant of \$33,400, the full amount we requested for 2016. The money will fund our Fresh Foods for Better Health initiative and our Client Resources Coordinator position during the year. The grant also will be used to expand the Project Home Grown community garden by the Keeler entrance of the Irving Park United Methodist Church, from which we operate.

The group typically does not give grants in excess of \$30,000, but they continued our funding at this level for the second year due to the efficiency that we obtain from these grants according to John Doyle of FDC. We are grateful to the group for its generous support and to its board for its efforts on our behalf. Special thanks also to volunteer Gloria Price for preparing our proposal.

Special thanks to the parishioners and volunteers at Mount Olive Church, who canvassed Old Irving Park and the Villa to collect donations of food and money for the Pantry in November, prior to the first of our two holiday distributions. This year we again received nearly a full truck load of food and a check for \$3,100. We appreciate Roger Torbick for his leadership on this project, Alfreda Rommel for her efforts in organizing it as a Pantry board member and all of the members of Mount Olive who participated, as well as all our neighbors for contributing so generously.

Several elementary schools ran food drives to aid our holiday distribution, both to restock our dwindling supplies



The Newcomb Knights, the seventh-grade boys advisory led by Ms. Newcomb, won the competition at Intrinsic School to donate the most socks to the Pantry. In all, the school donated more than 80 pairs, with the program continuing.

and add to the special items we give our clients for the holidays. St. Viator Elementary School gathered more than 20 boxes of non-perishable food items, while William P. Gray Elementary School, under the direction of faculty members Dina Alikakos and Monica Gil, obtained more than 100 boxes of donations. We thank both schools for the donations and all their efforts on our behalf.

Thank you to students and staff at Intrinsic High School, which held a Sock Hop drive for the Pantry. During October and November, they collected more than 80 pairs of socks, and they intend to continue the program for several more months. Special thanks to Shalitha Brown, 7th grade math teacher, who coordinated the program and worked with the Pantry to deliver the socks. We are always grateful to receive socks, especially men's white crew socks, which are in high demand.

Jaime Guerro, founder/CEO of Urban Farm Eatery, in December gave representatives of the Pantry a tour of the Food Science Lab he and others are developing at Schurz High School. The program is ramping up with ambitious plans to provide the Pantry with a variety of micro-greens, greens and vegetables to distribute to our clients.

The program is expanding as funding becomes available. The lab currently is running several small-scale projects, including greens towers (growing kale) and an aquaponics system (in which dirty water is filtered through clay spheres to feed lettuce). Master Grower Nick Greens of Nick Greens Inc. is constructing vertical hydroponic beds for growing commercial-levels of greens

Continued on page 11

News from Irving Park United Methodist Church

New Year Adventure: Intentional Living!

Beginning in January, everyone is invited for an adventure in intentional living. Stephen Covey's *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families* is our guidebook to journey into effective family living. Using the principles of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, this book uses them in the context of families. We began with worship focusing on these principles on January 3rd with "Be Proactive." We will have two special events early in the year: a retreat for youth on *The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make*, by Sean Covey – with a special session for parents on how to partner with their youth in this process; and a Family Covenant Workshop to help families grow more intentional in their relationships in the midst of the conflicting schedules and demands of life today. This is an invitation to the community. Other events may be planned – let us know if you want to receive updates on special events! Everyone is welcome!

Advent Action Report!

Thank You! Our congregation and community showed generosity and compassion in December in a variety of ways! **Toys** - The Irving Park Community Food Pantry had the extra need for toys met by the generosity of the community! **HATS** - Our members donated sweaters that become hats and mittens through the work of our members and youth. They were given to The Night Ministry and Irving Park Community Food Pantry to help our neighbors in need stay warm in the cold months. **Service** - Our youth and parents prepared stockings and other items to be distributed to the homeless throughout Chicago through The Night Ministry. **Caroling** - Neighbors joined together to sing and benefit Hands to Help Ministries. Thank you for your voices and your donations! Hands to Help provides essential services to the homeless in our neighborhood and those in danger of homelessness. **Clean Up** - Area pastors, including

Pastor Katherine, met to clean up trash around the underpass. **Broadway Un-Frozen** - This year's show included 18 talented young performers from our area in a play with musical numbers from Broadway shows and movies. They did a wonderful job, and raised money for both the Irving Park Community Food Pantry and the Neighborhood Arts Initiatives through Irving Park United Methodist Church. These initiatives provide no-cost or lower-cost arts programs for the community.

Arts & Hearts Saturday, February 13

Save the date! We are hosting an artist and artisan show on the afternoon of Saturday, February 13, to be followed by a supper and then a show to raise funds to support our Neighborhood Arts Initiatives and Children & Family Programming. More details to follow!

Artists interested in a display space in the gallery area – or artisans interested in a table, please call the church office at 773-283-6262. Special \$20 rate to reserve a table or display space by January 20. Artists and artisans keep 100% of their sales.

LGBTQ Allies Event on January 16

Winter Warming 2016 will be held on Saturday, January 16 from 1:16 pm to 8:16 pm at First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights, 1903 E. Euclid Avenue in Arlington Heights. To catch a ride, call the office at 773-283-6262.

Informative workshops, worship with Bishop Minerva Carcaño, and dinner, Winter Warming is designed to nurture and support you and your community wherever you are on the Reconciling journey. To learn more about Winter Warming 2016, including a complete list of workshops, visit us at www.nicreconciling.org, and follow the link at the bottom of the page to register for the event on their Eventbrite page. **Childcare is provided.** Please register each child so we can adequately prepare staffing, meals, activities, and nametags.

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

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© 146

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

Continued from page 8

Spelling Bee on January 22, with the winners advancing to City-wide competition.

Science Fair Congratulations to our outstanding young scientists who impressed us at our Science Fair in December. The winners at each grade level used the scientific method with fun and interesting topics to show us that creativity and research can produce outstanding results!



Free FAFSA Workshop

Saturday, January 16, 10 am to 3 pm, at 3990 N. Avondale. During this workshop Northeastern's Office of Financial Aid and the El Centro staff will assist eligible current and prospective college students and their families to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Bring your 2015 tax forms and recent bank statements. If you have not completed your tax forms, bring W-2 forms and your final paycheck stub for the year. If you are a dependent student, bring your parents financial information for 2015.

We will also have information about scholarships for those students that do not qualify for federal financial aid.

For more details or to pre-register for this event call us at 773-442-4080, extension 86 or confirm via e-mail at elcentrl@neiu.edu.

Vehicle Registration Notices

Due to the lack of a state budget, the Secretary of State's office is suspending the mailing of vehicle registration renewal reminder notices. By suspending this service, which will save approximately \$450,000 per month, the office will be able to prolong the ability to mail vehicle registration renewal stickers, titles and license plates to vehicle owners for a few months longer before the postage account is depleted. Vehicle owners are encouraged to be mindful of their vehicle registration status. Motorists can sign up to receive email reminder notices by visiting www.cyberdriveillinois.com/. You will need your registration ID and pin (located on your Illinois Registration Identification Card).

Continued from page 5

mourning and hunger, peacemaking and persecution. Jesus highlighted these to offer both encouragement and instruction on living distinctly as his followers in a world with values much different from God's." The adult study group welcomes a variety of perspectives—add yours!

Lenten Services On Ash Wednesday, February 10th, come to IPLC at 7:30 pm for Worship & Imposition of Ashes, to remember we are dust, and to begin a holy season. Then, join us on subsequent Wednesdays for an easy weeknight dinner (6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall) and family-friendly worship (7:30-8:00 pm) that is filled with beautiful, contemplative songs and includes a children's sermon.

Continued from page 9

in nutrient-rich water and horizontal propagation trays for growing micro-greens and herbs.

The Lab also is working with MIT to develop the university's first food computer in the Midwest, which will identify the proper nutrients and watering schedule to maximize output for each green. Jessica Schwartz of BuildOn is providing support and developing additional programs.

The programs currently have a few students involved, which will ramp up to approximately 500 next year as the program develops, Guerro says. The lab also will be looking for community volunteers to help maintain the beds and harvest the greens. Their goal is to construct two more horizontal beds and an additional vertical bed, at which point they estimate they will be able to provide the Pantry with as much as 1,300 pounds of the fast-growing greens and vegetables per month!

The lab has reached the two-thirds point of its funding goal of \$15,000, with the rest needed to develop the program fully. For more information, contact Guerro at urbanfarmeatery@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who supported our annual holiday program in December, especially businesses and organizations that allowed us to place toy-donation boxes at their locations. We recognize the valuable space these boxes require and the logistics of ensuring the presents are delivered, and we appreciate everyone's efforts on our behalf. The boxes were placed at Irving Park Lutheran Church, Irving Park Methodist Church, St. John's Episcopal Church, Josi's Frozen Yogurt, Pert Cleaners, Starbucks and Alderman John Arena's 45th Ward office.

Thanks also to Pet Smart at Six Corners, which donated more than 200 stuffed animals for the toy distribution!

Thank you to everyone in the community for your support and for helping us fulfill our mission to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



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

Chicago Bibles & Books

3931 W. Irving Park Rd.
773.478.0550

Monday to Saturday 10-6
www.biblesandbooks.com



*Heaven and
earth will pass
away, but My
words shall by
no means pass
away.*

Matt.24:35

Chicago's Snow Removal Ordinance

Chicagoans of all ages and abilities need to use the sidewalks to get where they're going every day of the year. Many children, older adults, and people with disabilities face serious mobility challenges in winter time. Clear sidewalks are a shared community responsibility, and this new ordinance clarifies the requirements for snow and ice removal.

The new sidewalk snow regulations affect all home, business and property owners in Chicago. Business owners that rent space adjacent to sidewalks are responsible for shoveling snow under the ordinance. Some landlords for residential and commercial property hold tenants responsible for snow clearance as a part of their lease agreements, others don't. Renters who aren't certain of their shoveling responsibilities should check their rental agreements or ask their landlords for clarification.

THE POLICY: You must shovel snow as soon as possible after it falls. Snow that falls between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm must be removed no later than 10:00 pm. Snow that falls between the hours of 7:00 pm and 7:00 am must be removed by 10:00 am. This rule applies 7 days a week. **You must clear a path at least 5 feet wide** on all of the sidewalks adjacent to your property, including any crosswalk ramps. **Do not shovel the snow into the right-of-way**, which includes: transit stops and bus pads, parking spaces, bike lanes, bike racks, Divvy stations and any other space where snow impedes traffic of any kind.

Failure to comply will result in a citation for failure to shovel. Last year, 226 citations were issued. The fines range from \$50 to \$500. Fine amount is determined on a per-case basis, by an Administrative Hearings judge. **Report property owners who DO NOT clear their sidewalks** by making a "Snow - Uncleared Sidewalk" request with the City of Chicago 311 Service Request line. You can also report online by going to: www.google.com/0AINsd. When you make the request, make sure the problem occurs on the sidewalk. **DO NOT** use this category to report snow on streets, parking lots, or alleys. Provide a specific address where the problem occurs. Request a reference number from the operator; this will help you track the status and resolution of your request. For more information go to www.chicagoshovels.org

Mirabell Restaurant



*Zicke Zacke, Zicke Zacke
Hoy Hoy Hoy !!!*

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday
4:00 pm - 2:00 am**

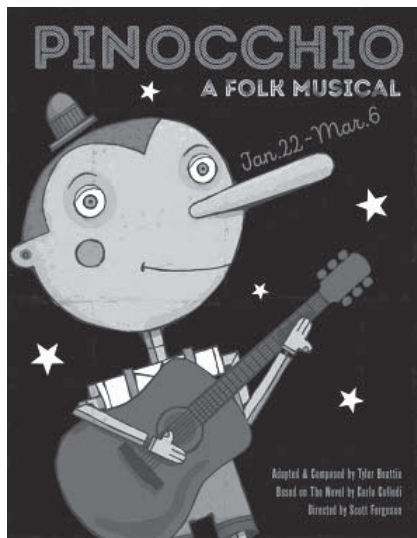
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and hours. Stop by and share your favorite
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MirabellRestaurant.com

3454 West Addison, Chicago 773-463-1962

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News from Filament Theater

Pinocchio finds new life at Filament!

Filament Theatre's Ninth Season brings community engagement to a new level. Whether exploring the neighborhood on bikes, partnering with local restaurants, or putting community members on stage, Filament finds unexpected theatricality in everyday spaces. The season begins with **Pinocchio: a Folk Musical**, an expansive, freewheeling new musical adaptation of the beloved Carlo Collodi stories. Six actor/musicians lead us from a school in Italy through the Land of Toys and into the belly of a whale, all in the hopes of discovering what it means to be real. *Pinocchio: A Folk Musical* is adapted and composed by Tyler Beattie, and directed by Scott Ferguson.

By bringing theater outside the walls of their venue and into the streets, Filament's commitment to bringing world class arts programming to Six Corners has contributed largely to the revitalization of the commercial district. Kelli Weffenstette, executive director of the Six Corners Association, observed "As the vitality, visibility, and excitement of our Six Corners business district grows, Filament Theatre sits at its center, orchestrating neighborhood engagement from the stage to the streets. New development blooms along Milwaukee Avenue due in large part to the open doors of theatre, that welcome in residents and business folk alike, and their team that forges community partnerships that strengthen our economic corridor."

Performance dates are January 22 through March 6. Opening date is January 30 at 7 pm. Tickets are currently on sale for \$5 to \$20. For more information and to purchase tickets please visit www.filamenttheatre.org/2016season or email boxoffice@filamenttheatre.org or call 773-270-1660. *Pinocchio* is suitable for audience members of all ages.

Continued from page 4

If you are dissatisfied with the response of the 911 call taker, you can ask to speak to a supervisor, though it may take some time to get to a supervisor. You can also hang up and call back – it is unlikely you will get the same call taker. The 911 officer reminded the group that the more calls for service there are for an incident the more likely it is to get officers to the scene quickly. Organize block clubs and phone trees.

The remainder of the meeting was spent talking about the nine people shot in six incidents (including at least one who died) from 11/16-12/16/2015. The conflict was gang related and centered around a known drug house in the 4600 block of Central Park. After the last shooting, the house was placed on the gang/drug enforcement list which allows for extra resources and additional policing strategies.

The sheer number of residents who came out on a mid-December night and the presence of two aldermen and a State Rep. demonstrated the level of concern about these shootings and this drug house.

There was no update on the abduction that occurred in the 4100 block of Elston in November.

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, January 20. Please contact me at lizmills@sbcglobal.net if there are issues that you would like addressed at the CAPS meeting. If you or a neighbor have been the victim of a crime and you would like to share that information with your neighbors, e-mail the details to westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com. The exact address of the crime and name of the victim will be kept anonymous.

Liz Mills
CAPS Coordinator

Paddy Mac's

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- Tuesday: \$4 Beef Tacos Open Mic at 9 p.m.
- Wednesday: Rib Special \$7.25 Half/\$12.50 Full Slab
- Thursday: .50 cent Wings Trivia at 8 p.m.
- Friday: \$9 All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry

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Please contact us at PaddyMacsChicago1@gmail.com for Party/Benefit Bookings

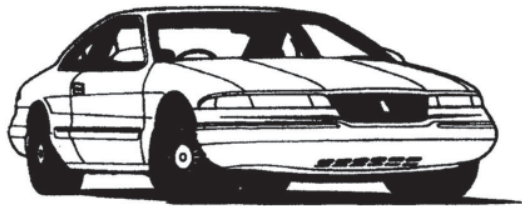
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WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of January, 2016 appears below.

Santiney Han
St. Viator's School and Parish

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.

Mail your 2015-2016 dues with the application below. You can also pay your WWCA dues with either PayPal or a credit card at the West Walker website (www.westwalker.org)!

WEST WALKER WIRE AD RATES

	<u>1 TIME</u>	<u>3 TIMES</u>	<u>6 TIMES</u>	<u>10 TIMES</u>
Business card NA <i>(3.5" wide x 2" high)</i>	\$45 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$90 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$125 <input type="checkbox"/>	
1/4-page ad <i>(3.7" wide x 5" high)</i>	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$80 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$160 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$260 <input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Contact E-Mail: _____

- 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.

**SEND ALL AD COPY AND PAYMENTS (AND ANY AD QUESTIONS) TO:
SHANNAN BUNTING AT WWWire@solsticepr.com
4214 N. RIDGEWAY • CHICAGO, IL 60618**

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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

CLOSED TRANSACTIONS IN 2015

700 Larrabee St 1008 Chicago
4019 Waveland Ave Chicago
4049 Kenneth Ave Chicago
3660 Lake Shore Dr P-311 Chicago
2007 Sedgwick St 506 Chicago
3815 Southport Ave 1N Chicago
3660 Lake Shore Dr 2109 Chicago
1670 Claremont Ave 204 Chicago
2635 Lawrence Ave 2C Chicago
3721 Byron St 3 Chicago
1967 Leland Ave Chicago
2011 Belmont Ave 211 Chicago
4111 Eddy St Chicago
2512 Leland Ave 2 Chicago
4126 Keystone ave chicago
217 Grove Ave A Oak Park
4039 Springfield Ave Chicago
1601 School St 406 Chicago
636 Schubert Ave C Chicago
4634 Kostner Ave Chicago
1743 Fern Ct 1 Chicago
3534 Kolmar Ave Chicago
2150 McLean Ave 1W Chicago
1800 Roscoe St 321 Chicago

1918 Potomac Ave Chicago
720 Dearborn St 806 Chicago
4244 Tripp Ave Chicago
2108 Montrose Ave 1 Chicago
4309 Lowell Ave Chicago
4441 Beacon St 2A Chicago
860 Elston Ave 11 Chicago
1111 Wabash Ave 1110 Chicago
720 Dearborn St 501 Chicago
1730 Western Ave 201 Chicago
2121 Division St 2 Chicago
2440 Hutchinson St Chicago
4014 Clark St 4014 Chicago
5255 Riversedge Ter 202 Chicago
3418 Sheffield Ave 2 Chicago
6651 Loran Ave Chicago
3923 Monticello Ave Chicago
4338 Ashland Ave Chicago
2401 Winnemac Ave 3W Chicago
703 Hoyne Ave Chicago
4728 Paulina St 2 Chicago
1726 Mohawk St 1S Chicago
4022 St Louis Ave Chicago
184 North Harbor Drive Chicago

If you are considering buying or selling, work with a REALTOR® who really knows the market in Chicago and in our neighborhood. I can be easily reached by cellular or by email.



CONNIE H. ENGEL
BROKER ASSOCIATE

548 W. Webster Ave. Chicago, IL 60614

MOBILE 773.251.3837

cengel@atproperties.com

@properties®

