



WEST WALKER WIRE

APRIL 2016

www.westwalker.org

Residents Disappointed with Independence Branch Library Plan

On Tuesday March 22, 2016 a crowd of about 200 area residents met at Disney II High School for an update on the status of the Independence Library branch, located at 3548 West Irving Park Rd. On October 30, 2015 a fire that began in a nearby dry cleaner caused smoke and water damage to the Independence Library. The library has been closed since the fire.

Elected officials in attendance were State Representative Jaime Andrade and four aldermen: Alderman Carlos Ramirez- Rosa (35th ward, the library is located in his ward), Alderman Deb Mell (33rd ward), Alderman Laurino (39th ward), and Alderman John Arena (45th ward). The following Chicago Public Library officials and affiliates were in attendance: Commissioner Brian Bannon, Assistant Commissioner Andrea Telli Neighborhood Services, Patrick Molloy, Director, Government and Public Affairs, and Stephen Stults from the Department of Fleet and Facility Management.

This is a summary of what they revealed:

CPL anticipates that a much renovated (gut rehabbed) library is expected to reopen in the same space in the first quarter of 2017. They are negotiating a 7 year lease with the current landlord. This news was not well received. Elected officials and local residents expressed their strong desire for a

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sun., April 10 • 11:30 am-1:00 pm

IPLC Open House at the Gym
4057 N. Harding

April 15-22 • 10 am - 2 pm

CPS Safe Haven Spring Break
Irving Park United Methodist Church
3801 N. Keeler, FREE to CPS students
Call 773-283-6262 to register

Tues., April 19 • 7:00 pm

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

Wed., April 20 • 7:30 pm

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

Fri., April 29 • 7 -11 pm

Trivia Night to Benefit
Hands to Help Ministries
Filament Theatre, 4041 N. Milwaukee

Sat., Apr. 30 • 7:00 pm

Jazz Night Featuring Frieda Lee
to benefit Carlson Community Services
Irish American Heritage Center
4636 N. Knox, Erin Room

Sat., May 14 • 9 am - 4 pm

WWCA Annual Neighborhood
Garage & Yard Sale, GIPNA Garage
Sale and IPAC Garage Sale - *Rain or
Shine! Register for WWCA garage sale
on back page!*

Tues., May 17 • 7:00 pm

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

Wed., May 18 • 7:30 pm

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

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

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Dear Neighbor,

SPRING HAS OFFICIALLY ARRIVED. Hopefully by the time you get this edition of the Wire, warm weather and the spring green will have arrived. Please take special note of two articles in this month's Wire.

First, on March 22 a meeting was held to update progress on re-opening the Independence Park Library branch, which has been closed since last fall's fire. Also discussed during the meeting was the latest status on building a new, permanent library. Roberta Bole's article reviews that meeting and highlights the ongoing challenge of securing a new library. Roberta also provides web links that can be used to show our support for this invaluable neighborhood asset.

Also, our newly elected 39th Ward Committeeman, Robert Murphy, will be joining us for the April 19, 2016 West Walker General Meeting at the Latvian Center. Robert will discuss the role of a committeeman and answer questions about his plans to use the office for positive change. Please be sure to join us on April 19.

Mike Webber
President Pro Tem,
West Walker Civic Association

Buy Your Tickets While They Last!

Hands to Help Trivia Night April 29th

Hands to Help is excited to return to the Filament Theatre, 4041 N. Milwaukee, Chicago for our annual Trivia Night event on Friday, April 29th. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased on Hands to Help's website: www.handstohelpministries.org. Enjoy tasty food, test your trivia knowledge, and meet new friends.

Local businesses are encouraged to financially support this fun event. It is a great opportunity to reach out to neighbors and customers. Hands to Help also appreciates generous donations of food and drinks. For more information please contact Gayle at hthexecdirector@gmail.com or 773-599-0502.

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 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 including a disabled man and his partner. After the partner's work hours were cut and they became behind in their rent, Hands to Help provided rent assistance and advocated with the property management company. Currently, the partner's hours were increased and the couple is now able to cover their rent.

We look forward to seeing you on April 29th. To purchase your tickets or for more information visit Hands to Help's website at www.handstohelpministries.org, Facebook, or Twitter (@Handstohelpchgo). All proceeds benefit your neighbors served by Hands to Help. See you soon!

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*

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dengel@studiode.com

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Liz Mills

Send crime concerns to Ed Gardner
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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.*

Robert Murphy to Speak at April West Walker Meeting

On March 15, 2016, Robert Murphy was elected the 39th Ward Committeeman. The majority of West Walker Neighbors reside in the 39th Ward, where Alderman Laurino was re-elected in 2015, when her primary challenger was Robert Murphy.

Robert will explain the role of a Committeeman, and his plans for using the office to introduce an independent voice into 39th Ward politics, improve transparency, and work toward greater responsiveness to community concerns. Please join us on April 19 at the Latvian Center at 7 pm.

Continued from front page

brand new larger state of the art library, like the recently new Albany Park Library 3401 West Foster Ave.

Currently the Independence library is 8,900 sq. ft. State Representative Andrade proposed a 15,000-18,000 sq. ft. library. Due to this fire some of the adjacent storefronts were torn down. State Rep Andrade stated that this was an opportunity to obtain the vacant land adjacent to the current library to expand the Independence library using the insurance proceeds. Due to financial challenges Commissioner Bannon felt that a new library or expansion was unlikely. Although located in a TIF there are minimal funds in this TIF to fund a new library and currently bonds can't be issued. In the meantime residents were urged to visit other library branches. They also announced that the popular Independence Library Children's Summer Reading program would continue at Independence Park (3945 N. Springfield) this summer.

All attendees agreed though pleased that Independence Library will be reopened "this cannot be the be-all. end-all" as stated in the meeting by Roberta Bole, President of Friends of Independence Library. Continued elected officials and resident support will be important in foretelling the future of the Independence Library.

Please visit our Facebook page and spread the importance of the neighborhood asset: New Independence Library (link: <https://www.facebook.com/NewIndependenceLibrary/>) Window Signs are available to show your Independence Library support through State Representative Andrade's office at 3657 N. Kedzie. Please call 773-267-2880.

*Respectfully submitted, Roberta Bole,
President of Friends of Independence Library*

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

How's the Market?

A Zillow study predicts Chicago home prices will be up 2.3%. The report also says homeowners who put their house on the market in May will sell 18 days faster and for a 1.2% higher sale price. Here is our current market recap for the last 12 months.

Single family homes in West Walker

- 32 homes sold at an average sale price of \$424,200.
- On average it took 96 days to sell.
- Sellers received 97% of their asking price.
- 11 homes are for sale asking \$468,000 on average.

Multi-family homes in West Walker

- 8 multi-units sold at an average sale price of \$357,000.
- On average it took 116 days to sell.
- Sellers received 105% of their asking price!
- 2 multi-units are for sale asking \$545,000 on average.

If you're thinking of selling, now may be a good time. Every home is unique. **If you would like to know what your home is worth and how we would sell it at the best price, please call me for a free consultation.**

"We talked with various agents, but it was clear Dorie best knew and truly loved this neighborhood...she exceeded expectations at an exceptional level."

— Pastor Erin Bouman

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.

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

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CAPS Report

Beat 1722 & 1723 CAPS Meeting March 16, 2016

Present: Beat facilitator Martha Hack, CAPS Officer Maryjane Park, Officer Hamid, Beat 1722

Approximately 15 people attended the March CAPS meeting – lighter than usual. Monica Lopez, a Chicago Police Officer, gave a presentation about a non-profit she founded, I'm Not Just a Name Children's Resource Center. The Center recently established an office at 4425 W. Montrose. INJANCRC was established to raise awareness of and provide education about missing and exploited children. The Center can provide businesses and organizations with safety programs and training to help reduce the number of missing children in Illinois. The organization's web site is www.injancrc.org.

There were no updates from the February meeting. A West Walker neighbor from the 3800 block of West Berteau brought up a concern about the number of cars that speed through the stop sign at Springfield and Berteau. The officers noted her concern. She also spoke

about suspicious activity in the alley in the 4100 block of Springfield/Avers and about the presence of various gang graffiti, which has since been removed. She was encouraged to report any illegal activity to 911 and make neighbors aware through the WWCA Crime Alert e-mail blasts, westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com.

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, April 20, 2016. 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.

Liz Mills, CAPS Coordinator

Our Neighborhood Is Hot!



Sold!



Sold!



Sold!

Buyers love our neighborhood! We have beautiful homes, top rated schools, a great location close to shopping & transportation and terrific neighbors. If you're thinking of buying or selling, please call me.

"We talked with various agents, but it was clear Dorie best knew and truly loved this neighborhood and she would work tirelessly on our behalf...she exceeded expectations at an exceptional level."

— Pastor Erin Bouman

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



WITH THE MILDER WEATHER, the Department of Streets and Sanitation has begun their Street Sweeping program. Street sweeping is from 9 am until 3 pm on weekdays. Be sure to watch for the brightly colored "No Parking" signs that are posted on light poles and parkway trees.

Would you like to get involved with the neighborhood and help beautify our community at the same time? Consider joining us on April 16 for Chicago's Citywide Clean and Green Event. Held annually, this event is a perfect way to meet your neighbors and help to improve our community. To register for this free event, or for more information, please contact Jonathan in my office at 773-736-5594.

On Saturday, April 30, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. State Representative John D'Amico and I are hosting Paper Shredding Day at Colletti's Restaurant, 5707 North Central Avenue (corner of Central and Elston). Bring your documents containing personal information and unnecessary paperwork where it will be destroyed safely, for free. Please remember to remove all staplers and paper clips. At this event the following items will not be accepted: materials from businesses, phonebooks, metal, plastic or electronics. In addition, no boxes can be left at the event.

Finally, I'd like to thank all who came out to the Independence Branch Library meeting March 22. The West Walker community was well represented. While we're looking forward to the library re-opening in January 2017, we will not give up advocating for a new, larger library. I'd like to thank my colleagues in the City Council, State Rep. Jaime Andrade, community residents, and especially, President of Friends of Independence Park Library and West Walker's own Roberta Bole, for their hard work.

As always, if you'd like to receive the latest news and updates from the 39th Ward, please consider registering for my e-newsletter. Visit my website, AldermanLaurino.com or send us an email at Ward39@cityofchicago.org and we will add you to the list. You can also receive timely updates by "liking" us on Facebook at facebook.com/MargaretLaurino and following us on Twitter at twitter.com/LaurinoWard39. Your information will remain private and will never be shared. Please contact my office at 773-736-5594 or e-mail us at Ward39@cityofchicago.org with your concerns or questions.

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

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



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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.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents an Evening with Frieda Lee



Frieda Lee will perform in a benefit for Carlson Community Services on April 30th.

Celebrated jazz vocalist Frieda Lee will perform a benefit concert for Carlson Community Services on April 30th at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be held at the Irish American Heritage Center in the Erin Room.

Lee and her band will perform jazz and pop standards made famous by Ella Fitzgerald, Lena Horne, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Sara Vaughan, Barbra Streisand and more.

Lee has combined a life-long love of music with a dual career as performer and educator. After graduating with a degree in music education from Penn State University, she began a long career teaching music that included 31 years in the Chicago Public Schools. Lee is the lead vocalist with the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, whose repertoire is dedicated to the music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington and other composers. Lee is one-third of the "Three Ellas" homage to Ella Fitzgerald. Along with Spider Saloff and Dee Alexander, Lee will travel to Poland in May to perform as the Three Ellas.



Clockwise from top left: Disney II 8th graders man the bake sale. The Kolasinski family enjoys the soup and the entertainment at Soup & Bread for Carlson. Max Guthmann and Chris Altman serving up soup at Soup & Bread for Carlson.

Chicago Tribune Jazz Critic Howard Reich has described Lee as "a reluctant Chicago jazz star" and "among this city's most beloved jazz vocalists."

The Irish American Heritage Center is located at 4626 N. Knox. Parking is free and plentiful. Tickets for the concert are \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door for general admission, which includes light appetizers and a cash bar. VIP tickets are \$50 and include reserved seating, appetizers and two drinks. Tickets can be purchased at www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

The concert is a benefit for Carlson Community Services' neighborhood programs. A 501(c)(3) non-profit, Carlson has three programs, the Irving Park Fine Arts Series, The Magic After-School Place after-school program and Three Brother Community Garden. For more information visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org or contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766. To sample Frieda Lee's music, visit www.friedalee.com.

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

39th Ward Public Service Office
4404 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594
Ward39@cityofchicago.org



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

Soup & Bread Thanks!

Thank you to the restaurants, cooks and diners who made Soup & Bread for Carlson a success! Over 175 people came together on March 6th to listen to the Indy Park Bluegrass Jammers and sample delicious soups from Bread & Wine, Bourgeois Pig, Rojo Gusano, Taste of Thai Town, Tre Kronor and Turquoise Café, plus Chef Ed Gardner, Rebecca Haneberg, Ruth Olech, Susan Ford and Holly Lundquist. Bread was provided by Colletti's Restaurant and LeCordon Bleu Culinary College. Fifty gallons of soup was served, along with dozens of loaves of bread!

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News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

Pantry Herb Garden Plans Growth for 2016

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is starting up its Herb Garden at the Irving Park United Methodist Church in the space adjacent to the Pantry entrance just off Keeler Ave. alongside the Serenity and Prayer Garden. We are seeking donations and volunteers to help build on the success it had during its introduction last year.

The garden is a collaboration with Three Brothers Garden, which operates its own garden for the Pantry, and IPUMC. The herbs that we grow, comprising basil, oregano, cilantro, thyme, parsley, mint, rosemary and sage, are harvested early Wednesday mornings and distributed to clients at distributions later that day.

Last year's garden got off to a great start, with more than 50 bags of herbs distributed each week. We are now looking for donations to increase production before expanding our crops in new ways next year. Among the items we are seeking are organic soils and herb plants. We also need volunteers to help tend the garden during the week or sponsors who will "adopt" one of the herb beds and tend it. We also are looking for tried-and-true recipes that will maximize the use of the herbs that we can use in classes for our clients.

For more information on the program or to arrange a donation, please contact Vicci Rodgers at viccirodgers@gmail.com

Thank you to Liberty Tax Service at 4900 W Irving Park, which ran two fundraisers for the Pantry during tax season. The first, in February, provided a \$5 donation for each tax return completed and raised \$465. The second, during March, discounted preparation fees by 50% to everyone who donated at least \$20. We appreciate their efforts on our behalf!

Thanks also to Midcity Nissan for running a program for us earlier this year, in which customers got \$3 off any work performed for each food item they donated to the Pantry!

Great thanks to Becky Spears, a Brownie Girl Scout at St. Viator Elementary School, who asked her customers to donate a box of cookies during her sales this year. She donated 24 boxes last year and set a goal of 100 for this year—which she surpassed, donating 110 boxes to the Pantry! We appreciate her efforts in making this happen and giving our Tuesday night clients a nice surprise in March.



Becky Spears, a Brownie Girl Scout at St. Viator Elementary School, came to the Pantry during our operating hours on Tuesday night in March to hand out to clients the 110 boxes of Girl Scout cookies she asked customers to donate. Mother Gina Spears and brother James (a Cub Scout in St. Viator's pack) helped her bring in the cookies and set up. Photo by Lee Samsami Stein

Dorsi Thillens Finnegan

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JAIME



ANDRADE

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St. Edward's School

High school acceptances are rolling in! The Class of 2016 has been accepted to the following high schools: Amundsen

high school (IB Program), Lane Tech, Mather (Honors Program), Notre Dame. DePaul College Prep, Lincoln Park (Double Honors Program), St. Patrick (Academic Achievement, 95-97th percentile and Academic Merit, 90th+ percentile), Von Steuben, Loyola Academy, Regina Dominican, St. Ignatius, North Town, Chicago Waldorf, St. John's Military Academy, Resurrection and Willows Academy. We are so proud of our 8th graders and are anxious to hear where they select to attend high school.

We invite you to visit St. Edward School. School tours will be held Thursday, April 21. Registration is also open for 2016-2017 year for Pre-K 3 through 8th grade. Come see how we give our students so much more than just a seat in the classroom. Call 773-736-9133 for more information or to schedule a tour on a more convenient day.

Congratulations to Natalee Hapaniewski and Sofie Piotrowski for taking gold in the regional science fair! They advance to the state competition in Springfield. Way to go girls!

Our History Fair for grades 5-8 will be held on Friday, April 29 from 12-3 pm. Each student selects a historical topic and researches it. The students create a visual display and also present to judges, allowing them to develop their public speaking skills.

On Sunday, May 15, St. Ed's will host the first-ever Catholic grade school boys' 16" softball tournament at Gompers Park. Many of the local Catholic schools will be participating in the tournament. We invite you to come and cheer them on!



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

Upcoming events:

May 1 - 7, Superdawg Fundraiser, check our website for more information after April 20th

Friday-Saturday, May 6-7, 9 am-12 pm: Flower Sale benefitting the Dominican Sisters

Saturday, May 7, 9 am-12 pm: Deals on Wheels Sale

Saturday, May 21, Big Red Run 5K/1 mile walk - registration is open, go to www.StEdsBigRedRace.com.

Friday, May 27, 7-9 pm, Art and Academic Fair

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.

CICS-Irving Park School

8th Grade Achievement So far, 17 of our 66 eighth graders have been accepted by selective enrollment high schools, with an additional 10 selected for honors, specialty or magnet programs. Congratulations to our high achievers!

Move Those Feet! CICS-IP Art teacher Molly Nolan was awarded a \$10,000 Arts Advance grant from the Creative Schools Fund! This will fund a partnership with Zephyr Dance to deepen the level of arts education by adding dance to the curriculum for grades 3 through 6. Teachers will also have professional development sessions to learn about movement and implementing it in their classroom

Young Designers Our 4th graders have been studying the form and function of various chairs. They recently visited the Museum of Contemporary Art to view chairs in their Pop Art exhibit. Then they got busy designing their own chairs in art class, and making a 3D version of them out of clay.

MathCON Finalists Students from 41 states took an exam to qualify for MathCON competition at UIC on April 23rd. The day-long event has students compete for prizes and national prestige. CICS-IP has 6 finalists and 5 alternates out of 44,073 students nationwide!

City Cheer Finals Our 24 cheerleaders in the Large Division came in 2nd at the City Cheer Finals competition held March 5th at Hales Franciscan HS. We won first

place for Most Spirited squad and also for the loudest fans! Go P-U-M-A-S!

School Events 8th grade: Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, 3rd-8th grade: PARCC assessment testing.

St. Viator School

St. Viator has been a dynamic, vital neighborhood school for over 100 years. With over 200 families (and growing), we are a vibrant community committed to the development of the mind, body, and soul of each individual student. Visit our website at stviatorchicago.org for more information and schedule a tour; or plan to visit one of our upcoming Open Houses. Come see us on Wednesdays in 2016 while classes are in session. Or come to the open house on April 20th, 9 - 10:30 am.

Our **Art Zone & Academic Fair Open House** is Sunday, April 24, 11:30 am to 2 pm. Come see our students shine as the school halls are transformed into an art gallery displaying the work they created in this special program. Visit our classrooms where students' academic work is proudly on display. Teachers will be present to answer any questions you may have.

We are located at 4140 W. Addison in Chicago. Contact Principal Colleen Brewer at 773-545-2173, extension 33 or visit www.stviatorchicago.org. Don't forget to "like" us on Facebook!

GIPNA Annual Alley Clean-Up April 30th

Our 7th Annual Alley Clean Up will be held from 9am - 12pm. Stop by our table at the corner of Byron/Lawndale to borrow rakes, shovels, and brooms and enter to win a pair of Second City tickets. Let's keep this annual spring tradition going strong! Hope to see you then.

GIPNA Fine Craft Fair May 7

Come to the Independence Park Fieldhouse on Saturday, May 7th, from 12-4 pm for the Pre-Mother's Day Fine Craft Fair, sponsored by GIPNA and IPAC. You will find many beautiful handcrafted items, from jewelry to glass to ceramics and textiles, which make wonderful gift ideas! Independence Park Fieldhouse is located at 3945 N. Springfield.

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

News From Irving Park Lutheran Church

Magic Mushroom Children's Summer Program



Enrollment Open! Also accepting applications for Teachers & Aides.

This year this popular, affordable, creative summer enrichment opportunity will be held August 1-26, with full or half-day options. Attend for 1, 2, 3 or all 4 weeks. For children 3 years old through 6th grade. Explore the incredible world God created through weekly themes like Quest, Discovery, and Uniqueness. For more information, go to iplc.org and click on the mushroom, or contact Rachel at mapdirector@carlsoncommunityservices.org

Open House at the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym Sunday, April 10th - Come celebrate and see the repairs to date at the Gym at a special reception directly after our 10:30 am worship service until 1:00 pm. There will be refreshments, we'll unveil the plaque with the names of contributors, and we'll talk some about the next and more internally focused phase of repairs, which may include: updating interior lighting, interior painting and/or resurfacing, installing trim around the windows and doors, updating the bathrooms, and more.

First Communion Classes: Is your child hungry to participate in the Lord's Supper? Pastor Bouman will offer Saturday classes (4/16 and 4/23 from 10-11 am) for children in second grade or older. Then, there'll be a special family brunch on April 23rd at 11 am, and the children will take their first communion on Sunday, April 24th. For more information, and to let us know your child will participate, contact Pastor Bouman at pastorbouman@iplc.org or 773-267-1666.

Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast: Sunday May 1st at the IPLC Gym - Stop by the gym before or after worship on Sunday May 1st to enjoy pancakes and sausages prepared by our very own Boy Scout Troop. The breakfast is a fundraiser for the troop, and pancakes are served as early as 8 am, up until noon.

News From Irving Park United Methodist Church

April blessings to all our neighbors! Several youth special events are planned in April, May and June! Visit our website at irvingparkumc.com for more information. Events posted are open to all area youth. Participate in the **Youth Leadership for Change** on Friday and Saturday, April 29-30 (looks great on college applications)!

Paddy Mac's

PUB & GRILL

Daily Specials:

- Monday: \$4 Paddy Mac's Burgers
- 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

BEER AND DRINK SPECIALS EVERYDAY

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Money Matters class on Thursday nights will help you take control over your finances. The class uses Dave Ramsey's highly successful Financial Peace University curriculum, which covers topics such as Saving, Relationships with Money, Cash Flow Planning, Dumping Debt, Buyer Beware, Insurance, Retirement and College Planning, and Mortgages. The class will be held on Thursday evenings, beginning March 31 at 7:00 pm. (Make-up times may be arranged by calling 773-283-6262.) No sales or investment people are involved in leading this class. Call 773-283-6262 to register for the class or for more information.

CPS Safe Haven Spring Break will be held at Irving Park United Methodist Church on April 15-22 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. There is no cost for this program for CPS students. Please call 773-283-6262 to register. The curriculum for the week involves career choices and is provided by Junior Achievement. A breakfast snack and lunch are provided. If your child has special dietary needs, please share that information when you register them.

Garage and Yard Sales Converge on May 14th!

This year's West Walker 31st Annual Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale will have some company, hopefully bringing more treasure-seekers to the West Walker neighborhood. GIPNA (Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association) will hold its garage sale on the same date. Also, IPAC (Independence Park Advisory Council) is bringing sellers into Independence Park. Although all three are occurring the same day and the organizations are promoting all three sales, residents of West Walker should use the application process described in this edition of the Wire to obtain a permit. Questions? E-mail Mike Webber at webber.wvca@gmail.com. Be sure to register for the sale using the form on the back page of this newsletter.

IPAC Garage Sale May 14

Independence Park Advisory Council is sponsoring a Yard Sale on Saturday, May 14th from 9 am to 4 pm, rain or shine! Do some spring cleaning and earn some money! There will be used and new items for sale. Veterans of America trucks will arrive at the end of the sale to take any unwanted items. There will be plenty of shoppers as two neighborhood sales take place on May 14: West Walker's 31st Annual Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale (Irving to Montrose, Pulaski to Central Park) and GIPNA (Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association) Annual Garage Sale (Irving to Addison, Pulaski to Central Park). Last year, over 90 garages participated.

SSA Commissioners Meeting

Join us for the Albany Park & Irving Park Special Service Area #60 Commissioners Meeting, which is open to the Public. The meeting will be held Wednesday, April 13th at 5:30 pm at Cafe Chien, 4749 N Spaulding in Chicago. Current programs and services within the business district include the Facade Improvement Program, 50% rebates, daily litter abatement, tree inventory and maintenance, seasonal sidewalk power washing, seasonal snow removal, bike parking inventory and addition, business attraction and vacancy inventory.



Music at Filament!

Anna Fermin's Trigger Gospel, Saturday, April 30th at 8 pm. Named after an old Western novel, Anna Fermin's Trigger Gospel reflects a spirited sound that intertwines hometown country and rock & roll which will have everyone humming along.

Jimmy Robinson and Special Guest Trapper Keeper, Friday, May 6 at 8 pm. New Orleans guitar virtuoso Jimmy Robinson returns to Filament this time with Marcello Benetti & Will Thompson (Trapper Keeper). For more information, call Filament Theater at 773-270-1660 or visit filamenttheatre.org. Filament is located at 4041 N. Milwaukee in Chicago.

The Human Library April 30

The Human Library is an event that aims to create dialogue and understanding between people. Individuals volunteer as human 'books' and participants in the event can 'read' the book by having a one-on-one conversation with the volunteer and sharing in a dialogue about that individual's experience. 'Books' are volunteers from all walks of life who have experienced discrimination based on race, religion, sexual preference, class, gender identity, sex, age, lifestyle choices, disability and other aspects of their life. The Human Library provides the opportunity for the community to share and understand the experiences of others in their community.

The Human Library takes place on Saturday, April 30 from 1 to 5 pm. RSVP. National Veterans Art Museum is located at 4041 N. Milwaukee in Chicago. RSVP at 312-326-0270 or email info@nvam.org.

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Cats at Work Project Offers a Solution to City's Rat Problem

Although there is an ordinance for dog-owners to pick up after their dogs, the availability of food is what drives a rat's behavior, and the abundant food sources provided in a city such as Chicago most certainly whet a rat's appetite long before they turn to dog feces. Far more of an issue than dog feces are the thousands of front load trash bins found behind almost every restaurant, apartment building and business, which provide rats with a veritable smorgasbord. Additionally, rats can easily chew through the plastic lids on trash cans used by many homeowners including the city's blue bins used for Chicago's recycling program.

However, Tree House Humane Society's Cats at Work offers a proven, humane, long-term, "green," alternative solution to the city's growing rat issue. The project relocates feral or community cats to new territories where their hunting instincts and mere presence results in reduced numbers of rats. Since Cats at Work's inception in 2012, Tree House Humane Society has successfully placed more than 400 "working cats" in private backyards, barns, on condo building properties and in factories and warehouses where clients have reported an almost immediate end to their rodent problem soon after welcoming their cats.

Cats at Work also provides a humane solution for displaced, feral community cats giving them a safe and secure location where they can live out the rest of their lives. The cats are spayed or neutered, treated for parasites, vaccinated for rabies, ear-tipped and microchipped before relocation. Volunteer caretakers humanely manage the cats for the entirety of their lives with ongoing support from Tree House as mandated by Cook County's 2007 Managed Care of Feral Cats Ordinance. Common methods used to control rats such as poison and traps are ineffective, short-term solutions. Additionally, rat poison is dangerous to children, pets and the environment. Tree House's Cats at Work, an offshoot of Tree House Community Cats, provides a better solution.

For more information about Tree House's Cats at Work Project, call 773-784-5488 ext. 234 or email TNR@TreeHouseAnimals.org.

This article is reprinted from the March 26th post in scratchingpost.treehouseanimals.org, a blog of Tree House Humane Society.

Continued from page 6

Thank you to raffle donors Windy City Playhouse, Filament Theatre, Glenn Kotche and Wilco, Anna Sobor and neighbors who donated to the wine basket!

Soup & Bread for Carlson is a fundraisers for Carlson's neighborhood programs - The Magic After-School Place, Three Brothers Garden and the Irving Park Fine Arts Series. For more information, visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Chicago Bibles & Books

3931 W. Irving Park Rd.

773.478.0550

Monday to Saturday 10-6
www.biblesandbooks.com



Look at the birds of heaven. They do not sow nor reap ... yet your heavenly Father nourishes them. Are you not of more value than they?

Matt. 6:26

...seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Matt. 6:33





WWCA Members

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

- George & Theresa Litman
- Patrick & Ellyn Nugent
- Telepro Temps, Inc.
- Jeffery & Linda Tshara
- Joyce Winer & David Kaplan
- 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 April 19th! Or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER WIRE AD RATES

	<u>1 TIME</u>	<u>3 TIMES</u>	<u>6 TIMES</u>	<u>10 TIMES</u>
Business card 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 \$30 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(3.7" wide x 5" high)</i>	\$80 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$160 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$260 <input type="checkbox"/>	
1/2-page ad \$60 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(7.5" wide x 5" high)</i>	\$165 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$330 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$520 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Full-page ad \$120 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(8" wide x 10" high)</i>	\$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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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!
*Let them know you saw them
in the West Walker Wire.*

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

45th Ward Clean Up

Join your neighbors for Chicago's annual citywide **Clean and Green Day of Service** Saturday, April 16. This is a great opportunity for individuals and community groups to gather and help beautify our neighborhoods. This year we will be focusing on the three following areas:

- CTA Jefferson Park Terminal
- Along Avondale between Irving Park and Pulaski
- Along Avondale near Erin Lawrence

In addition to the supplies available at my office, the Department of Streets and Sanitation will provide rakes, brooms, shovels, and bags. Please bring your own work gloves. To sign up, contact my office via email at ward45@cityofchicago.org or call 773-286-4545. Read more about this event on Facebook by searching "45th Ward Clean Up."

Shred your unwanted documents at our next Shred-a-thon, Wednesday, May 4th at 5 p.m., at 4729 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

Do you have questions about the city or your neighborhood? Want to make suggestions on city services or pending legislation? You can speak directly

with Alderman Arena on ward night every Tuesday evening from 5 - 7 pm. Or you can come to the office during our regular office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9 am - 6 pm, Tuesday 9 am - 7 pm, Friday 9 am - 4 pm and Saturday 10 am - 2 pm.

Street Cleaning Alerts Available!

The 2016 street sweeping schedules are now live on SweepAround.us. Go to www.sweeparound.us, type your Chicago street address to find out when your street will be swept next. Then, register for email and text message alerts, or subscribe to your calendar feed! Please note that last year's alert subscriptions do not carry over. You must resubscribe to receive alerts this year.

The Explorers Club through April at Windy City Playhouse

Now playing is Jeff-Award recommended **The Explorers Club** by Neil Benjamin, directed by David H. Bell. It's time to enjoy the adventure! Windy City Playhouse is located at 3014 W. Irving Park Road. For more information and tickets call 773-891-8985 or visit windycityplayhouse.com.

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency 311
(Always request a tracking number)

17th Police District 312.744.8346
Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting: third Wednesday of the month,
7 p.m. at 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski Road

17th District CAPS Phone 312.742.4410
CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org

39th Ward 773.736.5594
Alderman Margaret Laurino ward39@cityofchicago.org
4404 W. Lawrence Ave. www.aldermanlaurino.com

Constituent night: Mondays, 6-8 p.m.
(Call ahead. Meet Alderman Laurino to discuss Ward concerns.)

39th Ward Streets and Sanitation 312.744.8163

33rd Ward 773.478.8040
Alderman Richard Mell rmell@cityofchicago.org
3649 N. Kedzie Ave. www.33rdward.org

33rd Ward Advisory Council: third Thursday of each month
at Horner Park Fieldhouse, 2741 W. Montrose Ave., 7 p.m.
(Discuss your issues with the advisory council)

33rd Ward Streets and Sanitation 312.744.1451

40th District State Representative 773.267.2880
Deb Mell

20th District State Senator 773.283.7000
Iris Y. Martinez

5th Congressional District 773.267.5926
Mike Quigley

Independence Branch, Chicago Public Library
3548 W. Irving Park Road 312.744.0900

Independence Park, Chicago Park District
3945 N. Springfield Ave. 773.478.3538

Graffiti Removal Hotline 312.744.1234
(Always request a tracking number)

Neighborhood Relations 312.744.3774

Poison Control Center 800.942.5969

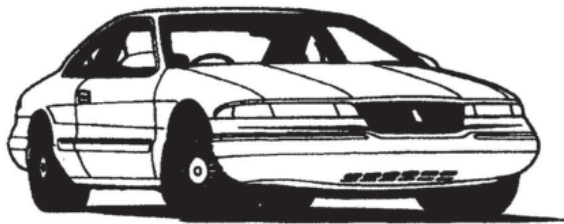
Illegal Businesses, City Department of Revenue 312.747.5317

www.cityofchicago.org All city departments

www.cookcountyassessor.com Property assessments

www.cookcountytreasurer.com Property taxes

www.legis.state.il.us Check pending state legislation



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West Walker Civic Association

31st Annual Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale Saturday, May 14, 2016, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - rain or shine

All West Walker residents are invited to participate in our
31st Annual Garage and Yard Sale

Cost to participate is \$5 for WWCA members and \$10 for non-members.
Your \$5 or \$10 helps pay the cost of advertising and printing.

The sale is advertised in the following newspapers and online sites:
Chicago Tribune • Red Eye • Hoy • Reader • Reader On-Line • Craigslist

Signs are posted on the main perimeter streets.

3,000 maps indicating the location of each participating garage or yard
are distributed the week of the sale.

Under **current city ordinance**, every home having a garage or yard sale must display a **Garage Sale Permit**, which must be acquired from your alderman's office. The Garage and Yard Sale Committee will file the applications and obtain the permits for all paid participants. **Your permit will be delivered to your address the Friday before the sale. (There will be NO confirmation given before that.)**

Return the form below to have your address listed as a participant in the sale, along with your application fee by May 6, 2016.

Or sign up on the WWCA website at <http://www.westwalker.org>.

For further information call Mike Webber at 773.539.8346.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION GARAGE AND YARD SALE

Saturday, May 14, 2016

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
E-MAIL: _____

- I am a member of the West Walker Civic Association. Enclosed is my **\$5** participation fee.
- I am **not now a member** of the West Walker Civic Association but want to join. Enclosed is my **\$20** participation fee. Please credit \$15 toward my WWCA dues for 2015-2016.
- I am **not** a member of the West Walker Civic Association. Enclosed is my **\$10** participation fee.

Please make your check payable to: **WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION.**

Mail or drop off your form and payment for receipt **no later than May 6, 2016** to:

Mike Webber, 4036 N. Avers Ave, Chicago, IL 60618