

## WESTWALKER ——WIRE——

### **DECEMBER 2017**

www.westwalker.org

### Filament Holiday Special December 16



Now in its 6th year, The Filament Holiday Special has become a beloved tradition to kick off the holiday season. Friends and families gather for a screening of two holiday classics, A Charlie Brown Christmas & How the Grinch Stole Christmas, voiced by your favorite

Filament actors with live accompaniment provided by our very own Slap Happy Jazz Trio!

The Holiday Special will be on Saturday, December 16th at 2 pm & 5 pm. Tickets are \$18 each and can be purchased online at www. filamenttheatre.org/holidayspecial/. Filament Theater is located at 4041 N. Milwaukee.

Doors open 30 minutes prior to the performance. Popcorn & other concessions will be available for purchase (If you have any dietary restrictions in your group, you are welcome to bring your own snacks). The performance will last about 75 minutes with an intermission. All ages are welcome!

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### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Dec. 19 ● 10 am to 7 pm. Winter Holiday Family Day Schurz High School 3601 N. Milwaukee

Wed., Dec. 20 • 7:30 pm Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting 17th District Community Room 4650 N. Pulaski

Wed., Jan. 17 • 7:30 pm Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting 17th District Community Room 4650 N. Pulaski

Sun., Jan 28 • 2 pm Irving Park Fine Arts Series Presents ~Nois Irving Park Lutheran Church 4100 N. Harding Ave.

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

### Dear Neighbor,

gëzuar Krishtlindja Shnorhavor Surb tsnund					
<i>vesela koleda</i> shèng dàn kuài lè <sup>selamat natal</sup>					
Nadelek lowen Sretan Božić God Jul					
veselé Vánoce glædelig jul					
vrolijk Kerstfeest Joyeux Noël Gilotsavt, Shobas					
fröhliche Weihnachten Mừng Chúa Giáng Sinh					
kala christongenna hag molad saméa'h					
KRISMAS KI SUBHKAMNA boldog karácsonyt					
Buon Natale souksaan wan Christmas					
merii kurisumasu SEUN-TAN CHU-KA-HAE-YO					
Noela we pîroz be <b>grecan Gozic</b> priecīgus Ziemassvētkus					
SU KALėDOMIS <b>Wesołych</b> Świąt un Crăciun fericit					
VESELE VIANOCE FELIZ NAVIDAD					

No matter how you say it, have a wonderful Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Mike Webber President Pro Tem, WCCA



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 "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."

West Walker

Celebrating over 100 years of service to the West Walker Community

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Vice President Pro Tem Davor Engel dengel@studiode.com

Secretary Treasurer Vacant Sue Gregoire

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER Dorie Westmeyer

CAPS COORDINATOR

LizMills@sbcglobal.net

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

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> EDITOR Lee Samsami Stein

WEST WALKER EMAIL BLASTS

Anne Marie O'Kelley

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.

### 45th Ward Report



I would like to wish everyone a joyous and relaxing holiday season. While we're gathered with friends and family enjoying warm meals and holiday libations, let's all take a moment to express our gratitude for one another and for the blessings we have.

While you're out shopping for gifts, consider patronizing one of the many options we have in our community. Among old favorites such as Sabatino's (4441 W. Irving Park) and Edible Arrangements (4333 W. Irving Park), the Old Irving Park and Independence Park area recently welcomed Back Lot Coffee (3982 N. Avondale) and Hearth and Crust (3608 W. Irving Park). Fischman's Bottle Shop (4054 N. Milwaukee) and Distinct Bath and Body (4046 N. Milwaukee) also hosted grand openings in the Six Corners Shopping District in November.

The ever-expanding options in our community create an opportunity to give unique, local gifts this holiday season. When you shop in our community, your money stays in our community. Shopping locally helps support small businesses and increases the vibrancy of our neighborhoods.

### 'Becky Shaw' at Windy City Playhouse Until December 17

Becky Shaw, written by Gina Gionfriddo and directed by Scott Weinstein, tells the story of a newlywed couple who take it upon themselves to fix up two romantically challenged friends: wife's best friend, and husband's sexy and strange new co-worker. When an evening calculated to bring happiness takes a wrong turn, wickedly funny antics ensue in this "blind-date-gone-bad black comedy."

Scenic designer Jeffrey Kmiec has conceived a uniquely immersive, 360-degree viewing experience. And it to make it as exclusive as possible, there will be only 70 of our signature club chair-style seats each night.

Tickets are available online by visiting: http:// windycityplayhouse.com/becky-shaw/ or by phone, Monday-Friday between 10 am and 6 pm. Phone lines are also open 2 hours prior to every performance. Call 773-891-8985 to make your reservations. Windy City Playhouse is located at 3014 W. Irving Park Rd.

### **REAL ESTATE NEWS**



By Dorie Westmeyer Realtor®, MBA, ADPR Your Neighborhood Realtor!

### 2017 West Walker Home Sales Strong!

Hi Neighbors,

2017 was a great year for real estate in West Walker. Sale prices were up and time to sell was down! Here is a recap through November 30 2017 versus same time in 2016.

### **Single Family Homes**

34 homes sold at an average sale price of \$513,085 compared to \$446,054 last year; an increase of 15%! Average time to sell was 53 days compared to 140 days last year.

### **Condos/Townhomes**

There were 21 sales at a median sale price of \$190,500 compared to \$155,000 last year; an increase of 23%. Average time to sell was 48 days compared to 115 days last year.

I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

If you're thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to get the highest sale price, please call me for a free home consultation.

Call Dorie, Your Neighborhood Realtor 847-989-4870

### **Dorie Westmeyer**

charles rutenberg realty 847-989-4870 · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com

## CAPS Report

### Beats 1722 & 1723 Meeting, November 15, 2017

#### No Report

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, December 20, 2017. 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.

Here's how to reach or follow the 17th District CAPS office.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CAPS.017 Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17 Email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org Phone: 312-742-4588 Event Calendar: http://home.chicagopolice.org

Liz Mills CAPS Coordinator



Happy Holidays to You and Your Family!

I've met so many wonderful neighbors and just want to say thank you.



Dorie Westmeyer Realtor®, MBA, ADPR Your Neighborhood Realtor

Dorie Westmeyer · 847-989-4870 · charles rutenberg realty · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com

### Christmas Worship at Irving Park Lutheran Church

There's a place for you this Christmas at Irving Park Lutheran Church, located at 3938 West Belle Plaine.

#### Sunday Dec. 24th, 10:30 am

A Simple Advent & Christmas Service for Young Children & Everyone Else!

Sunday Dec. 24th, 10:30 pm Festive Worship with Candlelight

Monday Dec. 25th, 10:30 am Christmas Day Worship with Lessons and Carols

Sunday December 31st, 10:30 am 1st Sunday of Christmas

**Sunday January 7th, 10:30 am** Celebrating Epiphany

### Miriam Circle Christmas Cookie Sale and Craft Boutique

Sunday, December 17, in the fellowship hall at Irving Park Lutheran Church, sale begins at 9:15 and continues until noon.

### **Seeking Senior Volunteers**

Are you 55 years of age or older and looking for engaging volunteer work in Chicago? AARP RSVP (Retired and Seniors Volunteer Program) is looking for Volunteers 55+ in age to help with Irving Park Food Pantry (and other opportunities as well). AARP RSVP program partners with over 30 non-profits throughout Chicago, including Irving Park Food Pantry, to place individuals age 55 and over in meaningful volunteer roles. Contact Jen O'Grady, IPLC member and Project Director for the AARP RSVP Chicago for more information at jogrady@aarp.org.

### 39th Ward Report



The magical atmosphere of the holidays has returned to Chicago! Christkindlemarket is open in Daley Plaza and will remain open until December 24, when it will close at 4 p.m. The city's Christmas Tree is glowing in Millennium Park near the intersection of Michigan Ave. and Washington Street. Also in

Millennium Park, the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink opened on November 17 and remains open until March 4, 2018 (weather permitting). Join the carolers at Millennium Park's Cloud Gate (the bean) on Fridays, from 6-7.

Our office is again a proud drop off center for Toys for Tots. Help spread holiday cheer to all children in need and donate new and unwrapped toys at my office. I am also partnering with County Commissioner Bridget Gainer for her annual toiletry drive for women in Cook County jail. My office is proud to host a toiletry drop off box in our office. We will accept all donations during office hours.

With winter comes snow, and many people rely on walking and transit as their primary way to get around. Without a wide, clear path through snow and ice, it is especially difficult for people with disabilities, seniors and children to walk safely. Please remember that it is the responsibility of homeowners and occupants to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks according to the Municipal Code of Chicago.

On December 1, at 3:00 am the City of Chicago activated the Winter Overnight Parking Restrictions for the most critical arterial streets between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. This seasonal parking restriction is in effect until April 1, whether or not there is snow on the ground.

The holiday season brings out the best in people and reminds us of our blessings. Best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

Dorsi Thillens Finnegan

dthillens@thillens.com

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President



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### News and Events from Carlson Community Services



Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit connecting

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



Top: Jen and Matt Olson (left) compare team scores with rival Joel Reese. Bottom: West Walker neighbors testing their trivia knowledge at Carlson's Trivia Night.

### Carlson Programs Win Big at Trivia Night

Thanks to everyone who participated in Carlson Community Services' November Trivia Night to benefit Carlson's programs. Eighteen teams battled for the \$200 cash prize and bragging rights in the organization's 11th contest. From players to sponsors to raffle and beverage donors, we are grateful for your support!

A team led by Rod Zech won the 8-round competition, leading the scoring for much of the night. Good competitors and good sports, their team donated their \$200 in prize winnings back to Carlson Community Services. It should be noted this was Zech's fourth Trivia Night win!

The evening netted over \$10,000 for Carlson's programs: The Magic After-School Place, Three Brothers Garden and the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series.

Thanks to the following Round Sponsors and Raffle Prize

donors who helped make the evening a financial success: Round Sponsors were Dorie Westmeyer, Charles Rutenberg Realty; Wintrust Bank; Alderman John Arena; Wendy's; Clarity Partners and Carlson Community Services Board & Committees. Raffle and silent auction donors were Bruce Anderson, Windy City Playhouse, Hearth & Crust, Mike & Dorene Jordan and Friends of Carlson. Special thanks to Lagunitas Brewing Company, Mark & Helen Lira, Laurie Gardner and Capones Liquor for beer and wine donations. Appetizers were provided by The Picnic Basket and Seafood City. A shout goes out to our many volunteers and to our host, Irving Park Lutheran Church for their help in making the event a success. Another fun night in the neighborhood for a great cause!

### Free Concert 1/28/2018

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a free concert featuring saxophone quartet Nois on Sunday, January 28th at 2:00 p.m. Nois was formed in 2016 by Northwestern University graduate students Hunter Bockes, János Csontos, Jordan Lulloff, and Brandon Quarles. The quartet will present a diverse program of contemporary classical music, including works



Saxophone Quartet ~Nois will perform January 28th at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

written especially for the ensemble. Nois will also perform works by Robert Schumann and George Gershwin

The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Admission to the concert is free of charge, although donations are gladly welcomed. A reception with the artists follows the concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. Bring the family!

The 2017/2018 Fine Arts season is dedicated to the memory of Nancy and Gordon Johnson, the Irving Park Lutheran Church members who with Artistic Director Roger Bingaman founded the series in 1994. The final concert of the season is Ling's Classical Strings on March 18th. All performances are at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

For more information about Carlson Community Services and its programs, visit www.carlsoncommunityservices. org or contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766.



### News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

### Pantry Celebrates Holidays December 20th

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry will hold its annual holiday distribution for clients on Wednesday, December 20th. At this event each year,



we close the Pantry to our typical Wednesday operation and provide our qualified clients with the makings of a holiday dinner. We also allow clients with children up to 12 years old to "shop" our Toy Room for a gift and a book for each child.

To fill these needs, we are especially in need of stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned yams and vegetables, instant potatoes, cake mixes, Jell-O and canned pumpkin. Monetary donations to help buy these items are especially appreciated, as we often can leverage our volume and sources to buy at greatly reduced prices.

We typically give out about 400 toys. Your donations help even more this year, as we will not receive support from Toys for Tots due to the personal information they now require about each recipient.

We especially need gifts for older children (age 10 to 12). Books always are gone early for all ages. We're also collecting stocking stuffers for all ages. Hats, gloves, scarves, blankets and other personal items also are encouraged.

Unwrapped new toys and food donations can be brought to the Pantry at the Irving Park United Methodist Church (3801 N. Keeler Ave.) during Pantry hours (9 to noon on Wednesdays and 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12th). Additional drop-off points will be announced on our Facebook page.

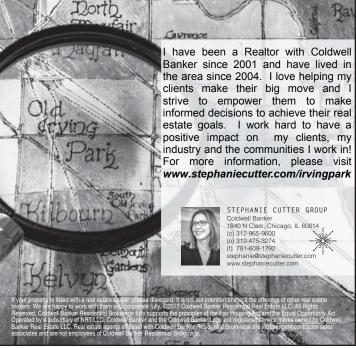
Volunteers are needed to collect toys, set up the toy room Tuesday night and help with the toy distribution on December 15th. For information or to volunteer, contact Sara Yoest at sara.yoest74@gmail.com.

Please remember to use the Amazon Smile feature at Amazon when you shop for the holidays at that site. If

Volunteers (like this group in 2016) are needed to help set-up our Toy Room prior to the event and to help clients select gifts on Wednesday, December 20th. For more information, contact Sara Yoest at sara.yoest74@gmail.com. Photo by Vicci Rodgers

you use that bookmark (which doesn't change how you access the site) and designate the Pantry as the recipient, we will receive 0.5% of the price of all purchases made all year long. It adds up!

## Stephanie Cutter







THE COSGROVE LAW FIRM L.L.C 4316 N ELSTON AVE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60641

### Holiday Gift-Making, Concert and School Tours at Schurz High School

Join us on **Tuesday, December 19,** from 10 am to 7 pm as Schurz opens its doors to the community and area students for a Winter Holiday Family Day. This free event includes free morning and evening concerts, tours of the school, crafts and gifts to make yourself, craft bazaar with gifts for purchase, a holiday picture booth, and more! Come visit the Friends of Schurz table, and bring an item to donate to Schurz's food, toy, and clothing drive!





 All proceeds will go to participating Schurz Clubs

> "My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others."

> > Bob Hope







Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! Here's a list of neighbors who have joined or renewed as of December:

#### Peter and Carla Forster

### It's Membership Renewal Time!

WWCA MEMBERSHIP runs May I 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 2017-2018 dues to our next WWCA meeting or mail in 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

	<b>1</b> TIME	<u>3 TIMES</u>	<u>6_TIMES</u>	10 TIMES
Business card (3.5" wide x 2" hig		\$50 🗖	\$95 🗖	\$130 🗖
1/4-page ad (3.7" wide x 5" hig		\$85 🗖	\$165 🗖	\$265 🗖
1/2-page ad (7.5" wide x 5" hig		\$170 🗖	\$335 🗖	\$525 🗖
Full-page ad (8" wide x 10" hig	\$125 🗖 h)	\$335 🗖	\$665 🗖	\$1,055 🗖
Business Nam	le:			
Mailing Addre	ess:			
Contact Name	•			
Contact Phone	e:			

#### 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. Highresolution 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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Let them know you saw them in the West Walker Wire.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018					
Check one:	FAMILY \$15	BUSINESS \$20	SENIOR \$5		
NAME: (Please print. Write	e your name as you would like	e it to appear in the West Walker W	 Vire.)		
ADDRESS:					
PHONE:			I		
Please note your e	e-mail address if you would lik	e to receive e-mail updates:	I		
E-MAIL:			I		
Mail or dro	5 1 5	able to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSO s to: Sue Gregoire, 4106 N Springf			



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