

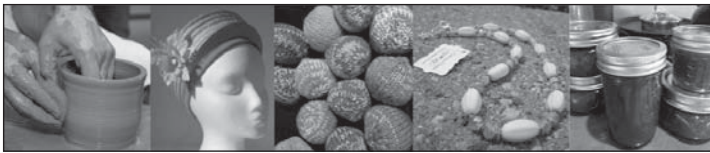


# WEST WALKER WIRE

SEPTEMBER 2019

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

## St. John's Art Fair Celebrates Local Artists and Artisans



On Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27, St. John's Episcopal Church on Chicago's Northwest Side will host a new Art Fair, celebrating new and local talent in visual, culinary and horticultural art with a focus on sustainability, recycled and upcycled materials. Do your part for the earth and local business and shop for art, food, crafts, jewelry, and home goods. Homemade, recycled and up-cycled items are all made by local artists and artisans. On Saturday from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. (or until supplies last!), enjoy a homemade bread and chili lunch, vegetarian and gluten free options available for only \$5. St. John's Episcopal Church is located at at 3857 N. Kostner Avenue.

The fair will run:

**Saturday, October 26 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.**

**Sunday, October 27 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

\*\* There will be a Homemade Chili Lunch on Saturday from 12:00 to 2:00 pm.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Tues., Sept. 17 • 7:00 pm**  
Public Meeting with Ald. Gardiner  
Re: The Point at Six Corners  
Copernicus Center Theater  
5216 W Lawrence Ave

**Wed., Sept. 18 • 7:00 pm**  
Beats 1722-1723 CAPS Meeting  
17th District Community Room  
4650 N. Pulaski

**Wed., Sept. 18 • 9:00 am**  
Chicago Public Library Board of  
Directors Meeting  
Independence Branch Library  
4024 N. Elston  
**Open to the public.**

**2nd & 4th Sundays • 9 am - 1 pm**  
GIPNA Farmers Markets  
at Independence Park  
Springfield and Irving Park Roads  
Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Oct. 28

**Fri., Sept. 27 • 7:30 - 9:30 pm**  
Free Concert by Sones de Mexico  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
3857 N. Kostner

**Sat., Sept. 28 • 10 - 11:30 am**  
Meeting of Friends of Independence  
Branch Library, 4024 N. Elston  
**Open to the public.**

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

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

# Dear Neighbor,

THE WEST WALKER SIGN IS BACK! Some of you may have noticed that our Welcome to West Walker sign in the island at Avers, Berteau, and Elston was missing after being knocked down by a car. It was repaired and returned to the same spot over the summer thanks to the efforts of West Walker Neighbor Beth Stern and The Stripp Joynt. Beth led the effort and Moises and his Crew at The Stripp Joint volunteered their expertise, materials and muscle to get the sign back on site. A big shout out and thanks to all of them for their contributions.

CONGESTION ON IRVING PARK has started in Old Irving Park and will be coming East over the next several months. The City is installing new water mains under Irving Park Road. Here is the anticipated schedule from the City: "Phase I of the project will begin in the eastbound lanes from N. Kolmar Ave. to N. Keeler Ave. In early October installation of water pipe will begin in westbound lanes between N. Keeler Ave. and N. Harding Ave. Phase II will begin in the westbound lanes from N. Kolmar Ave. to N. Keeler Ave. after completion of Phase I and should be completed late December." The project has actually started a little ahead of schedule. Keep an eye on the weekly West Walker email Blasts for updates.

COONEY'S FUNERAL HOME on Irving Park is for sale. One buyer seriously considering the property is the Unity Chicago, currently located at 1925 W. Thorne. More information regarding Unity Chicago is available on their website, [unitychicago.org](http://unitychicago.org). Their proposed occupancy would leave the exterior intact while performing interior modifications to accommodate their needs. As a religious organization, they would seek a special use permit for religious use, but no zoning change would be required. Updates on this potential sale and process for a special use permit will be provided as information is available.

Mike Webber  
WWCA President, Pro Tem



Thanks to Beth Stern and The Stripp Joynt for this beautiful sign!

## 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**

### 2018-2019 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  
LizMills@sbcglobal.net

Send crime concerns to Ed Gardner  
at [westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com](mailto:westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com)

### WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Chris & Mauve Altman  
Carol Barry  
Eric Bauer  
Beverly Birch  
Tori Bohannon & John Lopez  
Shannon Bunting  
Terry Culver  
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Sue Trudeau & Tom Williams

### 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](mailto:west_walker_wire@yahoo.com).

*Please include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space and content. For information on advertising, please contact Shannan Bunting at [WWWire@solsticepr.com](mailto:WWWire@solsticepr.com).*



# 39th Ward Report

Hello West Walker Neighbors,

I hope you are enjoying these last few weeks of summer. It was great seeing so many of you at the 39th Ward's first Neighborhood Night at Café Urbano. I will continue to host these community meetings across the Ward. Commissioner Conner with the Department of Water Management and members from his team came to provide updates on the Harding Water Project. The project is in its final stages. I am working with the Commissioner's Office to ensure the timely restoration of your streets.

Across the Ward street resurfacing projects are in full swing. Please continue to call us with pothole filling requests or any other service requests you may need. The Bureau of Forestry just completed a tree trimming blitz here in the 39th Ward. Tree trimming requests do tend to take a bit of time, calling requests in now helps get you on the list for trims later this winter and spring.

We have had several property tax workshops at the office. If you have any questions about exemptions or appeals, please give us a call. We work closely with Cook County Commissioners Bridget Gainer and Bridget Degnen.



*Big thank you to West Walker resident Michael Mills, who served as a summer intern at the 39th Ward office.*

I want to give a special shout out and big thank you to Michael Mills, your West Walker neighbor who was an intern in the 39th Ward Public Service Office

this summer. Michael was a true asset to the team, and we are beyond sad to see him go. Good luck at school this year Michael!

As always, please call our office at 773.736.5594 or email ward39@cityofchicago.org with any questions or concerns you may have. We are open until 8pm every Monday night for Ward Night and from 9am-5pm Tuesday through Friday. We're here to help.

Wishing you all the best, Alderman Samantha Nugent

## REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer  
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

*Your Neighborhood Realtor!*

### How's the Real Estate Market?

Real estate sales in Chicago slowed over the summer. Once kids are back in school, sales and prices increase through mid-November. If you are thinking of selling your home, fall is a great time.

Here are a few fast facts:

- Chicago median sale price year-to-date is up 4.2%; Irving Park is up 5%. Median sale prices year-to-date in West Walker — single family home \$423,000, multi-family \$432,000.
- Mortgage rates are at their lowest since 2016. A \$350,000 mortgage at 3.75% will cost \$200 month less than prior rates of 4.75%. So buyers can afford more home. That's great news for buyers and sellers!
- The number of homes for sale in Chicago is up 8.4% and it takes 10 days longer to sell.
- Zillow predicts a more balanced (possibly buyers) market with Chicago home prices expected to go down 1.6% in the next year.

**Are you wondering what your home is worth or if you should make updates before you sell? If you, or someone you know, are thinking of selling in the next 24 months & want to get the highest sale price, please call me for a free home consultation.**

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**Dorie Westmeyer**  
CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY  
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# CAPS Report

## Beats 1722 & 1723 Meeting August 21, 2019

### 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 held monthly on the third Wednesday, at the 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski, in the Community Room. Meetings typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

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.

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

## Free Concert at St. John's Episcopal Church

On Friday, September 27, from 7:30 -9:30 pm, Grammy-nominated and premier Mexican folk music ensemble, **Sones de Mexico**, will perform an interweaving of song, dance and storytelling

to create a cross-cultural banquet of engaging and innovative regional music. This concert is FREE! St. John's Episcopal is located at 3857 N. Kostner Avenue.



## West Walker Homes SOLD!



4034 N. Harding



4249 N. Hamlin



4239 N. Ridgeway



4017 N. Harding



4137 N. Pulaski

"I cannot speak highly enough of Dorie. She was with me through the whole process of selling my current home and buying a new one. She took the initiative to do extensive research on both neighborhoods, post ads for both the sale and my search for a new house, and provide critical guidance on the process & price negotiations. She sold my house within a week of listing and at the price I wanted. Her knowledge of the neighborhoods was invaluable and she constantly went above and beyond to make the process easier for me." — Jake Gerstein

**I love our neighborhood & have lived here for over 20 years.  
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.**

Dorie Westmeyer · 847-989-4870 · CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com



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## The Raveling at Walkabout Theater

Walkabout Theater Company is pleased to present the world premiere of **The Raveling**, an avant-garde family history drama. The show will be presented in a rare, public process of development with performances at parks throughout the Chicago area. Tickets for the Independence Park performances, which will take place on September 13th & 14th, are currently available at [walkabouttheater.org](http://walkabouttheater.org).

## Silent Theatre Co Announces Presents "Incomplete Conversations"

Silent Theatre Company presents a brand new, site specific, immersive play, **Incomplete Conversations**. This play will take place in every room of Tapestry Fellowship Church (3824 W. Irving Park) and explores the emotional shockwaves of an unexpected death within a family and a church community. It wrestles with questions of when we ought to speak up, when we ought to keep quiet and how to love people with whom we disagree. To accomplish this exploration, the audience is invited to enter and immerse themselves in multi-dimensional action that will fill up all the spaces in this real church where the family prepares to bury the young pastor, say their goodbyes and maybe find out who killed him.

Written and directed by Nell Voss in collaboration with Tonika Todorova and the sixteen members of the ensemble. Preview Performances are October 25th and 26th at 7:30 pm. Opening/press night is Monday, October 28th at 7:00 pm. Regular performances begin November 1st and run Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7:30 pm through November 23rd. Preview tickets are free and regular run tickets are \$20 or pay what you can. For more information, and to purchase tickets please visit [silenttheatre.com](http://silenttheatre.com).

## News From Irving Park Lutheran Church

**Sing with the Choir at IPLC Sundays this Fall!** The Chancel Choir rehearses every Sunday at 9:15 am (except 2nd Sundays). The rehearsal schedule is designed to accommodate busy lives and encourage drop-ins; come whenever you can—you don't even need to sit with the choir during the service, just come on up to sing after sharing the Peace.

# TRIANGLE

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**Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast: Sunday September 15th in the IPLC Gym** Stop by the Gym on Sunday September 16th before or after worship to enjoy pancakes and sausages prepared by our very own Boy Scout Troop. The pancakes will be ready as early as 8 am and up until noon.

## Six Corners Public Meeting

Alderman Gardiner is hosting a public meeting regarding the changes to the proposed development at The Point at Six Corners, 3973 N.



Milwaukee Avenue. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17 at the Copernicus Center (5216 W. Lawrence) in the Theater at 7:00 pm. The alderman looks forward to listening to the community's feedback.



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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.

### Boy Scout Eagle Project Aids Three Brothers Garden

Carlson Community Services' Three Brothers Garden was the beneficiary of an Eagle Scout project to restore the garden's fence. Boy Scout Jack Haneberg, from Troop 863, provided the labor to replace a cedar fence that was removed in the process of expanding the adjacent parking lot. The garden property is owned by Irving Park Lutheran Church, Carlson's partner on the project.

In part due to the parking lot expansion, Three Brothers Garden coordinators chose not to plant the garden this season. In past seasons, as much as 900 lbs. of vegetables have been donated to clients of the Irving Park Food Pantry. This summer measures have been taken to restore nutrients to the soil and eradicate pests,

two issues which affected the garden's yield last year.

The garden has benefited from several Boy Scout Eagle Scout projects. In fall 2019, Old Irving Park resident Ian McDonald rebuilt the garden's cedar beds. We are grateful to our Scouts!

Garden volunteers are looking forward to returning the garden to full production in spring 2020. In the meantime, if you'd like to help with garden maintenance throughout the fall, contact Liz Mills at [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org) or 773-398-6766. Gardeners of all experience levels are welcome. Students in need of service hours find working in the garden with other teens fun and rewarding. The garden is located at 4107 N. Pulaski Rd. and is a project of Carlson Community Services. The mission of Carlson is to connect the Irving Park Community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service.



Jack Haneberg (left), Erik Haneberg and Zach Rodgers replace fencing at Three Brothers Garden. Jack and members of Boy Scout Troop 863 did restoration work at the garden for Jack's Eagle Scout project.

## Another West Walker Home SOLD!



**4232 N Harding - #2S - SOLD - received multiple offers in 3 days!**

"Dorie helped me find this residence, so when I was ready to sell, I immediately called her. She was wonderful in every way and at every moment: available, knowledgeable, happy to explain and advise. She also provided much needed reassurance and advice at the sticky points. She showed great concern for me as a person as well as being very professional. I would recommend her without reservation. I would work with her again if I were still living in the area." – Ellen Wondra

**I love our neighborhood & can help you get top dollar for your home.  
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## News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

### Pantry Plans Open House in New Location!

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry has moved to Emanuel United Methodist Church at 4256 N. Ridgeway (60618). The Pantry will continue to serve its clients in the 60641 and western half of 60618 ZIP codes from this new location during its usual hours: Wednesday mornings from 9 am to noon and on the second Tuesday night of every month from 6 to 7:30 pm.

To let our supporters see our new home and introduce ourselves to our new neighbors, the **Pantry is holding an open house from 10 am to noon on Saturday, October 19th**. Executive Director John Psiharis, board members and many volunteers will be on hand to show off the facility and the Pantry's new operations.

We would like to thank all of the volunteers who put in many hours strategizing, planning and helping in many ways to ensure the move was accomplished smoothly. We especially want to thank Pastor Audrey Molina, Assistant Pastor Jesus Molina and the Emanuel UMC congregation for their support.

If you are interested in volunteering at our new location, please contact our Volunteer Managers at [volunteer@irvingparkfoodpantry.org](mailto:volunteer@irvingparkfoodpantry.org). Donations to help fund the move can be sent via our website at [irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://irvingparkfoodpantry.org).

The Pantry is pleased to announce that it has added two new board members to fill open seats from earlier resignations. The new members are Pam Voitik, a volunteer in our Pet Food Corner who also works with the Community Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) on the North Shore, and Craig Shutt, the Pantry's Publicity Coordinator and 2019 Volunteer of the Year. We look forward to working with them and welcome their contributions to our planning efforts.

The Pantry has been approved by Petco Foundation to be a community partner. Stores are now able to partner with us for donations, collections or other activities.

Thank you to the volunteers from Sow Chicago, Highland Baptist Youth Group and GenSend missions who volunteered this summer at the Pantry. We enjoyed visiting with these young people from around the country and letting them learn about the Pantry.

Thank you to Isabel Navarro, who contacts corporations with neighborhood stores to ask for donations. She brought in boxes of noodles, baby food, diapers and large



*The Pantry has moved from its former location of 35 years to the Emanuel United Methodist Church at 4256 N. Ridgeway (60618), from where it will continue to serve its same client base in the 60641 and western half of 60618 ZIP codes. Photo by Craig Shutt*

bottles of shampoo this month. We appreciate everyone who contributes time, effort and money to help us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



### St. Edward School

Saturday, September 28, is the annual Harvest Bash, held in the church parking lot, 4350 W. Sunnyside.

We will have a variety of activities for every age! From 3:30-5:30 pm: kids' games and activities. Outdoor Mass at 5:30 pm, followed by food, cash bar and live music from 6:30-10 pm. Presale tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids (includes food and entertainment).

Join us for Welcome Wednesday, October 2nd, with registration beginning at 8:30 am in the main building, 4343 W. Sunnyside. Meet our principal, teachers and students! Email [RSVP@stedwardschool.com](mailto:RSVP@stedwardschool.com) for information.

Community Events gives you a night off from cooking and benefits St. Ed's! Help support our school at the following: **Wednesday, September 18th:** Easy Street - 3750 N Central Ave.; good for all dine-in, carry out and delivery orders, just mention St. Ed's. **Tuesday, October 1st** from 5 pm-8 pm; Portillo's Harwood Heights, 7308 W. Lawrence Ave.; need flyer (available online).

We are a 2017 recipient of the National Blue Ribbon and are located at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue. We welcome students in grades PK3 - 8th grade. For more information, please visit our website at [www.stedwardschool.com](http://www.stedwardschool.com) or call us at 773-736-9133.



**Stephanie Cutter**  
Irving Park Real Estate

**3854 N Kostner Ave**



This Chicago Landmark home, built circa 1872, also known as the John & Clara Merchant House, is now available for sale for the first time in 47 years!

**Contact Stephanie for pricing!**



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*Romans 1:20*

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## Schurz Showcase

### Schurz Unveils New Field

As of Friday, September 6th, Schurz' beautiful field, dedicated many years ago to beloved Schurz coach and teacher



Frank Preo, finally does justice to both Frank and our amazing school. In Frank's stead, daughter Adria Preo wrote a moving and heartfelt tribute to her father, delivered with humor and heart by Schurz alum John St. Augustine. Thanks to longtime friend and fellow Schurz coach Jack Olichwier, for joining us on behalf of Coach Preo. As always, we thank The Bulldog Nation for being a constant support, both emotionally and financially, for the programs offered at this school as well as the teachers that facilitate them for our students. As we watch our students enjoying P.E. class outdoors, student athletes honing their skills after school, and moms and dads kicking the ball around in the early evening, we are grateful to everyone in the Schurz community for their support and patience through this long process.

Thanks to Committeeman John Arena for working tirelessly to bring this project to fruition during his tenure as alderman of the 45th ward. Thanks to current 45th ward Alderman Jim Gardiner for being a source of constant support and a regular presence at our school, and thanks go as well to the elected officials in attendance yesterday: Senator Iris Y. Martinez, State Rep. Will Guzzardi (39th District), Alderman Ariel Reboyras (30th Ward) and Alderman Samantha Nugent (39th Ward) for their support. Thank you to Jaime Andrade, State Representative (40th District), for sending his wishes along with Michael, one of his 40th District team.

Our 1st Annual Students vs. Staff 16" softball game was a ton of fun with the old-timers bringing home the trophy with a 10-1 victory over the youngsters. Age before beauty!

And to top off the most wonderful of days, the Schurz Bulldog soccer teams brought home 2 wins against Mather under the Friday Night Lights for the very first time! Thank you to everyone attendance for sharing in this amazing experience! Live Purple. Love Gold. Go Bulldogs!





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## WWCA Members

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

**Blits Family**  
**Philip & Roberta Bole**  
**Nathan Bross**  
**Christopher Cameron**  
**Bill Dugan & Tracy Monko**  
**Davor & Connie Engel**  
**Mindy Finnigan**  
**Peter & Carla Forster**  
**Heminover Family**  
**Wayne & Martha Johnson**  
**Arlene Klimara**  
**Theresa Litman**  
**Beth & Steve Omans**  
**Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews**  
**Kyle & Kimberly Pecka**  
**Margaret Perez**  
**Melanie & Rick Reschke**  
**Theresa & John Rowe**  
**Tom & Nancy Walker**

## 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, and a LOT MORE!

**Stay Current with West Walker Blasts!**  
To submit an announcement or get on the list, email [wwcablasts@gmail.com](mailto:wwcablasts@gmail.com) today!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

***Let them know you saw them in the West Walker Wire.***

**You can also pay your WWCA dues with either PayPal or a credit card at the West Walker website ([www.westwalker.org](http://www.westwalker.org))!**



**Follow West Walker Civic Association on Facebook!**

**Bring your 2019-2020 dues to our next WWCA meeting. Or you can mail in the application below.**

### WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020

Check one:            FAMILY \$15             BUSINESS \$20             SENIOR \$5

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print. Write your name as you would like it to appear in the West Walker Wire.)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note your e-mail address if you would like to receive e-mail updates:

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Mail or drop off your application and dues to: Sue Gregoire, 4106 N Springfield, Chicago, IL 60618

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We encourage you to stop by if you need help accessing state services and to share your thoughts and ideas on ways to improve our community and state.



IL 40<sup>th</sup> District- Jaime Andrade