



# WEST WALKER WIRE

NOVEMBER 2019

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

## St. Viator Winterfest Begins December 6

Mark your calendars for St. Viator Elementary School & Parish Annual Winterfest on Friday, December 6 through Sunday, December 8th. There is something for everyone in the family: an outdoor skating rink, mistletoe market Craft Fair, cookie-decorating, snowflake cafe and hot cocoa bar, north pole bar, elf village bouncy houses, photos with Santa and wreath and tree sales! Hours of the fest are Friday: 5 pm - 9 pm, Saturday, 11 am - 9 pm, Sunday, 9 am to 4 pm. St. Viator is located at 4140 W. Addison. Visit [www.stviatorchicago.org](http://www.stviatorchicago.org) for more information!



## Basketball for 40+ on Sundays

Did you know that there are basketball pick up games for neighbors 40 and over? They take place at the gymnasium of Irving Park Lutheran Church (4057 N. Harding) every Sunday from 2 to 3 pm. Participation is \$5.00 per Sunday, collected in cash at time of play. For more information, contact [SteveOmans@gmail.com](mailto:SteveOmans@gmail.com).

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Sun, Nov. 10 • 2:00 pm

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Music for Piano, Oboe and Bassoon  
Irving Park Lutheran Church,  
4100 N. Harding Ave.  
*Free Admission, Reception with the Artists*

### Sat., Nov. 16 • noon

### Thur., Dec. 5 • 6:00 pm

Long Term Care Action Plan Seminar  
4100 N. Harding Ave.  
*Free Admission, RSVP,  
See page 4 for more information*

### Wed., Nov. 20 • 7:00 p.m.

Beats 1722/1723 CAPS Meeting  
17th District Community Room  
4650 N. Pulaski Ave.

### Thur., Nov 28 • 1 - 4 pm

### Free Thanksgiving Dinner

St. John's Lutheran Church  
4939 W. Montrose  
*See page 9 for details*

### Sun., Dec. 8 • 2:00 pm.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents A Latin Jazz Christmas  
Irving Park Lutheran Church,  
4100 N. Harding Ave.  
*Free Admission, Reception with the Artists*

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

# CAPS Report

## Beats 1722 & 1723 Meeting October 16, 2019

**In attendance:** CAPS facilitator Stacey Tucker, CAPS officer Jerry Zander, Tac Lt. Michelene Alexa, Beat Officers, Scott from Ald. Rosa's office (35th), Veronica from Ald. Rodriguez-Sanchez's office (33rd) and approximately 35 residents.

CAPS Officer Zander started the meeting by acknowledging that auto thefts and thefts from autos are up throughout the 17th District. He reminded everyone not to leave valuables in your vehicle and certainly not in sight. The thefts seem to be cyclical and hopefully will subside.

Officer Zander introduced Tactical Lt. Michelene Alexa who works on guns, gangs and drugs in the 17th district. She was hired by Commander Pontecore when he was assigned to 17 last fall. Through targeted efforts, Tac officers have broken up robbery rings which has resulted in a 47% decrease in robberies in the 17th district. They have also recovered drugs and weapons in targeted actions. The Conservative Vice Lords and Gangster Disciple gangs are active in Beat 1722, but the officers have increased their presence on the blocks where the gangs are known to be. (All of West Walker lies in Beat 1723, which has been fairly quiet.) Lt. Alexa asked that neighbors continue to report suspicious activity and graffiti. Photos of graffiti, gang or otherwise can be sent directly to her at michelene.alex@chicagopolice.org. Please include location and continue to report to 311 for removal.

A sergeant on the third watch reported that crime is down substantially in the 17th District from last year. Shootings are down 42%, robberies are down 46%, burglaries are down 31% and motor vehicle theft is down 24%.

A large number of residents from the area around California and Montrose were at the meeting to talk about an individual who is smashing vehicle windows night after night on Montrose. Officers believe they have identified the individual and are taking action. Other neighbors reported on ongoing gang activity in the vicinity of Sunnyside and Central Park, of which police are aware.

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 are held on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Note: There will

*Continued on page 8*

# 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**

### 2019-2020 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

### WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Chris & Mauve Altman

Carol Barry

Eric Bauer

Beverly Birch

Tori Bohannon & John Lopez

Shannon Bunting

Terry Culver

Alexander & Max Engel

Jim Medd

Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews

Will & Caitlin Poirier

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

Tricia Ramirez & Mike Hawlitzky

Rick & Melanie Reschke

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.**

*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.*



## News From Irving Park Lutheran Church

### Hangings of the Greens, Saturday, November 30th

**10:00 am** Everyone is invited to join us Saturday, November 30th at 10 am for the “Hanging of the Greens,” getting the church ready for Advent and Christmas. This is a great activity for families—bring children and grandchildren! There’s beautiful, meaningful decorations to arrange and plenty of treats to share.

**IPLC One Church One Conversation: Sundays 9:15-10:15 am in November** Come participate in a series of discussions during the month of November from 9:15 to 10:15 am in the fellowship hall at Irving Park Lutheran Church. In keeping with this year’s Sunday School theme of “Follow Me” and the Adult Study theme of Christian relationships/community, this four week discussion is designed to engage all members in conversation and discernment on how God is working in and through our church and where we can better follow in Christ’s footsteps, including:

- Building and enhancing faith formation and spiritual growth through study and worship
- Extending our presence as the body of Christ in our community and world
- Ensuring full inclusion of our neighbors from all walks of life

These conversations are also meant to provide insight and direction to the new Church Council which will be meeting later in November to develop goals and plans for the future.

We will be using two primary sources for discussion: *Life Together, Chapter 1*, by Dietrich Boenhoeffer and Diana Butler Bass’s book *Christianity for the Rest of Us - How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith*. No pre-reading is required, however, copies of *Life Together, Chapter 1* will be available in the narthex and *Christianity for the Rest of Us* is available at Amazon.com and other booksellers. Join us and be part of the conversation!

The Bathrooms in the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym Are Being Renovated to be handicapped accessible. The upgrade will complete and enhance recent work done to other parts of the building, which is so vital to and appreciated by the community and church, as well as central to our presence and mission in the community. Currently, the gym is in use seven days a week, from early morning until late night, with more than three

*Continued on page 8*

## REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer  
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

*Your Neighborhood Realtor!*

### Will the Next Recession Impact the Real Estate Market?

There are mixed views on whether we are heading toward a recession. According to Pulsenomics August survey, 60% of experts believe there will NOT be a recession in 2020. Yahoo Finance says “If an economic recession occurs, it will not be due to a housing slowdown.”

When we hear recession, we tend to think of 2008 when home prices dropped 19.7%. But experts say market conditions are not the same as 2008. And in 3 of the 4 prior recessions, home prices actually appreciated:

1980 +6.1% 1981 +3.5% 1991 -1.9% 2001 +6.6%

According to these experts, home prices are expected to increase in 2020:

Freddie Mac +2.6% Fannie Mae +3.7%  
Mortgage Bankers +3.7%

*\*Source: Keeping Current Matters*

**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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# Book Sale

Nov. 29, 2019 - Dec. 14, 2019



*"Your words were found and I ate them, and Your word became to me the gladness and joy of my heart..."*

Jer. 15:16

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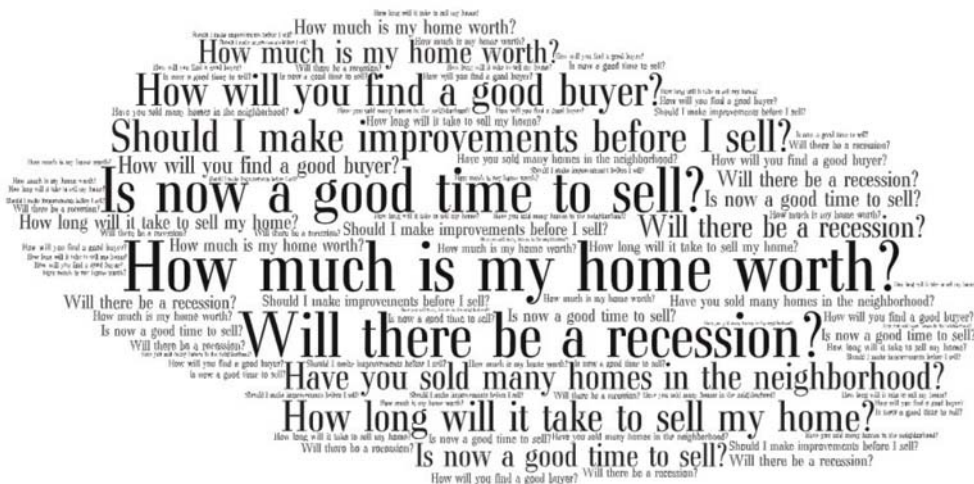
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Saturday, November 16, 2019  
Noon-1:00 pm  
Independence Library  
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Thursday, December 5, 2019  
6:00pm - 7:00pm  
Independence Library  
4024 N. Elston Ave., Chicago

## Is the thought of selling your home a little overwhelming?



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# News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

## Pantry Seeks Holiday Donations

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is gathering donations for its two holiday distributions, throughout November (for Thanksgiving) and on December 18th (for the holidays). We are asking for contributions of funds, food and fun (i.e., books and toys) to make the season brighter for those in our neighborhood who need a helping hand during the holiday season.

In November, we provide clients during our regular weekly distributions with additional meat and trimmings for a Thanksgiving dinner. On December 18th, we hold a special distribution at which clients receive the makings for a full holiday dinner and can take home a gift for each of their children, along with a book and stocking stuffer.

For these special distributions, we are especially in need of juice, stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned yams and vegetables, instant potatoes, cake mixes, Jell-O and pumpkin-pie filling.

We typically give out about 350 toys to children (up to 12 years old). For some, it will be the only gift they receive. We especially need gifts for older children (older than 10), particularly boys. Soccer balls and basketballs are popular options.

Books are popular and are especially welcome. Older boys (often hard to entice to read) typically enjoy biographies, sports and other nonfiction books targeted to their age group.

Unwrapped new toys and food donations can be brought to the Pantry at Emanuel United Methodist Church (4256 N. Ridgeway) on Wednesday mornings (8:30 to noon) or on Tuesday evening, Nov. 12th (6 to 7:30 p.m.). New, unwrapped toys only can be dropped off at Old Irving Brewing Co. (4419 W. Montrose Ave.) or the Irving Park YMCA (4251 W. Irving Park Rd.). Other local businesses will have drop-off boxes, too; please check our Facebook page.

The deadline for donating toys is Wednesday, December 11th. Volunteers are needed to collect toys, stock the layout on December 16th and 17th, and help distribute them on December 18th. To help, contact Sara Yoest at sara.yoest74@gmail.com.

We appreciate everyone's effort, time and money to help brighten our clients' holiday season and allow us to meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."



Top: Captain John Garrido and his officers dropped off the results of their 16th District coat drive at the Irving Park Food Pantry in early October. Coat-drive Volunteer Renee Linnemeyer, Publicity Coordinator Craig Shutt and Executive Director John Psiharis were on hand to accept the donation. Photo by Matt Marton

Volunteers of all ages are welcome to help the Pantry prepare for its Holiday program on December 18th. Help is needed then and the two day prior to organize and give out toys, books and stocking stuffers. Photo by Craig Shutt

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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.

### Fine Arts Concert 11/10/2019

On Sunday, November 10th, the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a concert featuring music for piano, oboe and bassoon in the first concert of its 26th season. The concert will feature a performance of the Trio for Piano, Oboe and Bassoon by Francis Poulenc. Trio members are Ricardo Castañeda, oboe, Ben Roidl-Ward, bassoon and Beatriz Helguera-Snow, piano. The trio will also perform works by Robert Schumann, Heitor Villa-Lobos and Astor Piazzola.

Ricardo Castañeda is principal oboist with the Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra and Chicago Sinfonietta. He has appeared as a soloist in Latin America, Europe and the United States. He is on the faculty at Northern Illinois University, University of Illinois at Chicago and Northeastern Illinois University.

Ben Roidl-Ward is a bassoonist and improviser based in Chicago. He is the second bassoonist of the Illinois Symphony and a member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. He is on the faculties of Carthage College, the Music Institute of Chicago, and the People's Music School.

A native of Mexico City, pianist Beatriz Helguera-Snow is an active performer as a recitalist and chamber musician. She is the founder and Artistic Director of the Chicago Panamerican Ensemble, a chamber group that promotes music of Latin American composers. She has performed extensively in Mexico and the Midwest and has taught hundreds of students over the past 30 years.

In future concerts, a Brazilian trio will present a Latin Jazz Christmas on December 8th in what promises to be a festive way to usher in the holidays. In celebration of the series' 25th anniversary, Anne Marie Lewis will perform a program titled Women in Song accompanied by pianist Celia Villacres on February 23rd. Anne Marie was featured in the Fine Arts Committee's first concert 25 years ago. The final concert of the season will be held on April 26th with Drums of Africa performing an interactive percussion demonstration.

All concerts are at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concerts are free of charge, but donations are gladly welcomed. A reception with the artists will be held after each concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. Dates and programs are subject to change.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is a program of Carlson Community Services, a non-profit serving the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. For more information, visit [carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://carlsoncommunityservices.org) or contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766.



Clockwise from top left: Ricardo Castañeda, oboe, Ben Roidl-Ward, bassoon and Beatriz Helguera-Snow, piano will perform the Poulenc Trio on November 10th at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church.



A fall garden clean-up took place in early October at Carlson Community Services' Three Brothers Garden. Opportunities to spend time in the garden will return in the spring!



### St. Edward School

This year, St. Edward School implemented the i-Ready diagnostics testing program for grades K - 8. i-Ready addresses

the individual needs of each student in reading and mathematics through effective, engaging instruction. This enables teachers to make more informed instructional decisions and motivates students to progress in their development within these subjects.

These upcoming Community Events give you a night off from cooking and benefits St. Ed's!

**Tuesday, December 3rd**, 4 to 8 pm, Panera Bread, 5508 West Touhy Avenue; flyer needed (available online).

Mark your calendars for **Casino Night on Saturday, November 16!** This new event will have games and raffles along with food and a cash bar. Starts 6:30pm till 11:30pm, Unity Hall (basement of church). Tickets: \$25 in advance / \$30 at the door.

Speaking of good food, the annual St. Ed's Boy Scout Troop 904 spaghetti dinner is Saturday, November 23 from 5pm to 8:30pm in Buckley Hall (gym) of the St. Edward School campus. The cost is \$10/adult and \$8/child for all you can eat pasta with homemade meat sauce, salad bar and dessert. There will be a cash bar and entertainment by The Cowboy Choir. Come support the boy scouts! Sign-up at [www.stedwardschool.com](http://www.stedwardschool.com).

Discover all that St. Edward School has to offer. St. Edward School is a 2017 recipient of the National Blue



*Congrats to the girls 7th grade basketball team achieving 3rd place in the Resurrection High School Tournament! They played an exciting game and won in overtime! We are BIG RED proud of you!*

Ribbon. This year we celebrate 110 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade. Before and after school care is available. For more information, please visit our website at [www.stedwardschool.com](http://www.stedwardschool.com) or call us at 773-736-9133. Our campus is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue.

### Murphy Elementary School

Friends of Murphy supports student programs and building improvements at Murphy School. Over the past 4 years, the money raised through Friends of Murphy has funded a new gym floor, a climbing wall in the gym, free after-school theater and dance classes, new audio and lighting equipment for the auditorium, materials for the gardens around the school, t-shirts for all students, and much more!

A great neighborhood needs a great school. Your donation improves West Walker, whether or not you have children at Murphy. Please help Murphy School reach our fundraising goals and become a Friend of Murphy! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at [friendsofmurphyschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmurphyschool@gmail.com)

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE** Murphy's 2019 Christmas tree fundraising event is going on now through the first week of December. Please go to [friendsofmurphy.org](http://friendsofmurphy.org) to purchase your trees or wreaths. You can pick up your order at Athletic Field Park starting November 30th, or we have a new delivery option available for anyone who lives in the 60618 zip code. Order your trees today!

**ANNUAL MURPHY MATCH FUNDRAISER** Friends of Murphy's 2019 Murphy Match fundraising drive kicks off on November 4 and continues through December 13. Every donation to a total of \$10,000 will be matched 1:1 by a generous donor.

Contribute generously by cash or check (payable to 'Friends of Murphy' and delivered to the front office at the school), by mail (check only) to Friends of Murphy c/o John B. Murphy School 3539 W. Grace Street, Chicago IL 60618, or you can contribute online at [friendsofmurphy.org/match](http://friendsofmurphy.org/match) (you will be redirected to [mightlycause.com](http://mightlycause.com)).





# Stephanie Cutter

## Local Real Estate

### FREE DOWNSIZING SEMINAR

Moving from a home you have lived in for decades can be overwhelming. Join us to learn about the process and hear from others who have been through it!

**Sunday, November 17th, 2019**  
**2:00-4:00pm 3644 N Kedvale Ave**  
**Gymnasium East Room (2nd Floor)**

**Speakers include:**

- Dawson Relocation
- Stephanie Cutter
- Local Residents who have recently downsized

If you are not able to attend our event and would still like information, please contact us and Stephanie can discuss the process with you!

Visit [www.stephaniecutter.com/downsizing](http://www.stephaniecutter.com/downsizing) to register for this FREE event!



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Continued from page 2

be no CAPS meeting in December. 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](mailto:westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com). The exact address of the crime and name of the victim will be kept anonymous.

Contact or follow the 17th District CAPS office:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CAPS.017](http://www.facebook.com/CAPS.017)

Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17

Email: [CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org](mailto:CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org)

Phone: 312-742-4588

Event Calendar: <http://home.chicagopolice.org>

Liz Mills, CAPS Coordinator

Continued from page 3

hundred different children, youth, adults, and the elderly served every week, thousands of people every year. When the renovations are complete, this number may also include people with mobility issues.

# Paddy Mac's

## PUB & GRILL

**Daily Specials (with purchase of a drink)**

- Monday:** \$5 Paddy Mac Burger
- Tuesday:** \$4.50 Tacos (2), Open Mic @ 9 pm
- Wednesday:** Ribs! \$8 Half Slab/\$13 Full Slab
- Thursday:** 60¢ Wings, Trivia at 8 pm
- Friday:** \$9.75 All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry
- Saturday:** \$5 Grilled Cheese Deluxe Sandwiches
- Sunday:** FREE Bar Bingo from 8 pm - 10 pm

*Each To Go item has an additional \$1 charge*

### BEER AND DRINK SPECIALS EVERYDAY

4157 N. Pulaski 773-279-9300

Please contact us at [PaddyMacsChicago1@gmail.com](mailto:PaddyMacsChicago1@gmail.com) for Party/Benefit Bookings



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**You're invited!**  
**FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER**  
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 4939 W Montrose Ave  
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**Thanksgiving Day**  
 Join us anytime between  
**1:00-4:00 P.M.**

**Everyone is welcome!**



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 FOOD PANTRY

The Joined Hands Food Pantry is a partnership between St. John's Lutheran Church and Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church.




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# Samantha NUGENT

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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 November:

**Bob & Glenda Begeske**

**Donald & Mary Chun**

**David & Angela Gallegos**

**Tara & Patrick McKee**

**Liz & Steve Mills**

**Elaine Mueller**

**Rich McDermott & Jane Nagle**

**Jim Naisbitt**

**Rebecca & Justin Tebbe**

**Kathy Wyant**

**Irving Park Luthern Church**

**Villa Property Maintenance**

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**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))!**

## 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.***

**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

*JAIME*



**ANDRADE**

**Illinois State Representative • 40<sup>th</sup> District**

**Staterep40@gmail.com • (773) 267-2880**

District Office 3007 W. Irving Park Rd, Suite A-Front Office



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



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Accredited through age 12 by the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)