



# WEST WALKER WIRE

JANUARY 2021

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

## Christmas Tree Recycling in Select City Parks Jan. 9 through 23rd

There's something undeniably romantic about a real Christmas tree. The scent, the falling needles, the way they light up our homes, infuse the air with merriment for a few short weeks then away they go. But where do they go?

We have a choice: send them to the landfill, or let them become mulch that will enrich and protect the soil at Chicago's beloved parks and forests.

If you decide on the mulch option, then Chicago's Christmas Tree Recycling program is for you. Turning your tree into mulch benefits the earth by making the soil friendlier for new trees to grow. It also reduces waste going to landfill.

Chicago's 2021 Tree Recycling Program runs from January 9th through the 23rd at dozens of parks across the City. Only live or natural trees without flocking are accepted (no garland or wreaths). Because the trees are mulched, all tinsel, ornaments, lights, and stands must be removed. Plastic bags used for transport should also be removed before putting trees in the stalls.

Twenty-five parks citywide are hosting Tree Recycling events this year. Trees can be dropped off anytime during normal business hours. Some

*Continued on page 11*

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Tues., Jan 12 • 7:00 pm**

Friends of Murphy Zoom Meeting

Visit <https://friendsofmurphy.org/> for more information.

**Tues., Jan. 19 • 7:00 pm**

Friends of Schurz Zoom Meeting

To register, visit: [bit.ly/fosopenmeeting](https://bit.ly/fosopenmeeting).

**Wed., Jan. 20 • 6:30 - 7:30 pm**

Beats 1722 & 1723 CAPS Meeting

Email: [Caps.017district@chicagopolice.org](mailto:Caps.017district@chicagopolice.org) for a link.

**Tues., Feb. 2 • 7:00 pm**

GIPNA Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855

Password: GIPNA

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor
- 3 Local Church News • The Cabin • GIPNA Meeting
- 4 CAPS Report
- 5 Chicago Connected • New Laws • IP Mutual Aid • Business Bingo
- 6 Carlson Community Services
- 7 Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 8 Neighborhood School News • Consolidating Churches • Tree Pick-up

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

# Dear Neighbor,

PUTTING 2020 BEHIND US is what I have heard may people wish for. It is good to now say it's 2021, but a change in the calendar is just a start. There are hopeful signs. We now have a vaccine for Covid-19, which should allow us to slowly get back to our new state of "normal." Hopefully most of us will be able to recover much of what we have lost. I also hope that people and politicians can learn to disagree, and then still get things done for the good of our Communities, Cities, States, and Nation. One can always hope.

**An increase in crime** has many of our Neighbors concerned. Lock your home, even when at home. Lock your car at all times. Light your yard at night. Be aware of your surroundings. Don't open your door to strangers. If you see something suspicious, call 911. If there is an ongoing problem or issue, call your alderman. Please attend CAPS meetings. As you know, West Walker is broken into three separate wards. The alderman contact information for our area is below:

**35th Ward Alderman Ramirez-Rosa.** His website is [www.aldermancarlosarosa.org](http://www.aldermancarlosarosa.org). His office receives email at [ward35@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward35@cityofchicago.org), and the ward office telephone is 773-887-3772.

**39th Ward Alderman Nugent.** Her website is [www.aldermannugent.com](http://www.aldermannugent.com). Her ward receives emails at [ward39@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward39@cityofchicago.org), and the ward office telephone is 773-736-5594.

**45th Ward Alderman Gardiner.** His website is [www.aldermangardiner.com](http://www.aldermangardiner.com). His ward email address is [ward45@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward45@cityofchicago.org), and ward office telephone is 773-853-0799.

**If you feel you are not getting a timely response** when you call 911, or no response at all, try sending an email directly to Mayor Lightfoot's Chief of Staff, Maurice Classen, whose email is [Maurice.Classen@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Maurice.Classen@cityofchicago.org). The adequacy of staffing in the 17th District has been a long-running issue, and sending an email to the Mayor's Office requesting that additional personnel be assigned in the 17th District is one way to help voice our priorities.

Please take care, and enjoy 2021.

Mike Webber  
WWCA President, Pro Tem

## 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*

### 2020-2021 OFFICERS

**President Pro Tem** Mike Webber  
773.539.8346

**Vice President Pro Tem** Davor Engel  
[dengel@studiodo.com](mailto:dengel@studiodo.com)

**Secretary** Vacant

**Treasurer** Sue Gregoire

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Dorie Westmeyer

### CAPS COORDINATOR

[LizMills@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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

Rachael Bild

Beverly Birch

Shannan Bunting

Tori Bohannon & John Lopez

Donnelly/Fabrini Family

Kotche Family

Gloria Lasley

Jim Medd

Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

Will & Caitlin Poirier

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

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](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).*

## Online Worship & Bible Study with Irving Park Lutheran Church

Join us for Zoom Bible study on Sundays 9 – 9:45 am (contact office@iplc.org for log-in information) or participate in online Worship anytime at iplc.org. Listen to our carillon play at noon, 6 pm and 9 pm.

We continue pray for the healing of our world and to support one another and our wider community while staying safe. We hope to offer outdoor worship services when the infection rate decreases and the weather improves.

## Join St. John's Episcopal Church on Sundays

Worship Service of the Word via Zoom and FB Live at 8 am and 10 am. Children are welcome at all services.

Visit stjohschicago.com to download the bulletin for Sunday worship, and obtain zoom ID/Passwords to attend via Zoom. You can also watch on Facebook live (even if you aren't signed up for Facebook). Visit the St. John's facebook page at: facebook.com/stjohschicago.

## Warm Up With Glogg From The Cabin

The folks at the Cabin miss seeing everyone, and they really miss serving their traditional Swedish Glogg this holiday season. But good news does exist! Because of COVID-19, the city is allowing The Cabin to make it available "to go" for patrons to enjoy at home. Want to get in on this? Email cabinoldirving@gmail.com for more information and to place your order.

## February GIPNA Meeting Feb. 2 at 7 pm

Join our monthly GIPNA meeting to discuss neighborhood news and updates, and get to know your neighbors! When: **Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 7 pm online via Zoom**. Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855. Password: GIPNA. All community members are welcome. Note: There is no GIPNA meeting in January.

## REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer  
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

*Your Neighborhood Realtor!*

### Is Now a Good Time to Sell?

Real estate rule of thumb has always been wait until Spring (or at least after the Super Bowl) to put your home on the market. Since the pandemic, we have a new normal in real estate. Here are a few reasons not to wait until Spring.

- 1. Number of appointments to look at homes are up 55% in the Midwest for the last 6 months.** Buyers are looking for homes. 60-70% of those surveyed say it is a good time to buy or sell.
- 2. Great mortgage rates.** Buyers want to lock in these low mortgage rates down 1% since a year ago.
- 3. Home price appreciation will return to normal levels.** NAR predicts home prices will increase +4.5%; Freddie Mac +2.6% and Zillow +2.7%.
- 4. Housing supply and demand will balance out.** We're currently in a Seller's market. Demand is greater than supply. Experts predict more homes will be on the market the second half of 2021... balancing the market.
- 5. Homeowners have more equity.** Average Illinois homeowner with a mortgage home equity increased \$6,000.

*Sources: KCM, Showingtime, Corelogic*

**If you are 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 - Zoom Meeting, December 16, 2020

**In Attendance:** CAPS Officer Daryl Boon, Commander Pontecore, Ald. Rodriguez's staff (33rd), Erika Wozniak from Ald. Nugent's office (39th), Jessica from Ald. Rosa's staff (35th), Rep. Andrade and staff.

Officer Boon reported year over year crime statistics for the 17th District. The total number of homicides has more than doubled with 11 year-to-date compared to 5 one year ago. Shootings have increased 55% to 62 this year compared with 28 last year. Robberies total 219 year-to-date compared with 157 in 2019. Burglaries are down 30% year over year, as well as motor vehicle thefts which are down 6%.

Officer Boon talked about an aggravated assault, carjacking, car fire and reports of shots fired in Beat 1722. For Beat 1723, the shooting victim in a mid-day shooting near the McDonald's at Elston & Irving was a career gang member. Officer Boon and Commander Pontecore also discussed the area around Lawndale and Agatite where there were 3 shootings in one week. Thanks to some

video from a Nest camera, Tac and Beat officers went into an apartment in that vicinity and identified 7 gang members, a large cache of drugs and shell casings in the apartment. Alderman Rosa, Commander Pontecore and multiple agencies are working on eviction notices of the gang members and addressing the troubled building.

The Tactical Team has launched a burglary assessment initiative. Officers will come to your home and evaluate the strong and weak points of the exterior of your home in terms of what burglars look for. To arrange a visit, email the CAPS office or call 312.742.4822. Availability is limited.

There has been an increase in the number of carjackings in the area and city-wide. Residents are advised to give up the car without fighting back. If there are children in the car, the advice is to yell "I have kids in the car." Carjackers do not want to steal a vehicle that is known to have children inside, according to the police. As the cold weather sets in, residents are advised not to leave an unattended car running.

In the prior month, 6 individuals were taken off the streets, resulting in a lull in violence in Beat 1723.

*Continued on page 11*

## It May Be Cold Out, But Our Neighborhood is HOT!



**SOLD**  
**4124 N SPRINGFIELD**



**UNDER CONTRACT**  
**4232 N HARDING 1N**



**SOLD**  
**3741 N DRAKE**

"Dorie was amazing from start to finish! This was our first time selling a home and Dorie helped alleviate stress and took the time to answer all our questions that came up throughout the process. We took extra precautions during COVID and decided to have an open house by appointment to minimize people in our home. Within 24 hours from showing, we had a desired offer. Dorie is a kind and caring Realtor. I would highly recommend her for anyone looking to sell a home in Irving Park." - Denise Tysick

**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**  
**Realtor®**, MBA, ADPR  
*Your Neighborhood Realtor*

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

## Chicago Connected

Did you know that eligible CPS students can get up to four years of internet service at no cost through Chicago Connected?

Visit [cps.edu/getconnected](https://cps.edu/getconnected) to check if you are eligible. Eligibility parameters for Chicago Connected is constantly expanding. **If you were previously ineligible, it is suggested that you recheck again.**

Once eligible, you will be given a code by CPS, and you can sign up by calling the designated Chicago Connected line for Comcast and RCN:

**Comcast:** call 844-963-0178 or visit [InternetEssentials.com](https://InternetEssentials.com)  
**RCN:** Call 312-955-2400

### Important Things to Note

Signing up for Chicago Connected requires a form of ID, a code from CPS, and an address. A Social Security Number is not required - over 30 different forms of ID are accepted.

Students in temporary living situations and other extenuating circumstances can request a hotspot by calling their principal. An address is not required.

Additional questions about Chicago Connected can be answered on their FAQ page, which is constantly being updated.

## New City Laws Coming Into Effect in 2021

### Accessory Dwelling Unit Legalization

Starting May 1, 2021, Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) will be legalized in five areas around the city, increasing access to safe, affordable housing for thousands of Chicagoans. Under this new program, attics, basements and coach houses will be lawfully permitted in these zones and the Department of Housing will launch a three-year evaluation period to report on ADU activities and make recommendations for a permanent citywide policy. These areas in the Northwest zone include: parts of the Albany Park, Irving Park, Avondale, Hermosa, Logan Square, West Town, Near West Side, and East Garfield Park community areas.

### Minimum Wage

On July 1, 2021, Chicago's minimum wage will increase to \$15 an hour at large businesses and \$14.50 an hour for workers at businesses with 20 or fewer employees.

## Irving Park Mutual Aid Needs Volunteers

An inspiring group of volunteers across all of Irving Park have organized to provide assistance to seniors and folks in need of food and other resources. The group is actively delivering groceries, food, and cash assistance to our neighbors in need.

They're looking for more volunteers to add to this network, and for donations to help fund requests for financial assistance. If you'd like to help, or are seeking assistance yourself. To volunteer, donate to the mutual aid network or request support, please visit: [opencollective.com/irving-park-mutual-aid/](https://opencollective.com/irving-park-mutual-aid/).

## Winter Wonderland Business Bingo: explore, support, be rewarded through February 28

This season, spend your dollars as locally as possible by using this business bingo card as a shopping guide from **now through February 28**. Explore local shops and businesses, and win local swag and raffle prizes like Albany Park and Irving Park hats and t-shirts!

Visit our bingo website to explore 24 area small businesses with recommended experiences at [northrivercommission.org/winter-bingo-2020/](https://northrivercommission.org/winter-bingo-2020/). You can also read their most recent shopping newsletter, to learn more about the 24 participating businesses!

You'll find hard copy bingo cards at participating businesses or you can download and print them online from your home. Help businesses survive the pandemic!



Continued on page 9

## News and Events from Carlson Community Services



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.*

Dear Neighbors,

As I look back on 2020, I'm thankful that we were able to keep much of Carlson Community Services' programming going in spite of unprecedented challenges. For that I'm grateful to Carlson's many volunteers and generous supporters.

We re-opened our community garden in June and provided a safe space for gardeners to get their hands dirty while raising vegetables for clients of the Irving Park Food Pantry.

The Irving Park Fine Arts concert series made the move to remote performances. You'll find Dueling Pianos 2.0, our Summer Concert and A Jazz Christmas on Carlson's YouTube channel. While we miss seeing our audience face-to-face, we're happy to keep offering free programming while giving professional musicians the opportunity to perform. If you missed it last month, check out The Max Bessesen Trio performing A Jazz Christmas on Carlson's YouTube channel or [www.carlsoncommunityservices.org/events/](http://www.carlsoncommunityservices.org/events/). Max is an Irving Park resident and talented jazz musician and composer.

Rachel Lockhart, the director of the Magic After-School Place (MAP) continues to stay connected with MAP students and families. It's been our custom to give each child a gift at the holidays, but since we aren't in session, Carlson sent each family a gift card to continue the tradition. Families were grateful for the gifts. Here are some of the comments we received back:

*"We think about you often - the boys really miss MAP so much. The school year has been a real struggle with online learning and the difference MAP made on their homework and them having a dose of daily fun is truly missed." -- Mom of 3rd & 5th grade boys*

*"Since this is my last year at Belding I might not be able to see you guys so often, but i just want to say thank you for all these years I've been at MAP. I am really thankful for every MAP staff that I got to meet." -- 8th grade girl*



*Liz Mills (right) accepts a \$500 check from Old Irving Park Association treasurer Lynn Ankney. The gift from OIPA was part of their holiday giving to neighborhood non-profits.*

Heartfelt thanks to the many neighbors who have supported Carlson Community Services during the pandemic. Whether it was by participating in our Virtual Trivia Night, donating to a Giving Tuesday event or by supporting our annual appeal, you've helped us keep our doors open during this unprecedented time.

Wishing you good health and better days ahead,

Liz Mills  
Executive Director

---

*Carlson Community Services connects 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 or [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org).*

# Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

## Pantry Changes Registration System

In conjunction with the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the Irving Park Community Food Pantry in January introduced a new registration system for clients in our service area of 60641 and 60618 ZIP codes.

The system, Link2Feed, requires additional demographic information about people in the household. It asks basic information about race, age and housing status and does not ask about citizenship. No one will be disqualified from receiving food by their responses.

The form asks for email contacts so we can communicate better with clients about key information, such as weather closings or changes to procedures. The demographic information will provide details that will help the Pantry apply for a wider range of grants that require such data, giving us access to more food and funding opportunities.

The enrollment forms are networked throughout the GCFD's pantries, so clients need to enroll only once no matter which pantry they first visit.

All clients will have to provide this information prior to receiving their food during their first visit to the Pantry in 2021. To speed this process, clients can go online to the GCFD enrollment page at <https://gcf.link2feed.com/> They also can click on this QR code to get to the site:



You can download a free QR Reader for any smart phone.

Thank you to everyone who supported our "virtual" Holiday Meal and Holiday Gift programs in December. They provided our clients with the makings of a holiday dinner and each child up to 12 years old with a stocking of gifts. The program gave out 374 stockings, with the few remaining donated to Sherwood Elementary School in Englewood, with the help of Principal Alice Buzanis.

We especially want to thank all the organizations, businesses, community groups and families who made monetary, food or toiletry donations to the Pantry during the holiday season. We appreciate everyone's support during this unique and challenging time to ensure we meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



Tony Mann (right) dropped off a donation from the Neighbors on Avers in the 4200 block of Avers near the Pantry in December. Executive Director John Psiharis accepted the food. Photo by Kathy O'Neill



Holiday Gift program coordinator Sara Yoest gave out 374 stockings of gifts and treats to children up to 12 years old in December, thanks to supporters buying out the Pantry's virtual Wish Lists of toys at Amazon and Target. Photo by Craig Shutt



Alderman Samantha Nugent (39th) arranged for a donation of more than 1,200 disposable masks to the Pantry and delivered them in December. Photo by Lynn Anderson



## Murphy School Friends of Murphy's 4th Annual Murphy Match

We might be physically distant, but the spirit of togetherness runs deep

within us. Now more than ever, Murphy School needs your help to Fund our Future.

A very generous donor is excited to match, dollar for dollar, all donations up to \$10,000! We're asking neighbors to help turn \$10,000 into \$20,000 for the students and teachers of Murphy Elementary.

All of the money raised through Murphy Match goes toward supporting the needs of students and teachers for remote, hybrid, and in person learning, as well as physical improvements to our school building, supporting arts partnerships, and spreading the word about our school spirit. Every donation, no matter how big or small, has a direct impact on Murphy School and our students!

Please consider this wonderful opportunity to make a positive impact in your community. You can visit [Friendsofmurphy.org](http://Friendsofmurphy.org) to donate and to learn more about how you can triple your donation from 1/11-1/17. As you finalize your end of the year giving or plan for 2021, please consider this wonderful opportunity to make a positive impact in your community. The program runs through January 31. Learn more by visiting: [friendsofmurphy.org](http://friendsofmurphy.org)



## Schurz High School

All Schurz community members, including parents, teachers, alumni, and neighbors, are welcome to join us at our first Friends of Schurz Open Meeting of 2021, as we discuss how to best support Schurz students and teachers this year and beyond. Join us and help guide the future of Friends of Schurz!

This meeting is open to the public and will take place Tuesday, January 19 at 7 pm. To register, visit: [bit.ly/fosopenmeeting](https://bit.ly/fosopenmeeting). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting. (So you can register and get in within a few minutes.) This will be a Zoom meeting.

## Curbside Tree Pickup from Do The Right Thing! Recycling

Trees must be bare, no ornaments, lights or garland. Due to Covid, curbside only. Visit [dtrt-recycling.org/order-a-tree-pickup](http://dtrt-recycling.org/order-a-tree-pickup) and complete their form to send a request for your tree pickup. Cost is \$20-25, depending on tree size.

In order to be most efficient, they try to pick up from certain neighborhoods on scheduled days. If you require a pickup on a different day for your neighborhood you should contact them directly. We prefer online payment through credit/debit or PayPal, but we also accept check and cash payments when appropriate.

Do The Right Thing! Recycling (DTRT) is an Illinois not-for-profit, 501(c)3 recycling awareness organization. Their mission is to promote recycling to Chicago residents through direct education, community involvement, and customized recycling services.

## St. Viator and St. Wenceslaus to Consolidate

By Manny Ramos

The Archdiocese of Chicago announced more church and school consolidations due to declining attendance, rising financial costs and the decreasing number of priests. These consolidations are part of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Renew My Church plan that will determine the future of 344 parishes across the Chicago area. More closures are expected to come. The decision comes after several months of "feedback and discernment" by teams made up of representatives from each parish and school.

On the Northwest Side, St. Bartholomew Church, Our Lady of Victory and St. Pascal Catholic Church will come together for two Sunday services at either St. Bartholomew Church, 3601 N. Lavergne Ave., or at St. Pascal, 3935 N. Melvina. Our Lady of Victory will close next year.

In Old Irving and Avondale, **St. Viator Catholic Church**, 4170 W. Addison St., and **St. Wenceslaus Roman Catholic Church**, 3400 N. Monticello Ave., will become a new parish with two worship sites.

Most of the changes announced Friday are expected to happen by July 1, 2021. Five of the schools will either be grouped together or administratively governed by the archdiocese rather than a single parish. Visit [renewmychurch.org](http://renewmychurch.org) to see how other churches and schools will be grouped.

*Published in the Chicago Sun-Times December 18, 2020.*



Continued from page 5

Also on July 1, the minimum wage for tipped workers will increase to \$9.00 an hour, with employees required to make up the difference if base wage plus tips do not equal \$15.00 an hour.

**Parking Meter Rates**

Parking meter rates for the \$2 per hour zone will increase by a quarter to \$2.25 per hour on January 2. Rates in the \$4.50 and \$7.00 zone remain unchanged. **The City will begin to generate revenues off the parking meter contract for the first time since its inception.**

**Shared Housing Reforms**

A series of new regulatory measures will come into effect on April 1, 2021 that will require Chicagoans that use platforms like Airbnb or HomeAway among others to rent their residential units will now need to apply directly with the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection and pay a new \$125 registration fee.

**Extension of Business Relief**

The City has moved to give further relief to businesses by extending critical relief efforts and renewal dates into 2021. As a part of these measures, all existing Sidewalk Cafes will be now be able to operate until May 1, 2021 without needing to renew or pay a renewal fee. Additionally, all business and public vehicle licenses with an expiration date between March 15, 2020 and June 15, 2021 will be considered active and will not need to pay a renewal fee until July 15, 2021. Licensees will have until July 15, 2021 to renew without paying a late fee.

**Vehicle Fuel Tax and Cloud Tax**

In order close an historic \$1.2 billion deficit, the City's 2021 pandemic budget relied on a number of revenue sources and cost savings designed to minimize the burden on any single business sector or resident. Among those will be a series of modest increases in taxes and fees that come into effect on January 1, 2021. This includes an increase in the Vehicle Fuel Tax by \$0.03 per gallon on non-aviation purchases. To fill up a 12-gallon gas tank, motorists will see an increase of approximately \$0.36. Additionally, there will be a 1.75 percentage point increase to the cloud tax which is applied to computer leases of cloud software and cloud infrastructure. This tax aligns with the tax imposed on all other lease, rental or use of rented, personal property currently taxed at 9 percent.

Visit the City of Chicago website for more details at: [tinyurl.com/y39owabb](http://tinyurl.com/y39owabb).



www.bebartarchitecture.com

Barry Bebart, AIA Architect

Licensed Architect  
Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin

House Expansion, Renovation  
Remodeling. Kitchen, Bath, Deck.  
Commercial, Interior, Commercial,  
Office, Interior, New Construction.  
Signage

23 years of experience in Chicago.

773-844-4580 barry@bebartarchitecture.com



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

**Chicago Bibles & Books**

3931 W. Irving Park Rd.

**773.478.0550**

Monday to Saturday 10-6  
[www.biblesandbooks.com](http://www.biblesandbooks.com)

**WE ARE  
OPEN!**

*"Taste and see that Jehovah is good..."*

*Psalms 34:8a*

*"...whoever calls upon the name of*

*the Lord shall*

*be saved."*

*Romans 10:13*



**Serving Chicago  
for 39 years**

## WWCA Members

**THANK YOU!** Here's a list of neighbors who have joined or renewed as of January:

**Stella Higgs**  
**Sara Money Penny**

## Do You Have a Submission for the Wire?

The West Walker Wire welcomes ads and articles from all of you! The deadline is always seven days prior to the first of the month. February issue's deadline will be January 25. Please keep contributions down to about 1/2 page of news (or approximately 400 words). Submit to: Lee Samsami Stein, Wire Editor, west\_walker\_wire@yahoo.com. If you're interested in placing an ad, contact Shannan Bunting at WWWire@solsticepr.com.

**Please note:** If you're sending articles or information about an event, please make sure it's in a Word or Google document or the text is directly in the body of the email. Unless your contribution is a Wire paid advertisement, it should not be in pdf format.

You can also post your events on our online community calendar at: westwalker.org/calendar.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lee at west\_walker\_wire@yahoo.com.

## 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))!**

**Mail in your 2020/2021 dues along with the application below.**

## WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021

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



Continued from page 4

However, this month, all 6 individuals are back on the streets on electronic monitoring, which officers don't think is effective.

The representative from Alderman Rodriguez's office (33rd) stated that an outreach program called ALSO has started and is working.

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. The next meeting will be on January 20th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Email CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org for an invitation. Remember to always lock your vehicle, never leave it running unattended and be on the lookout for scams involving Covid-19 cures and scams related to income tax refunds. Remember, the IRS will never call you on the phone.

Here's how to reach 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
- Phone: 312-742-4588
- Event Calendar: <http://home.chicagopolice.org>

Liz Mills  
CAPS Volunteer

Continued from page 1

of the Northwest Side parks are: Clark Park (3400 N. Rockwell St.), Kelvyn Park (4438 W. Wrightwood Ave.), Portage Park (4100 N. Long Ave.), Norwood Park (5801 N. Natoma Ave.) and North Park Village Nature Center\* (5801 N. Pulaski Rd.)

North Park Village Nature Center will provide mulch on a first-come, first-served basis beginning January 12.

# Paddy Mac's

PUB & GRILL

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

- Monday:** \$4.50 Burgers
- Tuesday:** \$4 Tacos (2), Open Mic at 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
- Sunday:** FREE Bar Bingo from 8 pm - 10 pm

### 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

\*\*Bring this ad in for a free order of Tater Tots on us!!!\*\*



Like us on Facebook! Paddy Macs Chicago



# Gateway Montessori

Nurturing the Potential  
Within Each Child

**Now Enrolling**

## Develop your child's potential

- Ages 15 months through Elementary
- Beautiful, bright new building
- Regular informational tours

4041 N. Pulaski Rd, Chicago, IL 60641

773.539.3025 • [info@gatewaymontessorischool.org](mailto:info@gatewaymontessorischool.org)

**GatewayMontessoriSchool.org**



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

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE 2021 A MUCH BETTER YEAR!

TO YOUR ENEMY, *FOREGIVNESS*

TO AN OPPONENT, *TOLERANCE*

TO A FRIEND, *YOUR HEART*

TO A CUSTOMER, *SERVICE*

TO ALL, *CHARITY*

TO EVERY CHILD, *A GOOD EXAMPLE*

TO YOURSELF, *RESPECT*

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS!



**CHE**  
CONNIE H. ENGEL

**CONNIE H. ENGEL**  
MOBILE 773.251.3837  
[cengel@atproperties.com](mailto:cengel@atproperties.com)

Your Trusted Real Estate  
Advisor for over 20 Years!

\*MRED, LLC, Closed Sales Data Collected, 10/30/20

@properties®