

# WEST WALKER WIRE

NOVEMBER 2022

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

## Shop Local, Shop Small: Recommend Your Favorites for Our Holiday Gift Guide

With Halloween over and Thanksgiving just around the corner, the holiday season is upon us. That means it's time for not only gathering together with friends and family to celebrate, but also the opportunity to support small businesses in our neighborhoods. Shopping locally helps our unique neighborhood businesses thrive, and contributes to the vibrancy of our community with walkable places to eat, shop, and gather.

Many of our neighborhood restaurants, coffee shops, breweries, dance and yoga/fitness studios, and more offer gift cards or gift certificates for meals, drinks, and classes. Bookstores, stationery shops, and florists have wonderful selections of books, cards, and gifts for everyone on your list, from kids of all ages to holiday party hosts.

Next month's *West Walker Wire* will include a (last-minute) holiday gift guide listing neighborhood businesses, and we're looking for your favorite local hidden gems. Submit your recommendations via email to [west\\_walker\\_wire@yahoo.com](mailto:west_walker_wire@yahoo.com) by Friday, November 25, to be included in the December issue. And be sure to shop small for everyone on your list on Small Business Saturday, November 26!

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Sat., Nov. 12 • 4–7 pm**

9th Annual GIPNA Wine & Cheese Party  
Color Club  
4146 N. Elston Ave., 2nd Floor  
*Tickets available at [gipna.org](http://gipna.org)*

**Sun., Nov. 13 • 9:30 am**

Kidical Mass Bike Ride to Leaf Pile  
Meet at Independence Park Playground  
(corner of Grace and Hamlin)  
*[chicagofamilybiking.org/events](http://chicagofamilybiking.org/events)*

**Sun., Nov. 13 • 2 pm**

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee  
Presents *A Tribute to Sondheim*  
Irving Park Lutheran Church  
4100 N. Harding Ave.  
Free admission; donations welcome!

**Tues., Nov. 15 • 7 pm**

Independence Park Advisory Council  
Monthly Meeting  
East side of Fieldhouse  
3945 N. Springfield Ave.

**Wed., Nov. 16 • 6:30 pm**

Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting (In Person)  
17th District Community Room  
4650 N. Pulaski Rd.

**Sat., Nov. 19 • 9–10:30 am**

CAPS Self-Defense Class  
for Teens & Adults  
Kilbourn Park Field House  
3501 N. Kilbourn  
*RSVP by Nov. 16 to Officer  
Maryjane Park: 312-742-4588 or  
[CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org](mailto:CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org)*

**Sun., Dec. 11 • 9:30 am**

Kidical Mass Cider & Donuts Bike Ride  
Meet at Independence Park Playground  
(corner of Grace and Hamlin)  
*[chicagofamilybiking.org/events](http://chicagofamilybiking.org/events)*

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

# Dear Neighbor,

With the holiday season upon us in an ever more conflicted world, we ask all to spread kindness and service to our neighbors, especially those less fortunate, children, and the elderly. To that end, please consider:

Unbridled and enthusiastic support for the Irving Park Food Pantry. Donate food, coats, etc. Find more information at [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org).

Make the holidays special for the little ones! Donate toys at [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org) or [www.cradlestocrayons.org/chicago](http://www.cradlestocrayons.org/chicago). Put a smile on a kid's face today—it will put a smile on yours!

When the snow hits, PLEASE be sure to shovel your sidewalks. Not only is it required by law ([www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdot/supp\\_info/sidewalk\\_snow\\_removal.html](http://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdot/supp_info/sidewalk_snow_removal.html)), it's the right thing to do. Our neighbors rely on sidewalks to access public transportation and local food stores. Shovel a sidewalk and walkway to the front door for an elderly neighbor!

Wishing all a wonderful and safe holiday season!

*Davor Engel*

*WWCA Vice President, Pro Tem*

## Renew Your WWCA Membership Today!

Your dues help fund a variety of items, including 10 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 email updates on neighborhood events, area crime, and a LOT MORE!

**Mail in your 2022/2023 dues along with the application below.**

### WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print your name as you would like it to appear in the *West Walker Wire*.)

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

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

Please print your email address if you would like to receive email updates:

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 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*

### 2022-2023 OFFICERS

**President Pro Tem** Mike Webber  
773.539.8346

**Vice President Pro Tem** Davor Engel  
dengel@studiode.com

**Secretary** Vacant

**Treasurer** Sue Gregoire

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Dorie Westmeyer

### CAPS COORDINATOR

LizMills@sbcglobal.net

### WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Chris & Maeve Altman

Carol Barry

Beverly Birch

Tori Bohannon & John Lopez

Kotche Family

Desi Laslo

Jim Medd

Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews

Will & Caitlin Poirier

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

Rick & Melanie Reschke

Jarett Tate

The Webber Family

Sue Trudeau & Tom Williams

### EDITOR

Heather McLane

### WEST WALKER EMAIL BLASTS

Vacant

*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 [shannan@solsticepr.com](mailto:shannan@solsticepr.com).*

## Irving Park Lutheran Church

### 3rd and 4th Grade Sunday Schoolers to Assemble Meals for the Night Ministry

The Night Ministry compassionately provides housing, health care, outreach, spiritual care, and social services to adults and youth who struggle with housing insecurity, poverty, and loneliness. IPLC has volunteered to provide 75 meals to The Night Ministry on Sunday, November 13. You can help in one or more ways:

1. Donate Food: Drop off items requested on or before Sunday, November 13
2. Assemble Meals in the Chapel: 3rd and 4th Grade Sunday Schoolers, November 13, 9:30-10 am
3. Distribute Meals (adults only): November 13, 6:30 pm in Humboldt Park (corner of Division and California)

Sign up online to donate food or help with distribution. Or, contact the church office at office@iplc.org or 773-267-1666 and we'll sign you up and answer any questions. You can also make a financial contribution to IPLC with the memo line: Night Ministry, to help buy the food. Thank you!

### Hanging of the Greens, November 26

The Worship Team invites everyone to join us Saturday, November 26 at 10 am for the "Hanging of the Greens," which gets the church ready for Advent and Christmas. This is a great activity for families—bring your children and grandchildren! There are beautiful, meaningful decorations to arrange, plus coffee, juice, and homemade cinnamon rolls provided by Pastor Bouman.



## Murphy Elementary School

### Fall Book Fair, November 14-18

The Murphy Elementary

School PTO is looking for volunteers to help with its book fair November 14-18. For more information, email murphyschoolpto@gmail.com. To sign up, visit www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4ea8a62eabf58-fall

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**  
*Let them know you saw them in the West Walker Wire.*



## REAL ESTATE NEWS

By Dorie Westmeyer  
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

*Your Neighborhood Realtor!*

### How's the Market?

The housing boom in Chicago is slowing down due to rising mortgage rates. Some buyers are lowering the price range they can afford. Many buyers are still jumping in because they understand the emotional and financial benefits of homeownership. The timing is still right for many buyers and for some, rents are increasing as much as inflation, making homeownership appealing.

Sellers who need to sell and buy are wondering what their new monthly payment will be given higher mortgage rates.

There is good news for both buyers and sellers. Buyers (and sellers who also need to buy) realize what goes up must come down. They are still buying homes with the viewpoint that the mortgage rates will come down in a year or two and they can refinance into a lower rate/monthly payment. And there are other strategies like rate buy downs (paid by the buyer or the seller), rate locks before purchase, and homebuyer programs (e.g., first-time homebuyer, Illinois grants).

There is still a shortage of homes for sale. In Chicago, homes for sale are down 18% versus last year. Average market time to sell is still 60 days.

In Irving Park, there are 12% fewer homes and 35% fewer condos for sale versus the same time last year. Home prices year-to-date are up 16% versus last year and condo prices are up 2%. *Source: MRED, CAR*

**If you are thinking of buying or selling in the next 24 months, and want more strategies on how to succeed in today's market, please call me for a free consultation.**

**Call Dorie, Your Neighborhood Realtor  
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**Nov. 14 to Dec. 10**

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2 Tim. 3:16a

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24/7 Online Booking



**DONATION DROP OFF:** We are now collecting donations on behalf of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.  
M-F 10AM-4PM / 4184 N. Elston Ave Chicago, IL. 60618

## Is It Still a Good Time to Sell Your Home?



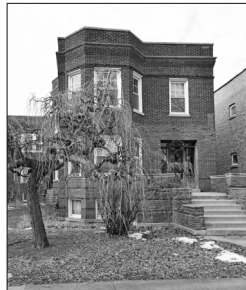
**PENDING**

**4321 N Drake 4E**



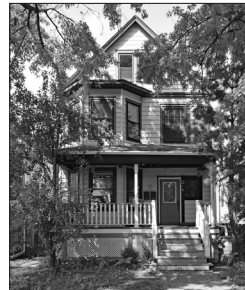
**SOLD**

**4122 N Lawndale**



**SOLD**

**3752 N Lawndale**



**SOLD**

**4240 N Monticello**



**SOLD**

**4113 N Lawndale**

**Yes! There is still a shortage of homes for sale. And with my unique 5-step marketing plan, my sellers are getting top dollar for their homes.**

***"Dorie was an exceptional agent to work with for our recent home sale. She offers a wealth of experience and top notch service. She came to the table with a personalized marketing plan that was tailored to our property and area, including competitive analysis and a go-to-market approach that brought interest and offers right away. We'd recommend her to anyone looking to transact in the Chicagoland area!" – Bill Kenefick***

**If you're thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to know about your value or possible repairs & improvements to make, call me for a free home consultation.**



**Dorie Westmeyer**  
Realtor,<sup>®</sup> MBA, ADPR  
*Your Neighborhood Realtor*

**Neighbor since 1995 · 847-989-4870 · CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com**

# CAPS Report

## Beats 1722 & 1723 October 19 Meeting – No Report

The 17th District is hosting a free self-defense class for teens and adults on November 19 from 9–10:30 am at Kilbourn Park, 3501 N. Kilbourn. RSVP by November 16 to Officer Maryjane Park at 312-742-4588 or CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org.

Chicago Police Department is offering cash rewards for tips leading to charges and convictions. \$5,000 for tips leading to gun trafficking charges and convictions and up to \$15,000 for tips leading to homicide charges and convictions. Callers are 100% anonymous. The number to call to leave a tip is 833-408-0069.

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 rely on the number of calls for service in determining the allocation of officers to a district. **The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 pm** in the 17th District Community Room, 4650 N. Pulaski.

Remember to always lock your vehicle; never leave it running unattended. 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 contact the 17th District CAPS office:  
Facebook: facebook.com/CAPS.017  
Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17  
Instagram: cpd17district  
Email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org  
Phone: 312-742-4588

## 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.



19th Trivia Night Winners "Go Forth." Clockwise from left: Sue Geisler, Michelle Eleby, Jack Olech, Ruth Olech, John Olech, Liz Schaller, Rachel Olech and Pat Deasey.

### Trivia Night Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who participated in Carlson Community Services' Trivia Night to benefit Carlson's programs. In our 19th overall and first in-person contest in 3 years, 150 players battled for \$200 in prize money and bragging rights. Carlson is grateful to the teams, sponsors, raffle and beverage donors for their support.

"Go Forth," a team led by Ruth Olech won the 8-round competition. The team generously donated their \$200 in prize winnings back to Carlson Community Services. The glory and bragging rights remain theirs! The evening netted over \$11,000 for Carlson's programs, including the Magic After-School Place, Three Brothers Garden, and the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series.

Thanks to the following round sponsors and donors who helped make the evening a financial success: Round sponsors included Dorie Westmeyer, Charles Rutenberg Realty; 19th Dist. Rep. Lindsay LaPointe; Irving Park Lutheran Church; Pastor Erin Bouman; Holly Van Essen, Mobile Physical Therapy; Leona's Pizzeria; Clarity Partners; and Carlson Board Members. Raffle prize donors included Helen Lira, Jose Garcia, and Marcy Sherrill. Donations of wine and beer were made by Bruce Anderson, Bill Sherlock, and Marcy Sherrill. New this year was the Leona's Food Truck filled with pizzas and sandwiches to keep the contestants nourished. A shout out goes to our

*Continued on page 6*



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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!

### Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents **A Tribute to Sondheim, November 13**

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present the first concert of its 2022–2023 season, *A Tribute to Sondheim*, on Sunday, November 13 at 2 pm. The concert will honor the late composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim who passed away in November 2021. Credited with reinventing the American musical, Sondheim's works include the beloved musicals *Into the Woods*, *A Little Night Music*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Company*, and *Sunday in the Park with George*.

The concert will feature vocalists Stephanie Stockstill, Rachel Klippel, Christopher Richard, and Lazaro Estrada, accompanied by pianist Cody Bradley. Both well-known and lesser-known songs from the Sondheim catalog will be featured. The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concert is free, but donations to support future programming are gladly accepted.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee was created by Roger Bingaman, Director of Music at IPLC. The intent of the series is to bring high quality, professional music to the northwest side of Chicago, free of charge. Check the Carlson website for the date and program for our December holiday concert.

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 [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org).



Installation of the Chicago Excellence in Gardening Awards sign at Three Brothers Garden. From lower left are board members and garden volunteers Pastor Erin Bouman, Melanie Reschke, Jose Garcia, Marcy Sherrill, Bruce Anderson, Lizz Bisesi, Alderman Samantha Nugent, Rebecca Haneberg and Liz Mills.

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### Have a Submission for the Wire?

The West Walker Wire welcomes ads and articles from you! The deadline is 7 days prior to the first of the month: November 25 for the December issue. Please keep contributions down to approximately 400 words (about half a page). Submit to: Wire Editor, [west\\_walker\\_wire@yahoo.com](mailto:west_walker_wire@yahoo.com). If you're interested in placing an ad, contact Shannan Bunting at [shannan@solsticepr.com](mailto:shannan@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.

Questions? Contact us at [west\\_walker\\_wire@yahoo.com](mailto:west_walker_wire@yahoo.com).

### WWCA Members

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

**Miiri & Glenn Kotche**

**Reid Johnson & Jean Scott**

**Jim Bruton**

**Kathy Wyant**

## News from Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

### Pantry's Coat Drive Underway

The Irving Park Food Pantry's annual coat drive continues this month, with new and gently used winter coats still being accepted (until November 14) for clients and their families in the 60641 and 60618 ZIP codes.

We are also requesting hats, scarves, mittens, and other cold-weather gear. Please do not donate sweaters, sweatshirts, boots, or other clothing. We are happy to provide receipts for all new coats donated for tax deductions and encourage everyone to keep an eye out for good sales on men's, women's, and children's coats.

Donations can be taken to:

- 16th District-Jefferson Park Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee Ave.
- 17th District-Albany Park Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski Rd.
- Big Helpers store, 4184 N. Elston Ave. (10 am-4 pm, Monday-Friday)
- Disney II Magnet School, 3815 N. Kedvale Ave. (inside main entrance, 8:30 am-3:30 pm)
- Disney II Magnet High School, 3900 Lawndale Ave. (inside main entrance, 8:45 am-3:45 pm)
- Irving Park YMCA, 4251 W. Irving Park Rd. (drop box in lobby)
- Jet's Pizza, 3951 N. Kimball Ave. (drop box in waiting area)
- J.T.'s Genuine Sandwich Shop, 3970 N. Elston Ave. (closed Mondays)
- Old Irving Brewing Company, 4419 W. Montrose Ave. (noon-10 pm)
- Perkulator Coffee, 6032 W. Irving Park Rd. (during operating hours)
- Front Porch at 3822 N. Tripp Ave. (anytime)

If you have a large donation or want to run a drive to gather coats, please email [info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org](mailto:info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org) with questions or to arrange delivery.

Thank you to Barry Sorkin, owner of Smoque BBQ (3800 N. Pulaski Rd.), who reached out to the Pantry for the best way to help. Learning of our difficulties in stocking bread, especially in the second week when we do our Tuesday and Wednesday distributions, he agreed to donate 100 loaves of wheat and white bread each month direct from his supplier. We appreciate his help in solving a recurring challenge!

Thank you to Earth Breeze, which donated two cases of its eco-friendly laundry-detergent sheets for volunteers and clients. They are given out at the toiletries station along with a variety of personal hygiene products for clients to choose among.

The Pantry's Holiday Gift drive also is underway, with stockings of gifts provided to clients' children up to age 12 during December. Amazon and Target registries for the items we are requesting will be posted to our Facebook page. Monetary donations can be made via the Pay Pal link at [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org) or via check to Irving Park Food Pantry, 4256 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago IL 60618.

Thank you for all your support in helping us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



Top left: Tracy Fletcher, coat drive coordinator at Disney II schools, drops off donated coats. Top right: Iris Ramirez, member engagement supervisor at Irving Park YMCA, holds a bag of donated coats. Middle left: Barry Sorkin, owner of Smoque BBQ, unloads a bread donation. Middle right: Iris Ramos and Eric Garcia explain Oak Street Health's Medicare benefits. Bottom: Judy Cole displays laundry-detergent sheets donated by Earth Breeze. Photos by Craig Shutt

# Paddy Mac's

PUB & GRILL

## DAILY SPECIALS

*\*\* All food specials are dine-in only and require purchase of a drink.*

- Monday:** \$8 Paddy Mac Burger  
**Tuesday:** \$6.50 Tacos (2), Open Mic @ 9 pm  
**Wednesday:** Ribs: \$12 Half Slab / \$17 Full Slab  
**Thursday:** 90¢ Wings of Fire/Each, Trivia at 8 pm  
**Friday:** \$12.75 All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry  
**Saturday:** \$8.50 Grilled Cheese Deluxe Sandwich

## 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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