

WEST WALKER WIRE

FEBRUARY 2023

www.westwalker.org

Shop Small, Shop Local for Your Sweetie This Valentine's Day—and All Year Round!

The holiday season is long over, but that doesn't mean there aren't plenty of special people to celebrate and shower with love. Show your nearest and dearest that you care by finding sweet treats, fragrant florals and handmade cards at your nearest local shops. Here are a few purveyors who will surely help you find something special for your someone special!

Treat Your Sweetie, or Yourself

Show of Hands Love Edition · Thursday, February 9, 5–10 pm
Color Club, 4146 N. Elston Ave. · showofhandschicago.com

Nature's Trace Co. Small Batch Soap

Pickup in Independence Park neighborhood · store.naturestraceco.com

Distinct Bath and Body

4046 N. Milwaukee Ave. · 773-930-4420 · distinctbath.com

Write a Love Note

a.favorite design

4432 N. Kedzie Ave. · 773-412-0891 · afavoritedesign.com

Say It with Flowers

The Jade Vine

3806 W. Montrose Ave. · 312-618-9442 · thejadevinechicago.com

Romance Flowers and Designs

4264 W. Irving Park Rd. · 312-866-8951

Continued on page 11

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thurs., Feb. 9 • 5–10 pm

Show of Hands Love Edition
Color Club
4146 N. Elston Ave.
Free and open to all!
showofhandschicago.com

Sun., Feb. 12 • 2 pm

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee
Presents Max Bessesen, saxophone
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding Ave.
Free admission; donations welcome!

Wed., Feb. 15 • 6:30 pm

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

Mon., Feb. 20 • 7 pm

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

Tues., Mar. 7 • 7 pm

GIPNA Board Meeting, online
Zoom Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855
Password: GIPNA

Sun., Mar. 26 • 2 pm

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

WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor
- 3 Early Voting Information
- 5 CAPS Report
- 6 Carlson Community Services • Irving Park Lutheran Church
- 7 Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 8 Neighborhood School News
- 9 Celebrate 150 Years of the Chicago Public Library!
- 11 Arts, Music and Culture Around Town

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

Dear Neighbor, **VOTE!**

February 28, 2023

Why should I vote? The right to vote, essential to a well-functioning democracy, is the most enshrined right in the Constitution and is protected by five separate Amendments. The law does not require citizens to vote, but voting is a very important part of any democracy. By voting, citizens are participating in the democratic process. Citizens vote for leaders to represent them and their ideas, and the leaders support the citizens' interests.

Who am I voting for? There are three City of Chicago offices on the ballot: Mayor, City Clerk, and City Treasurer. The elections for City Clerk and City Treasurer are uncontested against the current office holders. The election for Mayor is contested against the current office holder, Lori Lightfoot. Running against Mayor Lightfoot are Kam Buckner, Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, Ja'Mal Green, Brandon Johnson, Sophia King, Roderick T. Sawyer, Paul Vallas and Willie L. Wilson. I'm sure everyone has already seen ads and received mail regarding some of these candidates. Please take the time to do your own research to help you decide who to support. One source of information for all offices on the ballot is run by Block Club and can be found here: blockclubchicago.org/chicago-elections-2023/.

Also on the Ballot: All 50 Alderpeople. As many of you recall, ten years ago West Walker was divided up between three different Wards after decades in a single Ward, the 39th. In addition to the 39th, portions of West Walker now fall into the 35th and 45th Wards. Once you identify your Ward, take the time to research your aldermanic candidates. The 35th Ward incumbent, Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, is seeking reelection and is unopposed. The 39th Ward incumbent, Samantha Nugent, is seeking reelection and is being challenged by Denali Dasgupta. The 45th Ward incumbent, Jim Gardiner, is seeking reelection and is being challenged by Susanna Ernst, Megan Mathias, Ana Santoyo, James Suh and Marija Tomic.

How do I know if I am registered vote? Go to chicagoelections.gov/en/home.html and click on the "Voting" tab and then select "Your Voting Information." Enter your address and you will see your registration status. You will also see instructions to register if you are not currently registered.

Where do I vote? Again, go to chicagoelections.gov/en/home.html and click on the "Voting" tab and then select "Your Voting Information." Enter your address and you will see the names of anyone registered to vote in your household. Click on a name, and your polling place information will be displayed.

See you at our polling place!

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*

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, articles and ads are due a week before the first of each month.

**Submit ideas and articles 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 shannan@solsticepr.com.

Early Voting Information

Citywide Early Voting Sites Open February 13

Early Voting in Downtown Chicago for the February 28 Municipal Election started January 26 for the below locations and times. For more information, visit the Chicago Board of Elections Website at chicagoelections.gov/en/early-voting.html

Supersite at 191 N. Clark St., January 26–February 28

Weekdays: 9 am–6 pm*

Saturday: 9 am–5 pm

Sunday: 10 am–4 pm

Election Day (February 28): 6 am–7 pm

*February 20–27 Weekdays: 9 am–7 pm

Board Offices at 69 W. Washington St., 6th Floor, January 26–February 27 (not open on Election Day)

Weekdays: 9 am–6 pm*

Saturday: 9 am–5 pm

Sunday: 10 am–4 pm

*February 20–27 Weekdays: 9 am–7 pm

Early Voting in all 50 Wards of Chicago will begin Monday, February 13 and run through February 28 (Election Day).

All 50 Ward Early Voting sites and the Board Supersite (191 N. Clark St.) will be open as vote centers on Election Day.

Weekdays: 9 am–6 pm

Saturday: 9 am–5 pm

Sunday: 10 am–4 pm

Election Day (February 28): 6 am–7 pm

- Ward 33: American Indian Center, 3401 W. Ainsle St.
- Ward 35: NEIU El Centro, 3390 N. Avondale Ave.
- Ward 39: North Park Village Admin Bldg, 5801 N. Pulaski
- Ward 40: Budlong Woods Library, 5630 N. Lincoln Ave.
- Ward 45: Kolping Society of Chicago, 5826 N. Elston Ave.
- Ward 50: Northtown Library, 6800 N. Western Ave.

Northeastern Illinois University (5500 N. St. Louis) will be open for Early Voting February 22–24, 10 am–5 pm.

Any ballots voters cast in Early Voting are final. After casting Early Voting ballots, voters may not return to amend, change or undo a ballot for any reason. It is a felony to vote more than once—or to attempt to vote more than once—in the same election.

Government-issued photo ID is not required but ID is helpful if there is a question about the voter's registration, address or signature, or if there are two voters at the same address with the same names or similar names.



REAL ESTATE NEWS

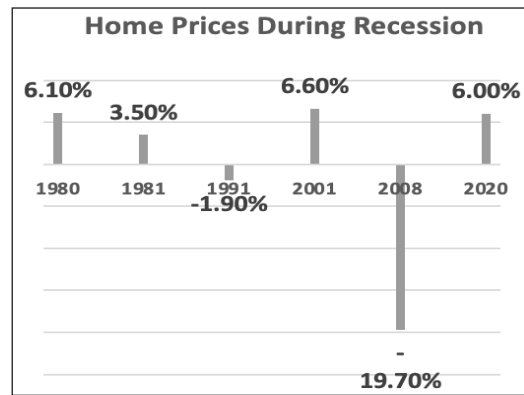
By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

Will a Recession Impact our Home Prices?

There's a lot of talk about a possible recession in 2023. The R word makes people nervous. Many home sellers and buyers are wondering—will home prices come down?

If we look at historical data, since 1980, during 4 out of the last 6 recessions, home prices actually increased. 2008 recession was unique due to looser lending practices which increased the number of foreclosures. Today, loan guidelines are stricter, majority of homeowners have equity and foreclosures are low.



Source: Core Logic, The Balance

Home prices in Chicago in 2023 are forecast to remain stable. There is still a shortage of homes for sale which is good news for sellers.

As inflation starts to come down, mortgage rates will too. Good news for buyers and sellers, as more buyers come back in the market.

If there is a recession, global CEOs see a “mild and short recession.” And the housing market typically leads the recovery.

If you are thinking of buying or selling in the next 24 months, please call me for a free home consultation.

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



BigHelpers.com

Home & Office Services

- Furniture Assembly
- Picture / Art Hanging
- Murphy Bed Installation
- TV Mounting Services
- Wire Concealing for Electronics
- Blinds & Curtain Rod Installation
- Swing-Set Assembly
- Handyman Services
- Ceiling Fixtures, Outlets, Dimmers, Etc.
- Indoor / Outdoor Painting Services
- Power Washing Services

Thumbtack



Licensed - Insured - Bonded

(312) 757-4420

Also
Now Hiring!

Call us Monday – Saturday from 9AM to 6PM

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

Chicago Bibles & Books

3931 W. Irving Park Rd.

773.478.0550

Monday to Saturday 10-6
www.biblesandbooks.com

Serving Chicago since 1981



"So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation..."

2 Cor. 5:17a

We have Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian, Romanian materials

Is It Still a Seller's Market?



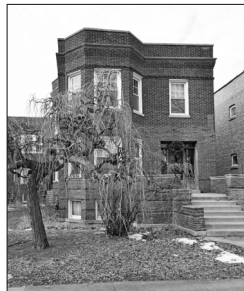
SOLD

4321 N Drake 4E



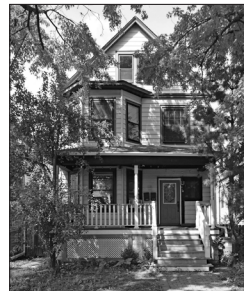
SOLD

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 in this market.

"It was a pleasure to work with Dorie while selling our condo. She allowed us to work at our own pace, providing us with accurate and relevant information regarding improvements to make prior to selling. Her suggested listing price was spot on—we ended up with multiple offers on the weekend of our initial open house, including one for full list price. During the entire process, Dorie was informative, professional, prompt, accurate, and a pleasure to work with." — Allen Layne

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,[®] MBA, ADPR
Your Neighborhood Realtor

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

CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723

January 18, 2022 Meeting – In-Person

In attendance: CAPS Officer Miro, Ald. Samantha Nugent and Sam Brewer (39th), Joe Engleman from Ald. Rosanna Rodriguez’s office (33rd), State Rep. Mike Kelly and Chief of Staff Katie (15th District).

CAPS Officer Miro facilitated the meeting. He has recently been assigned to the CAPS office. He previously worked on the west and south sides and worked for five years in narcotics.

Officer Miro went over crime stats for Beat 1723 over the past month (all of West Walker falls into Beat 1723). He also gave the arrest stats: There was 1 gun charge arrest, 13 arrests for battery, 1 for burglary, 2 for motor vehicle thefts and 3 for criminal trespass and criminal damage.

Alderman Nugent spoke about early voting which starts on February 13. The election includes aldermanic offices. She encouraged ward residents to phone her office to report missing street signs, benches or burnt-out street lights. She spoke about the city’s Home and Business Protection Program, where residents can be reimbursed up to \$225 per security camera for a maximum of two cameras purchased on or after June 6, 2022. You can also register your camera with the Chicago Police Department. For more information, visit chicago.gov/city/en/sites/csc/home/home-and-business-protection.html

If you would like to submit video to the 17th district, you can email it to SDC017@chicagopolice.org. The SDC room is linked to pod cameras and license plate readers.

Officer Miro emphasized preventative actions like securing your car and garage. Hyundais and Kias are targets. The Club steering wheel lock is a good deterrent, as well as motion sensitive cameras.

State Representative Mike Kelly talked about his efforts to get more money for license plate readers and cameras.

Joe Engleman from Ald. Rodriguez’s office talked about his work with the buildings and law departments on actions related to buildings owned by Gary Carlson.

Several residents were at the meeting to discuss concerns about a problem house in the 4600 block of Central Park. Officer Miro will follow up.

The 17th District will be participating in National Letter to An Elder Day on February 26. The CAPS office will be collecting your letters from now until February 25 and they will be distributed to older adults in the 17th District on February 26. For more information contact Officer Parks at 312-742-4588.

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, February 15 at 6:30 pm** in the 17th District Community Room, 4650 N. Pulaski.

Remember: 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. The IRS will never call you on the phone.



Contact or follow the 17th District CAPS office at:
Email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org
Phone: 312-742-4588
Facebook: facebook.com/CAPS.017
Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17
Instagram: [cpd17district](https://instagram.com/cpd17district)

Chicago Warming Centers Are Open

Stay warm this winter in any of the warming centers located across the city. All warming centers but Garfield Center (open 24/7) are open 9 am–5 pm. Call 311 or visit 311.chicago.gov for up-to-date information on warming centers.



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.

www.bebartarchitecture.com

773-844-4580 barry@bebartarchitecture.com

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.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Max Bessesen February 12

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a free concert featuring saxophonist Max Bessesen on Sunday, February 12 at 2 pm. Praised for his "saxophone virtuosity" by *Downbeat Magazine*, Max is a young composer and performer based in New York City. A former resident of Independence Park, Max performed a holiday jazz concert for the Fine Arts series in 2020, which was recorded due to the pandemic. We are thrilled to have Max back in Chicago and performing in person! He'll be playing a mix of original compositions and jazz standards. Joining Max are Ethan Phillion on bass, Dave Miller on guitar and Greg Artry on drums.



Saxophonist Max Bessesen and his trio will perform original compositions and jazz standards February 12 at 2 pm at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

Save the date! The *Sondheim Tribute* concert that was postponed in November has been rescheduled for March 26 at 2 pm. Both concerts will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concerts are free, but donations to support future programming are always welcome.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee, now in its 29th season, was created by Roger Bingaman, Director of Music at Irving Park Lutheran Church. The intent of the series is to bring high-quality, professional music to the northwest side of Chicago, free of charge.

Carlson Community Services connects the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org or contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766 or lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Upcoming Events at Irving Park Lutheran Church

Tackle Hunger with the Souper Bowl of Caring: February 11-12

The day before the Super Bowl, Saturday, February 11, the youth of Irving Park Lutheran Church are invited to make soup in the IPLC kitchen from 5-7 pm. Then after worship on Sunday, February 12, everyone is invited to enjoy a soup lunch together in the Fellowship Hall, or pick up quarts of soup to enjoy at home, and to make a free-will donation (the amount is up to you!) to help fight hunger. All Funds raised will be donated the Irving Park Food Pantry.

Feast Today, Fast Tomorrow!

Join us for a Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 21 from 5-7:30 pm in the IPLC Gym. We'll be serving Swedish and regular pancakes, sausage, lingonberries, apples and orange juice. Admission is \$12 per adult and \$6 per child 12 and under. Proceeds benefit the Magic After-School Place program, which meets in the IPLC Gym.

Ash Wednesday Worship: February 22

Wednesdays in Lent: 6 pm Meal & Games, 7 pm

Worship The church season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which falls on February 22 this year. Join us for worship at 7 pm. The service includes imposition of ashes and holy communion.

Then, on five subsequent Wednesdays (March 1-29) join us for an easy weeknight dinner from 6-7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. During the latter part of the hour we'll play games together! This is a great way to build community, much missed after long times of isolation. After the meal-and-game hour, there will be a 30-minute worship service at 7 pm. This year's service has a Welcoming theme and will include candles, incense, scripture, prayer, poetry and contemplative music, including a beloved sung version of the Lord's Prayer.

News from Irving Park Community Food Pantry

Text and photos by Craig Shutt

Easter Basket Donations Needed

It's early to be thinking about it, but the Pantry will again be giving out Easter baskets to clients' children up to 8 years old during March (prior to Easter on April 9), and we need to start collecting donations to be sure we have enough on hand for our first week!



We are looking for donations of dollar-store plastic bucket-style Easter baskets (please don't donate other basket types to aid consistency), plastic eggs filled with candy or toys, wrapped candies, small toys and plush animals. Contactless donations of items can be made by scanning the QR code above to search our Amazon registry.

Locally purchased donations can be taken to Big Helpers (4184 N. Elston Ave.) Monday-Friday from 10 am-4 pm, or the enclosed front porch at 3833 N. Tripp Ave.

We also encourage organizations to do their own collections or create assembled baskets. If interested, contact Special Events Coordinator Craig Shutt at craigshutt@gmail.com for details or to arrange delivery.

Thank You to "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"

Thank you to Target store manager Eadie Schettler and her crew for sponsoring two of our clients during the holiday season, providing family gifts of clothes and toys.

Thank you to Jet's Pizza (3951 N. Kimball Ave.) and co-owners Dan O'Donohue and Bryan Gilbert for helping our hardworking Tuesday night volunteers kick off the year in January with free pizza after we closed for the night. The selection included a range of toppings so everyone could get their favorite or try something new.

Thank you to the Period Collective, a Chicago-based nonprofit organization that provides period products to low-income individuals in the area. TPC has donated several cases of feminine-hygiene products, including pads, tampons, liners, wipes, incontinence products, cups and other products.

Thank you to Joe and Melissa Basilone, owners of Perkolator Coffee (6032 W. Irving Park Rd.), for donating coffee during the holiday season to keep our volunteers warm and energetic!

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



Top: Pantry volunteers dig into pizzas donated by Jet's Pizza after our first Tuesday night distribution of the year. Bottom: Target store manager Eadie Schettler meets with a Pantry client and the Pantry's Client Services Coordinator Elvia Esparza. Target staff sponsored holiday gifts of clothing and toys for two Pantry clients.

Connie Engel Selling Where YOU ARE



Find Off Market Listings Here



773.251.3837

cengel@atproperties.com

CHE
CONNIE H. ENGEL

@properties®



Haugan Elementary School

Upcoming LSC and Friends of Haugan Meetings

Wednesdays, March 8, April 12, May 10 and June 7: LSC at 4 pm, Friends of Haugan at 5 pm. Haugan Elementary School (4540 N. Hamlin Ave.) is one of our local Chicago Public Schools for which West Walker residents are zoned. Join us for the upcoming monthly Local School Council meetings, which are open to the public and a great way to get to know a school community. LSC meetings are held in the school library (enter door #1 on the first floor) and will be immediately followed by meetings of the Friends of Haugan.

Upcoming School Tours

Mondays, March 6, May 15 and June 5 at 8:30 am. For anyone interested attending in Haugan Elementary, Principal Heather Yutzy and Co-Principal Melissa Sanchez set aside an hour each month to give school tours to prospective Haugan families. Join us in the office for a tour of our amazing school!

Forest Schools for Illinois Winter Playgroup

Fridays, February 10, 17 and 24 and March 10 and 17 from 9:30-11 am. Join Forest Schools for Illinois for our free Winter Playgroup! We meet most Friday mornings for outdoor winter play, suggested age range 0-4. We will be meeting at LaBagh Woods, Picnic Grove 1 (north end of park) for the remainder of the season.

Forest Schools for Illinois is a grassroots, volunteer organization that advocates for expanded access to outdoor early childhood education. For more information, visit forestschooolsforil.org or contact us at forestschooolsil@gmail.com if you have questions about the playgroup or our other advocacy work.

Girls Who Code: 2023 Summer Program Application Now Open!

Girls Who Code is offering two FREE programs this summer—a two-week virtual Summer Immersion Program or a six-week Self-Paced Program—that will allow students an opportunity to learn about computer science in a style that works best for them while making meaningful connections. All high school students who identify as girls or non-binary can apply, and no prior computer science experience is required! Eligible students can apply for *both* programs, however, students can only participate in one summer program. **Early acceptance applications are due by Wednesday, February 15. The general application deadline is Friday, March 24.**

The virtual Summer Immersion Program (SIP) is a live, virtual, two-week introductory computer science course for eligible 9th, 10th and 11th grade US and international students, ages 14-18. Through our new curriculum focused on Game Design, SIP participants will learn beginner to intermediate computer science concepts, UX design basics and more, while getting an inside look into the tech industry through incredible company partners. In addition to a completely free program, we offer grants up to \$300 and tech support for qualifying students.

The Self-Paced Program is a six-week flexible computer science course for currently eligible 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade US and international students, ages 14-18, who prefer not to adhere to a set schedule. Self-Paced Program participants can choose to earn beginner-level badges in HTML, CSS and JavaScript for web development, or an intermediate-level badge in Python for cybersecurity or our new data science track. Students will also have the opportunity to build community through live advisory events and other Girls Who Code engagements.

Questions or ready to apply? Visit girlswhocodesm.smapply.io to watch our application walkthrough video, review our frequently asked questions or join us for a webinar. Or email us at summer@girlswhocode.com.

Help Celebrate 150 Years of the Chicago Public Library!

Independence Branch Library Seeks Your House or Business-Made from Cardboard!

In celebration of the Chicago Public Library's 150th anniversary, the Independence Branch Library asks our diverse and vibrant community members to build and recreate their home or business out of cardboard and contribute their creations to our library for display during the summer.

The library's shelving units are around 20 inches wide and very long. As long as the cardboard buildings don't hang over the side (not to exceed a width of 20 inches), they may be as tall and as long as the designer or architect wants them to be.

All ages and skill levels are welcome to recreate their home or business out of cardboard (whatever type of cardboard works best for you) and bring it to the library in June (or before) for display. So start saving up your cardboard shipping boxes, begin sketching your designs, plan how you want to create it and dream up the final product now! Each creator may also choose how to decorate their building.

Questions? Contact Jessica Kimpel, Children's Librarian, at 312-744-1135 or jmccarney@chipublic.org, Chicago Public Library, Independence Branch, 4024 N. Elston Ave.

Teens: Submit Your Art to the Chicago Public Library's 8th Annual Teen Winter Challenge!

Are you a Chicago teen who's created art in the past two years? Want to share your work so more people see it? Would you like the opportunity to win an Amazon gift card? Then submit your original artwork to the Chicago Public Library's 8th annual Teen Winter Challenge art competition! Submissions are open until March 1.

Every applicant will have at least one work printed in our Teen Winter Challenge catalog. Of these works, up to 12 exceptional pieces will be presented in a mounted exhibition at Harold Washington Library Center and receive up to \$175 in prizes.

Submission Guidelines

Who: Chicago high school students ages 13-19.

What: Submit a portfolio of one to three original works created in the past two years, along with an artist statement.

The portfolio can represent a variety of mediums including drawing, painting, sculpture, film, photography, fashion, etc. Written word can be incorporated into the work (e.g., graphic novel, captions, subtitles) but cannot constitute the entirety of the work/portfolio (e.g., an essay or poem by itself).

The artist statement should give insight into both you and your work using 250 words or less. What do you wish to tell people that would guide their viewing and deepen understanding of your work? Some prompts to consider:

- Discuss the meaning/intention behind your artistic choices and the overall piece.
- Write about your creative process and your goals for the future.

When: Submit your portfolio before March 1 using a professional format. Submit well-lit, high-resolution images of your artwork. If you don't have access to a digital camera, most smart phone cameras provide excellent images. Crop any unnecessary details out of the frame. Avoid skewing the image; photograph the work straight on, with the camera at a 90-degree angle to the work. JPGs are preferred for processing reasons, but PNG and PDF files are also acceptable. Title your image file with your name and the name of the piece, if possible.

Why: Every applicant will have one work printed in the 8th annual Teen Winter Challenge catalog, which will be added to the YOUmedia Zine collection and posted online. Submissions are also eligible to win monetary prizes and additional exhibition opportunities.

Where: Complete the submission form at chipublic.org/news/teens-submit-your-art-to-teen-winter-challenge-2022-2023-to-win-prizes/.

Evaluation Process

Submissions will be judged by a panel of Chicago Public Library staff. Evaluation will be based on the thoughtfulness of the artist statement, the passion to create, the artistic merit of the piece(s) and the professionalism of the presentation. Ask your local teen library staff member for help with any of these components.

Want to Write for the West Walker Wire?

The West Walker Wire welcomes articles from you! If you like to write, we're looking for more writers to contribute monthly original stories about our neighborhood history, news and events. Please limit your stories and contributions to approximately 400 words (about half a page) and make sure you submit all text in a Word or Google document, or directly in the body of an email. Any other formats will not be accepted.

The deadline is 7 days prior to the first of the month: February 23 for the March issue. Submit articles, feedback or questions to: Editor, west_walker_wire@yahoo.com.

Want to Advertise in the West Walker Wire?

If you're interested in placing an advertisement in the West Walker Wire, contact Shannan Bunting at shannan@solsticepr.com for ad rates and sizes. Submit final PDF ad artwork to: Editor, west_walker_wire@yahoo.com.

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

WWCA Members

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

Richard & Melanie Reschke
Pulaski Cleaners
Emily Fox & Eric Dominguez

It's Membership Renewal Time!

WWCA Membership runs May 1 through April 30 annually. Your dues help fund a variety of items, including:

- 10 issues per year of the *West Walker Wire*, delivered free to residences and businesses in West Walker
- 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!



Follow West Walker Civic Association on Facebook!

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. Write your name as you would like it to appear in the West Walker Wire.)

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Please note 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 Ave., Chicago, IL 60618

Continued from front cover

Lorch Bros. Flowers

4936 W. Irving Park Rd. · 773-777-7970 ·
lorchflowers.com

For the Chocolate and Cocktail Connoisseurs Katherine Anne Confections

2745 W. Armitage Ave. (Coming soon to 3653 W. Irving
Park Rd.!) · 773-245-1630 · katherine-anne.com

Kit Bar Supply

4938 W. Irving Park Rd. · kitbarsupply.com

For the Plant Parents Plant Shop Chicago

4601 N. Elston Ave. · 872-212-5827 ·
plantshopchicago.com

Farmers Market Garden Center

4110 N. Elston Ave. · 773-539-1200 · gardenchicago.com

Stola Contemporary Art Gallery Opens New Show

Please join us **Saturday, February 11, from 5–8 pm** for wine and the opening artists' reception of Angels and Demons. Everyone is encouraged to come dressed as their favorite angel or demon! The show runs through March 26 at 3738 W. Irving Park Rd.

NEIU Black Heritage Month Jazz Concert Series

Join Chicago-based jazz artists and band leaders for a month of exciting concerts celebrating Black Heritage Month at Northeastern Illinois University's Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave. These concerts are made possible through the generous financial support of the Music Performance Trust Fund (MPTF) and the facilitation of the Chicago Federation of Musicians (CFM). Free and open to the public. For more information, visit neiu.edu/university-life/university-events-calendar/arts-and-lectures-events/.

**Tuesday, February 14, 7:30–9 pm | Trombonist
Norman Palm's Quintet**

**Monday, February 20, 7:30–9 pm | Trumpeter
Marques Carroll's Quintet**

**Monday, February 27, 7:30–9 pm | Trombonist
Raphael Crawford's Quintet**

Chicago Theatre Week: February 16–23

Experience the thrill of live theatre and the awe-inspiring work of Chicago theatres for just \$15 or \$30 (or less!). Chicago Theatre Week features value-priced tickets to performances at theatres across the city, from musicals to improv to dramas and beyond.

Chicago Theatre Week is presented by the League of Chicago Theatres in partnership with Choose Chicago. This highly anticipated event continues to invite visitors and locals to sample the extraordinary range of theatrical offerings throughout the Chicago area.

Subscribe to the Theatre Week email list or follow @ChicagoPlays on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook for updates and announcements. For tickets and more information, visit choosechicago.com/events/category/theatre-week/.

North Branch Natives Meadow Gardens Learn at Lunch

Close your eyes and picture the buzz and sway of a meadow in the warm summer sun, the smell of prairie dropseed and purple coneflower, and the sound as a breeze whispers through the leaves.

Awaken your senses and join us on **Thursday, February 16, from 1–3 pm at Perkolor Coffee (6032 W. Irving Park Rd.)** for a look at how to plant and care for a meadow garden. We will bring seeds to share and some great info on how to sow them. Open to beginner and intermediate gardeners. Tickets are \$55. For more information and to register, visit northbranchnatives.com/products/meadow-gardens/.

Request A Parkway Tree from the City of Chicago

The Our Roots Chicago initiative has the goal of planting 75,000 parkway trees across Chicago by 2026. More healthy trees mean healthier communities. Submit a tree planting request by calling your local ward office during regular business hours (9 am–5 pm, Monday–Friday) so that the Bureau of Forestry can conduct an inspection of your parkway and sign you up for a tree planting as soon as possible. To verify what ward you reside in, visit chicago.gov/city/en/depts/mayor/iframe/lookup_ward_and_alderman.html.

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 for Party/Benefit Bookings



 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

GatewayMontessoriSchool.org



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