

# WEST WALKER WIRE

SEPTEMBER 2023

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

## First Wednesdays “Neighbors Night Out”

Michael and Laurie Bish started the monthly “Neighbors Night Out” evening for locals to gather in a social atmosphere. More neighbors who know each other equals more cooperation and a more unified neighborhood.

“This is not a networking event,” stated Michael. “We are here to socialize and get to know each other better.”

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 5–7 pm at establishments in or near Irving Park. Many people linger after the event to continue socializing. Restaurants or taverns in the area are selected so neighbors can be introduced to them, plus support local businesses.

From a modest start to well over 30 regulars, Neighbors Night Out has met at places such as Old Irving Park Brewery, Hearth and Crust (recently revamped by the owners as Buona Terra Ristorante), Eris Brewery & Cider House, The Cabin at Old Irving Park, Paddy Mac’s, and Leona’s Pizzeria. Occasionally, the location is not finalized in advance, but sign up for notices and announcements from Laurie by emailing Laurie.Bish@goosehead.com.

Be sure to keep 5–7 pm open on every first Wednesday of the month!

Neighbors Night Out began as part of the Old Irving Park Association (OIPA) and has grown to include West Walker and surrounding neighborhoods.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Sun., Sept. 10 & 24 • 9 am–1 pm**

GIPNA Farmers’ Market  
Independence Park  
Springfield Ave. & Irving Park Rd.

**Sun., Sept. 10 & 24 • 9:30 am–1:30 pm**

Jefferson Park Sunday Market  
4818 N. Long Ave.

**Fri., Sept. 15 • 11 am**

Carlson’s Golf Outing  
Edgebrook Golf Course

**Sat., Sept. 16, 23 & 30 • 9 am–1 pm**

Horner Park Farmers’ Market  
2741 W. Montrose Ave. at California Ave.

**Sun., Sept. 17 • 10 am–2 pm**

Portage Park Farmers’ Market  
4000–4100 N. Long Ave.

**Sun., Sept. 17 • 10 am**

Kidical Mass Family Bike Ride  
Independence Park Playground  
(corner of Grace & Hamlin)

**Wed., Sept. 20 • 6:30 pm**

Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting  
17th District Community Room  
4650 N. Pulaski Rd.

**Sat., Sept. 23 • 12–3 pm**

Forest Preserves of Cook County  
FREE Fall Nature Fest  
LaBagh Woods (Foster & Cicero Aves.)  
[fallnaturefest.eventbrite.com](http://fallnaturefest.eventbrite.com)

**Sat., Sept. 30 • 12–9:30 pm**

IPAC Indie Park Fest  
Independence Park

**Thur., Oct. 12 • TBD**

WWCA Neighbors Night Out  
Time and location TBD

**Fri., Nov. 10 • 7 pm**

Carlson’s Trivia Night  
Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym

You can also visit us online at:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/WestWalkerCivicAssocChicago/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/WestWalkerCivicAssocChicago/)

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

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# Dear Neighbor,

**Hello, neighbors!** I hope everyone enjoyed their summer; I know I definitely did! West Walker Civic Association was proud to hand out lemonade, water, snacks and red, white and blue paraphernalia at the Independence Park celebration on July 4. As we move into September and begin a new school year, I wanted to announce some new things WWCA will be doing:

After a hiatus, we will be bringing back West Walker email blasts. If you are not presently subscribed to the email blasts and would like to be, please reach out to [wwcablasts@gmail.com](mailto:wwcablasts@gmail.com).

We are also planning a Neighbors Night Out on Thursday, October 12. The location is still to be determined, but it will be within the West Walker neighborhood. Please stay tuned to the West Walker Facebook page for the location announcement. The new members of the Board and I will be there, and we're looking forward to meeting any neighbors who can attend. We also look forward to hearing your ideas for future programming and events.

**Enjoy the last few weeks of warm weather; fall will be here soon!**

*Erin Hunter*  
WWCA President

## 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*

### **2023-2025 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Erin Hunter
<b>Co-Vice Presidents</b>	Laura Ell & Helen Lira
<b>Secretary</b>	Stephen Brown
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sue Gregoire

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

Mike Webber & Dorie Westmeyer

### **CAPS COORDINATOR**

[LizMills@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](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).*

## News from Irving Park Lutheran Church

### Outdoor Worship & Pet Blessing October 1 at 10:30 am

All God's creatures welcome! Join us in the Irving Park Lutheran Church parking lot for outdoor worship and pet blessing, with music by the Bear Williams Band. After worship we'll enjoy hot dogs and fellowship.

### Supporting Migrants with Showers Wednesdays, 11 am-1 pm & Saturdays, 12-2 pm

We've been offering use of the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym showers to families and individuals staying at the 17th Police District Police Station, in cooperation with community partners. Help us by volunteering as an on-site host. The shifts are Wednesdays 11 am-1 pm and Saturdays 12-2 pm. To volunteer as an on-site host or for more information, go to [www.iplc.org](http://www.iplc.org). Spanish language skills are helpful but not necessary; you can also use Google Translate. Thank you for your support.

## Yoga and Dance Classes at St. John's Episcopal Church

Get moving with yoga or dance classes, held in the Parish Hall at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 North Kostner Ave.

### Yoga

**Mondays at 5 pm** with Heidi Ellison Childress. All levels welcome, \$15 per class, bring your own yoga mat.

**Tuesdays at 6 pm** with Gena Cielak. \$15 per class. For more information, email [gena.cielak@gmail.com](mailto:gena.cielak@gmail.com) or call/text 773.791.4526.

### Nia Dance Movement Class

**Wednesdays 6 pm, beginning September 20**, with Meghan. Preregistration is required. To preregister, email [mhowietimmel@gmail.com](mailto:mhowietimmel@gmail.com). Sliding scale: \$12-\$15 per class, or purchase a 4-class card for \$45.



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## REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer  
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

*Your Neighborhood Realtor!*

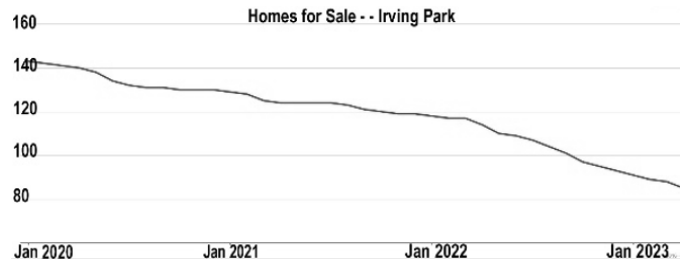
### Is the market slowing down?

Hi Neighbors! Short answer—yes and no.

There will always be buyers who need to move. Many have adapted to today's higher mortgage rates which range from 6.75% to over 7.5%. Others are waiting until rates to come down. Unfortunately, the days of 3% mortgage rates are gone. Fannie Mae projects mortgage rates will be 6.1% on average in 2024.

Regarding home prices, they have slowed a bit the last few months. But let me clarify. Single family home prices in Irving Park increased 27% in the last 3 years! What's changed is the rate of price increases has slowed. But home prices are stable.

This is largely due to the continuing shortage of homes for sale. There are 32% fewer homes for sale in Irving Park versus last year.



Sellers in Irving Park are still getting premium prices.

**If you are thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to get your 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](mailto:Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com)

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**DONATION DROP OFF:** on behalf of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry, Mon-Fri, 10 am-4 pm  
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](http://www.biblesandbooks.com)

Serving Chicago since 1981



*"...the land will yield fruit, and you will eat to be satisfied and dwell securely in it."*

*Leviticus 25:19*



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

## If You've Been Thinking About Selling, Now Is the Time

The best time to sell your house is when others aren't selling. And with my unique 5-step marketing plan and our strategy, my clients' homes are selling in about a week at 103% of asking price. *Source: MRED*



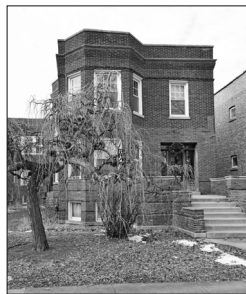
**SOLD**

4310 N Springfield



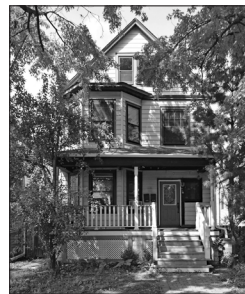
**SOLD**

4122 N Lawndale



**SOLD**

3752 N Lawndale



**SOLD**

4240 N Monticello



**SOLD**

4113 N Lawndale

*"Dorie was a dream to work with! It was the first time I had sold a house & as a solo owner I needed someone to help me negotiate the steps. She took her time, went through the house & suggested which things I might want to spend money on before selling & which things weren't worth it. She suggested a price that was a few notches higher than I would've—based on her experience in my neighborhood—and set up the open house. I got a cash offer for full asking price the next day. Dorie also helped me find an estate sale company to clear out the house & was always there to quickly respond to my questions and concerns. What a wonderful real estate agent! Highly, highly recommended." — Anne-Marie Concepcion*



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

If you're thinking of selling in the next 24 months, call me for a free home consultation.

Neighbor since 1995 · 847-989-4870 · CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY · [Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com](mailto:Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com)

# CAPS Report

## Beats 1722 & 1723

### August 16, 2023 Meeting

Via Email from the CAPS office. CAPS Officer Miro stated that the primary topic was community members' concerns about the recent robberies in the area and robbery arrests made by Area 5 detectives. He also addressed crime reduction strategies.

The Office of Community Policing is looking for Beat Facilitators. A Beat Facilitator is a community representative who co-chairs and assists in facilitating community Beat Meetings along with sworn members of Community Policing. The roles of a Beat Facilitator:

- Represent community residents
- Be a team player and work well with all residents and district police officers
- Ability to organize and lead a community meeting
- Ability to identify, address community needs and problems and initiate community outreach
- Reside or work in the beat they will represent
- Have basic computer and smartphone skills

For more information and an application, visit <https://tinyurl.com/beatfacilitator>.

### July 19, 2023 Meeting

**In attendance:** CAPS Officer Miro; John Campos, CPD Community Organizer; Alderman Samantha Nugent and Samantha Brewer, (39th Ward)

Alderman Nugent spoke first since she had to attend another meeting. She reminded attendees about 39th Ward Participatory Budgeting. Voting ends July 24 and projects will be announced August 4. If your basement flooded during July storms, report the damage to 311. Cook County has applied for Federal disaster relief funds (since granted).

Officer Miro announced that Commander Alexa retired. He also reported that most of the theft in Beat 1723 is auto-related, especially thefts of Hyundai and Kias. Officer Miro reported there were 21 arrests over a three-week period in July in Beat 1723 and 13 arrests in Beat 1722.

A resident complained about teens harassing her outside her building at Sunnyside and Kimball and then ducking into a Gary Carlson owned building. Officers will give the area special attention. Another resident complained about a mentally ill woman screaming at night at Lawndale and Montrose.

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.

Remember to always lock your vehicle; never leave it running unattended. Be on the lookout for scams related to income tax refunds. Remember, the IRS will never call you on the phone. **The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 pm** in the 17th District Community Room, 4650 N. Pulaski.

Contact or follow the 17th District CAPS office at:

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

Phone: 312-742-4588

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

Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17

Instagram: cpd17district

## Kidical Mass: Family Bike Rides

Join Irving Park Kidical Mass for a slow, easy-going and fun group ride focused on kids (all ages) and families that will tour the Irving Park neighborhood.

We'll meet at the Independence Park playground, near the corner of Grace and Hamlin, between 10-10:25 am for a 10:30 am departure.

**Sundays, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17.** Rides will be held rain or shine through October, and will be weather dependent in November and December. Each ride will end at a fun destination in the community.

### Ride Guidelines

- Please wear helmets and ride safely.
- Rides are typically 2-4 miles at a 5-6 mph pace, 1 hour with stops.
- Suitable for children who have progressed beyond training wheels.
- Younger children are welcome on trail-a-bikes, child trailers or child seats on their parent/guardian's bike.
- Festive dress and decorations encouraged.
- It is expected that all kids bring a parent or guardian with a bike.

## News and Events from Carlson Community Services

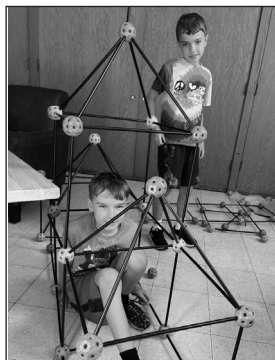


Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit connecting

the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service.

### MAP begins 17th Year!

The Magic After-School Place (MAP) kicked off its 17th year on August 21, with the start of the Chicago Public School year. MAP serves children in kindergarten through 8th grade who attend Belding school. With nearly 30 students enrolled and space for more, we're looking forward to a fun and enriching school year. Rebecca Haneberg returns as our program director, as well as Laurie Paliga. With a sliding scale tuition structure based on income, MAP is a valuable partner for working families of all income levels who need a safe place for their children to go after school. MAP meets at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym at Harding & Belle Plaine Ave. Contact Rebecca at [mapdirector@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:mapdirector@carlsoncommunityservices.org) for more information.



Left: Bas & Martin demonstrate their building skills. Above: Magic After-School Place is off to a great start!

### Carlson's Golf Outing on September 15

Join us for Carlson's 2023 Golf Outing at the lovely and conveniently located Edgebrook Golf Course. The annual event raises funds for Carlson Community Services' after-school program, community garden and free concert series. The outing is slated for Friday, September 15, beginning at 11 am at Edgebrook Golf Course, 6100 N. Central Ave. in Chicago. Golfers will enjoy the picturesque setting of the golf course, set among the Forest Preserve's mature trees and the meandering Chicago River.

Tee times begin at 11 am. The day wraps up with a light dinner and drinks on the grounds. Entry is \$125 which includes 18 holes of golf with cart, dinner and drinks. Plus, the opportunity to win great raffle prizes! Carlson's Golf Outing is a great way to support neighborhood

programs while having a blast with friends! Purchase a hole sponsorship for just \$100 per hole! For information on how to register, visit [carlsoncommunityservices.org/event](http://carlsoncommunityservices.org/event).

### Save the Date for Trivia Night–November 10!

Mark your calendar for Carlson Community Services' 14th in-person Trivia Night on Friday, November 10! We're looking forward to seeing you at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym for one of the oldest and best trivia fundraisers, supporting Carlson's after-school program, community garden and free concert series. For more information about the Golf Outing and Trivia Night, visit [carlsoncommunityservices.org/events](http://carlsoncommunityservices.org/events).

### Three Brothers Garden News



Ruth Bouman drops off the weekly harvest at Irving Park Food Pantry.

Our Garden Coordinator, Ruth Bouman wrapped up the season in mid-August to return to college. Thanks for your excellent work, Ruth! As of mid-August, we've harvested herbs, beets, lettuce, cabbage, cucumbers, tomatoes, green beans, squash and radishes for the Irving Park Food Pantry. Over 225 lbs. have been donated in all! We'll continue to harvest in the garden every

Tuesday through October from 5:30 to 7 pm at 4107 N. Pulaski, next to the Irving Park Lutheran Church parking lot. Please join us!



Ruth Bouman's last week at Three Brothers Garden was celebrated with a potluck supper. Pictured from left are Melanie & Rick Reschke, Ruth Meberg and Naomi, Rebecca Haneberg, Ruth and Judy Sviatko.

In addition, if you've got surplus veggies from your home garden, we'll add them to our delivery to the Food Pantry. Simply bring your extras to the garden on Tuesdays before 6 pm. Donations can be placed on the table under the pergola. If you'd like to be added to

*Continued on page 11*

## Irving Park Community Food Pantry News

*text and photos by Craig Shutt, Publicity & Special Events Coordinator, unless noted*

### Pantry Coat Drive Begins in October

The Irving Park Food Pantry will run its annual coat drive in October and November and is asking for donations of new or gently used winter coats now so we can be ready to help our clients and their families in the 60641 and 60618 ZIP codes prepare for the cold weather.

We know it's early (and warm) to be thinking about winter coats, but there are sales underway at stores now and kids may have outgrown last year's coats and will need new ones later. Checking and donating now will be a big help to ensure we start the drive strong!

Coats will be given out starting Tuesday, October 10 (6-7 pm) and continue every Wednesday (9 am-noon) through November 8. We also are accepting hats, scarves, mittens and other cold-weather gear. Please do not donate sweaters, sweatshirts, boots or other clothing.

Donations can be taken to:

- Big Helpers store, 4184 N. Elston Ave. (10 am-4 pm, Monday through Friday)
- Compass Real Estate, Three offices: 2044 W. Roscoe St., 1653 N. Milwaukee Ave. and 2350 N. Lincoln Ave., 3rd floor
- 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)
- Distinct Bath & Body, 4046 N. Milwaukee Ave.
- Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave.
- Irving Park YMCA, 4251 W. Irving Park Rd. (dropbox in lobby)
- Jet's Pizza, 3951 N. Kimball Ave. (dropbox 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)
- Front Porch at 4731 Kiona Ave. (any time)

Other drop-off points will be announced on our social media. If you have a large donation or want to run a drive to gather coats, email [info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org](mailto:info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org) for suggestions or to arrange delivery.

### Thank You to "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

Thank you to our good friends at Three Brothers Garden and garden coordinator Ruth Bouman, for providing fresh vegetables all summer long. Each Wednesday morning Ruth brought what volunteers harvested the previous

night to give our clients the freshest food possible.

The garden is a partnership between Carlson Community Services and Irving Park Lutheran Church.

Thank you to Dr. David Nayak and Maggie O'Keefe, founder and executive director, respectively, of Nayak Farms in Gardner, Ill., who donated 800 pounds of freshly harvested corn. The Farms donates produce to other local pantries, including Common Pantry and Nourishing Hope, as well as the Greater Chicago Food Depository.



*John Psiharis and Dr. David Nayak with Nayak Farms' truck. Photo courtesy Nayak Farms*

Thank you to Elim Christian Services in Crestwood, Ill., which donated 50 packs of school supplies to our drive in August. The group's volunteers put together packs containing many of the items we provided to help our clients' children.



*Craig Shutt (third from left) takes delivery of school supplies from Sara S., Peter O. and Paul T. of Elim Christian Services.*

Thank you to the Irish American Heritage Center, which ran a large drive for new migrants and gave us the remaining toiletries that had been donated.



*John Psiharis with toiletries donated by the Irish American Heritage Center.*

We appreciate everyone's continued support that allows us to continue our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

For more information, visit [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org) or contact John Psiharis, Executive Director, at 773-283-6296, or [info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org](mailto:info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org).



*Office Manager Gayle Christensen delivers school supplies donated during our drive in August.*



## Haugan Elementary School

Local School Council meetings will be held on Wednesdays each month, August through June.

The meetings are almost all on the *second* Wednesday of the month, *except* April, which will be on the *third* Wednesday. Meetings will alternate between 4 pm and 6 pm to accommodate various work schedules.

**Wednesday, September 13, 6-7:40 pm**

**Wednesday, October 11, 4-5:30 pm**

Visit the 2023-24 school year calendar at [https://haugan.cps.edu/m/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=499566&type=d](https://haugan.cps.edu/m/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=499566&type=d).

## St. Ed's School & Parish News

### Welcome Back, Students!

Our St. Edward students were pleasantly surprised to find some new changes around our school. We implemented new security cameras, updated our library furniture and classrooms desks, and secured a new fence for our playlot. Additionally, we partnered with Discovery Education to incorporate their STEM curriculum into our current science program in K-8. The Discovery Education units encourage students to utilize communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking with real-world issues and are aligned to science standards.

Our 16:1 student-to-teacher ratio is why our students are able to excel with individualized attention. We were accredited Blue Ribbon (2017) and our standards to reach the ribbon again are on our radar. Visit our website to schedule a tour. See how we can be a good fit for your family! [www.stedwardchicago.org](http://www.stedwardchicago.org).

### Save the Dates! Food Truck Fest, Parish Golf Outing & Harvest Bash

Join St. Edward School's **Food Truck Fest on Friday, September 8, from 4-9 pm** on Sunnyside Ave. and North Lowell Ave. We will have food vendors, kids' games, and a split the pot raffle.

St. Edward's Parish will hold a **PAR-TEE TIME golf outing fundraiser Saturday, September 9** at Chick Evans Golf Course (6145 Golf Rd., Morton Grove, IL). Tickets are \$125 per person or \$500 per foursome. Advanced and beginner golfers are welcome. Prizes awarded for the longest drive, closest to the pin and longest putt. Purchase your tickets at <https://www.givecentral.org/location/347/event/37191>.

## NPN'S PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FAIR

September 23rd

Kids' Work  
Chicago  
Riverview



## NPN'S EDUCATION & COMMUNITY FAIR

October 21st

Kennicott Park

**ARE YOU EXPLORING SCHOOL OPTIONS IN CHICAGO?**

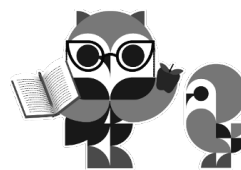
**Attend the NPN School Fairs this fall!**

Learn about CPS  
Chat with private schools  
Attend expert-led sessions  
Support diverse learners

SCAN



Don't miss our annual **Harvest Bash on Saturday, October 7**. This is the parish's biggest fundraiser and is a huge neighborhood-wide event at 4350 W. Sunnyside Ave. Schedule includes kids & family activities from 3-4:30 pm, outdoor Mass at 4:30 pm, dinner (BBQ pork & Vietnamese food) from 5:30-7 pm, and live music from Dave Weld and the Imperial Flames from 7-10:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at [stedparish.org/harvest-bash](http://stedparish.org/harvest-bash).



## Fall at Chicago Public Library, Independence Branch

Fall fun has begun at Independence Branch Library. All events take place in the 1st floor Community Room unless stated otherwise.

### Play Day\*

**Mondays at 10:30 am**

Bring a friend or meet a new one during our open and unstructured play group time. For ages up to 5. \*No Play Day on September 4 (library closed for Labor Day)

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### Family Story Time\*

**Wednesdays at 10:30 am \*Starting September 20**

Join us to read, talk, sing, write and stay to play! For ages up to 5. \*No Story Time on September 6 or 13.

### LEGO® Play

**Thursday, September 7 at 4:30 pm**

Build and inspire others with your creations! All builds will be displayed. Juice box reception to follow. Ages 5+.

### Little Miss Ann

**Wednesday, September 13 at 10:30 am**

Little Miss Ann (Ann Torralba) sings songs for kids and families that are fun, energetic and interactive. Ann also plays guitar, drum beats and adds backing tracks to her concerts. Her songs about letting your light shine within yourself, with your friends and family and in your community will also inspire kids to jump, clap, sing, dance and more! For families with kids ages 0 to 8.

### New Readers Book Club

**Thursday, September 14, 4:30-5:30 pm**

We'll read "We Don't Eat our Classmates" by Ryan T. Higgins, have a snack and do fun activities. Copies are available for check-out at the circulation desk. Ages 5-8.

### Community Cinema: Minions: The Rise of Gru (2022, PG)

**Saturday, September 16 at 2 pm**

In the 1970s, 12-year-old Gru schemes and plots (with the help of the Minions) to become a member of the Vicious 6, an infamous group of supervillians. Chaos, adventure, and hilarity ensue after he manages to steal a valuable object from their headquarters.

### Science Club

**Thursday, September 21, 4:30-5:30 pm**

Join us on the stairs for a special series of programs featuring hands-on STEAM activities designed by the Museum of Science & Industry that explore earth science. CPL's Out-of-School-Time Science Club programming is made possible with gratitude to a partnership with the Museum of Science and Industry. Attendance at all sessions is strongly encouraged, but not required.

### Tween Graphic Novel Club

**Thursday, September 28, 4:30-5:30 pm**

We'll discuss "New Kid" by Jerry Craft and try a fun activity. Copies are available for check-out at the circulation desk. Ages 8-12.

### Amazing Bibik

**Saturday, September 30 at 11 am**

Combine fun magic and goofy comedy to get the Amazing Bibik's one-of-a-kind performance. Ages 5+.

### Open Mic with Girls Rock! Chicago

**Saturday, September 23 at 1 pm**

Girls Rock! Chicago will host an open mic in our garden (will be moved indoors in inclement weather). Their girl, trans and gender expansive campers, ages 8-18, will be our featured performers. Come prepared to hear Chicago's rising performers and maybe even sign up for your own opportunity to rock out at this inspiring event. Ages 8-18+.

### For All Ages: Paint Your Shero

Grab & Go kits available while supplies last. Honor the special women in your life by painting your Shero. Mini art show and reception on November 7 at 5:30 pm. Kits sponsored by the Women's History Month Committee.

Questions? Contact Jessica Kimpel, Children's Librarian, at 312-744-1135 or [jmccarney@chipublib.org](mailto:jmccarney@chipublib.org), Chicago Public Library, Independence Branch, 4024 N. Elston Ave.

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## WWCA Members

THANK YOU to the neighbors who joined or renewed as of September:

**Libby Levndowski & Peter Wilhelm**

**Peter & Carla Forster**

**Kelly Fox & Eric Dominguez**

**The Hopps Family**

## Want to Write for the West Walker Wire?

The West Walker Wire welcomes ads and articles from you! If you like to write, we're looking for more writers to contribute monthly stories about our neighborhood history, news and events. Please limit your 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: September 24 for the October issue. Submit articles, feedback or questions to: Wire 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 or JPG ad artwork to: Editor, 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:

- 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!

### 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.*

Mail in your 2023/2024 dues along with the application below.

## WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024

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 page 6

our email notices, send your contact info to [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org).

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).

### Independence Park Advisory Council News & Events

For more information about our events, visit [independenceparkchicago.com](http://independenceparkchicago.com) or [facebook.com/ipacchicago](https://www.facebook.com/ipacchicago) or email [ipac.chicago@gmail.com](mailto:ipac.chicago@gmail.com).

#### Park Clean-Up Days

**Tuesday, September 5 & Monday, October 9 at 6 pm**  
Meet your neighbors and help us keep the park clean and safe for everyone to enjoy.

#### Indie Park Fest

**Saturday, September 30, 12-9:30 pm**  
Live music, artisan market, kids' games & community fun!

### Monthly IPAC Meeting

**Monday, October 16 at 7 pm**

Independence Field House. Learn about upcoming projects, have your say, and become part of the action!

### Order Your Rain Barrel

Thanks to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, discounted rain barrels are available to Cook County residents while supplies last. The price of a subsidized rain barrel is \$10.75 for seniors age 65+ and \$21.50 for all others. Limit 2. For more information or to order your rain barrel, visit [mwrdd.org/rain-barrels](http://mwrdd.org/rain-barrels).

### Apply for Federal Funds for Flood Damage

Need help after recent flooding? Apply for federal funds by calling FEMA at 800-621-3362 or visiting [www.fema.gov/disaster/4728](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4728).



**KRIS NOWAK**  
Real Estate Broker

m 773.234.3869  
[kris@fultongrace.com](mailto:kris@fultongrace.com)

Your **West Walker** Real Estate Expert

## EXPERTISE MATTERS

Hear what your neighbors have to say!

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- Rachel A.

***"If you value high-quality and personable Realtor services, I highly recommend Kris and his team."***

- Tim A.

***"Kris is an excellent Realtor! We feel so lucky to have had him as our Realtor."***

- Sam S.

### Scan the QR Code!

Read more about the Quality of Service your neighbors have received. Reach out today to find out how I can help you.

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- 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

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



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