



# WEST WALKER WIRE

JANUARY 2007

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

## Irving Park Neighborhood Site of New Charter School

Join us on Tuesday, January 16th at 7:30 p.m. at Latvian Hall (4146 N. Elston Ave.) to hear a presentation by representatives from the Chicago International Charter School – Avondale. The school will open in fall 2007 on the campus of the former Immaculate Heart of Mary elementary school at 3800 N. Spaulding. Part of the Chicago Public School's Renaissance 2010 plan, the school will open its doors to serve students from kindergarten through fourth grade, then add one grade each year until it is serving students from kindergarten through eighth grade. Come hear how the CICS's administrators plan to address the educational needs of our community, their track record at other locations in Chicago, and how the school will affect other neighboring schools.

## Bungalow Lecture Set for Women's Building

On Sunday, January 28th at 2 p.m. at the Independence Park Women's Building (Hamlin & Byron) Emily Ramsey of the Historic Bungalow Association will present a talk on the history of Independence Park and the Chicago Bungalow. Cost is \$10/person. Greg Stivers of Stivers Coffee, will be on hand to offer coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Mingle with your neighbors and find out more about our neighborhood!

The talk will be limited to the first 50 people who register. Reserve your spot by contacting [GIPNA@sbcglobal.net](mailto:GIPNA@sbcglobal.net) or Lynda Olander at 773.539.1586.



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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### January 16 • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting  
Guest speaker, Roger McMahon,  
Chicago International Charter School  
*Latvian Community Center*  
4146 N. Elston Ave.

### January 17 • 7:00 p.m.

Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting  
*17th District Police Station,*  
*Community Room - 4650 N. Pulaski*

### January 28 • 10:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Discovery Sunday 2007  
St. Edward's School Open House for  
prospective students  
4350 W. Sunnyside Ave.

### January 28 • 2:00 p.m.

Bungalow Lecture  
*Independence Park Women's Building*  
*(Bungalow at Hamlin & Byron)*  
*See Details on page 1*

### February 20 • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting  
Guest speaker, Chris Belz, Candidate  
39th Ward Alderman  
*Latvian Community Center*  
4146 N. Elston Ave.

### February 24 • 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

West Walker Winter Social  
*Gallery M - 4433 N. Elston Ave.*

### February 27

Consolidated Primary Election Day  
More information: Cook County Board  
of Elections (312) 603-0906 or  
<http://www.voterinfonet.com>

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

# Dear Neighbor:

Happy New Year! As I write this on New Year's Day, resolutions naturally come to mind. Here are a few of mine. If I can keep them, I'll be better for it, but won't West Walker, too?

- Slow down. In the car. At home. In life.
- Get involved, but use time efficiently to make the greatest impact.
- Appreciate the contributions of others.
- Shop or dine at a local place that's never been tried before.
- Patronize local businesses whenever practical.
- Be considerate of neighbors. Keep shrubs trimmed, sidewalks shoveled, exterior maintained.
- Walk the 'hood. To save on gas and traffic congestion, but also to enjoy our neighborhood's architecture, gardens and park.
- Carefully consider the candidates in the upcoming elections and vote.
- Respect the ideas, beliefs and resolutions of others.

Those are a few of my resolutions for 2007. What are yours?

Thanks to everyone who attended the December holiday party. We're grateful to State Representative **Rich Bradley** for donating two \$25 gift certificates from Jewel, and to **Peg Klimek** for shopping for the other door prizes.

Our January meeting should be a good one. We'll be hearing from educators at the Chicago International Charter School – Avondale, which is scheduled to open in the fall.

Congratulations to West Walker resident and friend **Ginia Jahrke** who received a lifetime achievement award from Wright College's Phi Theta Kappa honor society for her service to the college and the community. Ginia is a social science professor at Wright and has worked for 43 years in teaching and administration!

Longtime West Walker supporter Labe Bank has had a change in ownership along with a name change to First Chicago Bank and Trust. We're planning to have a representative from the bank speak at a meeting about what, if anything, the changes mean for the community.

I hope 2007 brings peace to our world and good health and happiness to you and your family.

Sincerely,  
Liz Mills

## 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 more than 90 years of service to the West Walker Community*

### 2006-2007 OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	<b>Liz Mills</b> 267-9298
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Evan Price</b> 267-1740
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Mike Webber</b> 539-8346
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bob Begeske</b> 267-5942

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### Editor

**Beth Tigie** 539-9542

*The West Walker Wire is published monthly by the West Walker Civic Association.*

**All story ideas and text are due by the first of the month. Submit ideas and text to: west\_walker\_wire@yahoo.com. Include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you.**

*For information on advertising, please see our Advertising Rates, Page ?.*

# West Walker Civic Association – General Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2006 – 28 present

WWCA President Liz Mills opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

As this was the Annual Holiday Party, business was kept to minimum.

The first order of business was a grant presentation by 39th Ward Alderman, Margaret Laurino. The Alderman was instrumental in helping obtain a \$1000.00 Neighborhood Service Grant to West Walker from the Edward M. Marx Foundation. The Alderman was thanked for facilitating the generous grant.

The October General Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Bob Begeske reported a general account balance of \$1,520.28 and a Banner account balance of \$7,972.41.


Lori Cohen passed along information from the Wright College newspaper announcing that West Walker resident Ginia Jahrke has received a lifetime achievement award from Phi Theta Kappa, the college’s honorary society.

After the meeting was formally adjourned, refreshments were served.

Adults and children had the opportunity to enjoy holiday cookies and other treats. The children enjoyed coloring and other crafts. A drawing for a variety of Door Prizes was held, and all adults were winners. Thanks to Peg Klimek for organizing the door prizes and to State Representative Richard Bradley for donating two \$25 Jewel Foods gift certificates.



*Alderman Laurino (right) presents the Marx Grant to West Walker Officers Evan Price, Bob Begeske and Liz Mills*



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*Kids colored Holiday pictures as West Walker residents met briefly before getting into Holiday festivities at the December meeting.*



### CAPS Update: Beat 1723

The meetings for 2007 for our beat will be at the 17th District in the community Room, 4650 N. Pulaski, at 7:00 pm monthly on the 3rd Wednesday. Attendees at the December CAPS meeting were thankful to receive a combination smoke detector/carbon monoxide detector. Please ensure you have sufficient detectors and that they have batteries.



Our CAPS facilitator, Ms. Florence Stoler would like to see you at our next meeting, January 17th. She received a request from the city to provide recommended sites for the placement of police cameras in our beat.

Are you not sure when to call 311 or 911? Information from the Office of Emergency Management will be available at the January West Walker meeting on calling 311 versus 911 and 911 caller anonymity.

The top 5 crimes for Beat 1723 for Nov. 15-Dec.19 were Simple Battery (24), Theft under \$300 (15), Domestic Simple Battery (13), Theft over \$300 (11), Criminal Damage to Vehicle (11). A set of the crime statistics report for 1723 CAPS will be available at the January West Walker monthly meeting.

### Valentine Brunch

Please put Sunday February 11th from 11:30 to 2:30 in your datebook for the annual Irving Park Community Food Pantry's Valentine Brunch. Tickets will be \$6.00 for Adults and \$4.00 for Senior and Pre-teens if purchased before that date. Tickets at the door will be \$7.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for Seniors and Pre-teens the day of the Brunch. The menu consists of Sausage and Egg bake, Cheese and Egg bake, Fruit Juices, Fruit Cup, Assorted Breads and Pastries, Coffee, Tea and Milk. See Pat Eisenhart for tickets.

### Thanks from Irving Park Community Food Pantry

Many thanks for the food donations we received for our Christmas Distribution. We served 330 families with 1200 people in those families. We also were able to give each child under the age of 12 registered a \$20 gift certificate to Toys-R-U's and a visit with Santa with a picture with Santa. We hope you will continue to remember the Pantry all 52 weeks of the year in 2007 with your generosity. Thanks again. Pat Eisenhart

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# Restaurant Review - Smoque BBQ

by Steve Mills

Our little neighborhood might not seem the kind of place to find great barbecue. But it is now with the opening of the restaurant Smoque.

The unfortunately-spelled restaurant has the kind of brisket you would find in the best joints in Texas, ribs that would be at home in St. Louis or Memphis and pulled pork that can compete with the Carolinas' top stuff.

It's all reasonably priced, too.

Located at the northwest corner of Pulaski Road and West Grace Street, Smoque offers slow-cooked food done right. The brisket — a difficult piece of meat to cook for many amateur barbecuers — is tender and juicy. It has just the right amount of smoky flavor.

Smoque offers two kinds of ribs: traditional baby backs and drier St. Louis ribs. Both offer great flavor and meat that pretty much falls off the bone. And if the rub — the spice rubbed into the meat — is not to your liking, Smoque's sauce allows you make the ribs a bit more conventional.

My son 8-year-old Michael, a connoisseur in training of what he calls "smoked-up ribs," has tried both and says each is a winning dining experience.

As for the pulled pork, it, too, is true to its culinary roots. As a former resident of North Carolina, I made an avocation of sorts of barbecue, and Smoque's pulled pork would do North or South Carolina barbecuers proud.

You can't have the full Carolina experience, though. There, a sliced or chopped pulled pork sandwich would be piled high with a tangy, reddish slaw. Smoque's is decidedly white, though tasty indeed.

In addition to the slaw, Smoque's menu offers a salad and a handful of sides. The fries, which come in a brown bag, are hand-cut and very good, as is the mac and cheese, which is the best bet on the children's menu for those kids who don't yet have a taste for q. Smoque also serves chicken.

The standout among the sides, my wife and I decided, are the barbecue beans. Smoky, with a good helping of onions, they were some of the best we had ever tasted. They persuaded us that the cooks at Smoque were willing to serve up something a little unfamiliar to find a winning combination. The mini peach cobbler, which is served in a small round tin, is a great way to top off your meal at Smoque and send you straight to the sofa.

Smoque has a sparsely appointed dining room that is kid-friendly and that fills quickly, especially on weekends. It also offers carry-out and catering.

The staff clearly is working out a few kinks, probably caused by being a little busier than they expected so soon. On our second visit, the restaurant was temporarily out of the mac and cheese — a big disappointment to our Jack — and the St. Louis ribs.

But it was really no worry. There's so much on the menu.

Check out Smoque at 3800 N. Pulaski Road or on the web at [www.smoquebbq.com](http://www.smoquebbq.com). The phone is 773-545-RIBS (7427).

**Margaret Laurino**  
Alderman  
39th Ward

39th Ward Public Service Office  
4404 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511  
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594  
Ward39@cityofchicago.org



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# Office Report: 39th Ward



I hope everyone enjoyed a very Happy Holiday Season! As you make your New Year's Resolutions, remember the **Chicago Park District** has programs for everyone, children and adults alike. **Online registration** for the Park District's **Spring Programs** begins **Tuesday, February 20th at 9:00 a.m.** Most parks will begin in-person registration on Saturday, February 24th. Please contact your local park for further information.

The City of Chicago has teamed up with Northern Illinois Energy Project and the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance to promote money saving **compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs**. These light bulbs use up to 66% less energy to create the same amount of light and last up to 10 times longer than an incandescent light bulb, therefore saving an average of \$30 over the lifetime of each bulb. We now have **CFL bulbs available here at our public service office**. These CFL bulbs are the equivalent of 60-watt incandescent bulbs, and are free for residents of the 39th Ward (while supplies last).

Also, if you are interested in having a tree planted in the parkway in front of your home, please contact my public service office. Tree planting in the parkway is a free service offered by the City of Chicago, but it is only done in the spring and fall (weather-permitting).

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact my public service office at (773)736-5594 or email us at [ward39@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ward39@cityofchicago.org).

Sincerely,  
Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward





# Office Report: 40th District

## Illinois Graduated Driver Licensing System

### Driving Tips for Teens

Lack of experience puts teenagers at a greater risk of being involved or dying in a car accident. The more you practice, the better you will handle different situations on the road. Following are a few extra tips for safe driving:

- Drive Sober (the BAC limit for persons under 21 is .00)
- Ride with sober drivers
- Always wear your seatbelt
- Get to know your car
- Be a defensive driver
- Stay alert
- Focus on your driving; avoid distractions
- Don't load up your car with more passengers than allowed by law
- Don't get stressed out
- Check your rearview mirror before and after you brake
- Follow all traffic safety rules

- Don't drive faster than you can handle, and don't exceed the posted speed limit
- Never let friends drive your car

### Tips for Parents

The Graduated Driver Licensing System requires parents to spend 50 Hours in the car with their teenagers behind the wheel. Encourage your teenager to develop safe driving habits and skills.

- Take your teenager for driving practice under various conditions and practice different skills
- Take your teenager to a license only when you and your teenager feel the time is right
- Set a good example when you drive
- Provide a safe vehicle for practice sessions
- Work with your teenager's driver education instructor
- Meet with your insurance agent
- Create a sober driving contract
- Inform your teen what to do in case of an accident

- State Representative Richard Bradley

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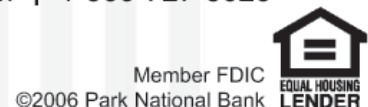
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