



WEST WALKER WIRE

JANUARY 2020

www.westwalker.org

Third Place Chicago Hosts Financial Wellness Nights

Thrivent Financial will be offering free Financial Wellness Classes at Third Place Chicago. They began on January 8 with a Values-Based Budgeting session, and continue each Wednesday in January from 7:00-8:15 pm. This is a great way to brush up on some skills or have questions answered by professionals who can explain this a bit better than the Internet!

January 15 - SMART Goals

January 22 - Finding Ways to Save

January 29 - Decoding Your Credit

Registration is required. Space is limited and the class will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Third Place Chicago is located at 4651 N. Milwaukee Avenue. To register, visit thirdplacechicago.com/event/financial-wellness-class/ and click on the green link. You can also call Third Place at 847-823-3634 or email peter@redeemerchicago.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed., Jan. 15 • 7:00 pm

Beats 1722/1723 CAPS Meeting
17th District Community Room
4650 N. Pulaski

Thur., Jan 16 • 5 - 6:30 pm

Wellness Night
Belding Elementary School
4257 N. Tripp

Sat., Jan. 25 • 5:00 pm (doors open)

Cash For Kids!
Irish American Heritage Center
4626 N. Knox

Sunday, Jan. 26 • 10:30 am - 1 pm

St. Edward School Open House
4343 W. Sunnyside, Buckley Hall
www.stedwardschool.com

Sun., Feb. 23 • 2:00 pm

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents
Beloved Broadway
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding
Free admission, reception follows concert
www.carlsoncommunityservices.org

WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor
- 3 News from Irving Park Lutheran Church
- 4 CAPS Report
- 5 Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 6 Carlson Community Services
- 7 Soundbite Coffee • Cash For Kids Concert
- 8 Neighborhood School News

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

Dear Neighbor,

WELCOME TO 2020! It seems like it was yesterday that we were bringing in the New Millennium. The last 20 years have brought changes, large and small, to our lives, our community, our society, and our recognition of the enormous challenges and opportunities of our times. For every instance of divide there has been another of unity. Many feel that we have become more divided, and yet we have found room to encourage and support each other in ways that were unthinkable 20 years ago. Many of us have seen families grow, friends depart, and loved ones pass on who will always remember. Change is inevitable, but change to the better is always a challenge.

I have drawn immense pleasure and satisfaction from seeing my friends and neighbors prosper, their children grow, and the neighborhood strive to support all who live here. I do approach the next year with some trepidation, acknowledging the political and cultural divisiveness which has, in part, become the norm.

However, I also see a burgeoning enthusiasm on the part of the “younger generation” who have taken the tasks of social justice, environmental issues, and political divisiveness head-on. In my view, they will be clear-eyed on these and many other issues. Although this may be overly optimistic, it is the only way forward and I can only hope that they will work out the problems that have confounded us and so many others over the years.

God bless you and have a wonderful decade.

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**

2019-2020 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

Send crime concerns to Ed Gardner
at westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com

WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Chris & Mauve Altman
Carol Barry
Eric Bauer
Beverly Birch
Tori Bohannon & John Lopez
Terry Culver
Alexander & Max Engel
Jim Medd
Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews
Will & Caitlin Poirier
Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese
Tricia Ramirez & Mike Hawlitzky
Rick & Melanie Reschke
Sue Trudeau & Tom Williams

EDITOR

Lee Samsami Stein

WEST WALKER EMAIL BLASTS

Anne Marie O’Kelley

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

**All story ideas, text, and ads are due
a week before the first of the month.**

**Submit ideas and text to:
west_walker_wire@yahoo.com.**

*Please include a phone number in
case we need to follow up with you. We
reserve the right to edit all submissions
for space and content. For information
on advertising, please contact Shannan
Bunting at WWWire@solsticepr.com.*

News From Irving Park Lutheran Church

January & February Sunday Adult Study & Guest Speaker *The Challenge of Diversity* by David Rhoads argues that the present diversity in the church reflects a rich variety that was integral to the early Christian movement from its very beginnings. Dr. Rhoads, who is now an emeritus professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, shows how Galatians, Mark, Matthew, Luke and John each present a fundamentally different understanding of the human condition, a different vision for life under God, and a different portrayal of our transformation.

The Adult study meets Sundays from 9:16-10:15 am in the Chapel and this session runs from January 5 and runs through February. Also during this time period, we will have a featured guest speaker, the Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla, Executive Director of Global Mission for the ELCA. Rev. Padilla will be here on Sunday, January 12, to discuss the diversity of Lutheran congregations and worship traditions.

Celebrate African American Heritage in Worship For the month of February (Black History Month), Irving Park Lutheran Church will focus on racial justice and celebrate African American Heritage with special prayers, music, and other elements of worship. Thanks to Praise Coordinator Dee Kimpel for all she does to coordinate this. We give thanks to God for brothers and sisters in faith of African American heritage, and continue to work to be the church for all races and nations, following the call of Jesus.

Feast Today! Fast Tomorrow! Join us for our Annual Pancake Supper and Bake Sale on Tuesday, February 25th, from 5 - 7:30 pm in the IPLC Gym (corner of Harding and Belle Plaine). There will be Swedish pancakes, regular pancakes, sausage, lingonberries, apples, and orange juice for all! Then treat yourself to the bake sale table after dinner! Admission is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child 12 and under. Feast and fellowship before Lent's time of prayer and reflection.

Irving Park Lutheran Church is located at 3938 W. Belle Plaine. For more information visit iplc.org or call 773-267-1666.

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

What Can We Expect in 2020?

Happy New Year neighbors! Here are a few predictions for Chicago real estate this year.

- 1. Chicago price projections are flat.** Realtor.com and Zillow project a 0.3% decrease in prices. However, demand will vary by neighborhood and some areas will still see bidding wars.
- 2. Shift from suburban to urban** Geoff Smith with De Paul University says we will continue to see a drop off in demand for suburban and increase in demand for urban homes.
- 3. Mortgage rates will remain low.** Interest rates are expected to stay around 3.85%.
- 4. Americans will continue to stay in their homes longer.** The typical homeowner stays in their home 13 years up from 8 years in 2010.
- 5. Sellers will need to be more patient.** Homes will need to be priced right as the time on the market to sell could be longer; particularly in upper tier price points.

Sources: Crains, Realtor.com, Redfin

So what does it all mean? We are moving to a new normal. Home prices will stay strong but we will see less price appreciation. Sellers need to price their home competitively or it may sit on the market.

If you are thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to get the highest sale price, please call me for a free home consultation.

**Call Dorie, Your Neighborhood Realtor
847-989-4870**

Dorie Westmeyer

CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY

847-989-4870 · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com

CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723

No December Meeting

Due to the holidays, there was no CAPS meeting held in December.

Call 911 to report suspicious activity or individuals in your neighborhood and provide detailed descriptions of the individuals and vehicles involved in any incident. Even if a neighbor has already reported the incident or activity, other neighbors should make separate calls. The police often look at the number of calls for service in determining the allocation of officers and resources with respect to a particular situation or incident. CAPS meetings for our beat are currently held monthly at the 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski, in the Community Room. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. If you or a neighbor have been the victim of a crime and you would

like to share that information with your neighbors, e-mail the details to westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com. The exact address of the crime and name of the victim will be kept anonymous.

Here's how to reach or follow the 17th District CAPS office.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CAPS.017

Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17

Email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org

Phone: 312-742-4588

Event Calendar: <http://home.chicagopolice.org>

Liz Mills, CAPS Coordinator

It may be cold out, but our neighborhood is HOT!



4034 N HARDING - SOLD - 4232 N HARDING



4022 W BELLE PLAINE - FOR SALE - 4024 W BELLE PLAINE

"I highly recommend Dorie Westmeyer to handle all of your real estate transactions. She listened closely to my needs, developed a comprehensive marketing plan & implemented the plan. The sale of my house was more complex than the average sale, and her experience & strong negotiation skills were critical in getting my house sold. She was very responsive during the process & definitely is a great partner for any buyer or seller. I totally trust Dorie & will definitely use her services again in the future. Thank you Dorie!!!!!" - Cathy Lawler

I love our neighborhood & have lived here for over 20 years. If you're thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to get the highest sale price, please call me for a free home consultation.



Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR
Your Neighborhood Realtor

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

News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

Pantry's Holiday Program a Success

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Pantry's first Holiday program in our new home a big success! We gave the fixings for a holiday meal to 190 households with about 670 people.

More than 240 toys were distributed to 105 families with children, along with a game or puzzle to each family, countless stocking stuffers, books and hats/gloves to each child. The generosity of our community ensured we had toys remaining, and they were donated to the Magic After School Place run by Carlson Community Services and the Jesse Sherwood Elementary School in Englewood.

Special thanks to long-term supporter FDC Foundation, which provided a grant of \$33,000 in 2019 to run programs and help with moving expenses. We also received significant donations during the holiday season from Faith United (\$14,000) and the Viatorians through St. Viator Catholic Church (\$3,000).

We especially wish to thank the organization that hosted toy drop-off boxes, comprising Irving Park Lutheran Church, Irving Park YMCA, Oak Street Health, Old Irving Brewery Co., Portage Grounds, St. John's Episcopal Church, and Ward 45 Ald. Gardiner's office.

Food drives helped at year's end, including those run by International Christian Assembly of God, Pet Supplies Plus, Petco, Portage Park Elementary School, Jonathan Y. Scammon Public School and Wintrust Bank. Special thanks also to the Indy Park Bluegrass Jam Band, which donated the \$700 in tips it made at the GIPNA Farmers Market this summer to the Pantry's Holiday program.

We also want to thank Dorie Westmeyer, who sponsors a lunch with friends from grade school (St. Joan of Arc), high school (Regina Dominican), college (Marquette University), work and her neighborhood. Together they sponsored a five-member Pantry family, buying clothing and toys. The group has gathered for 35 years and has sponsored a Pantry family for about 17 years.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who helped with the Monday setup and Wednesday distribution, plus all who donated to the program. Together, you helped brighten the holiday season for hundreds of our neighbors and ensured we continue to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



From top: Volunteers, including Toy Room co-coordinator Sara Yoest (back row, right) prepare to greet clients and help them select toys for their children (up to 12 years old) during the Pantry's holiday program. SPOTTED: Office Manager Gayle Christensen of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry was surprised by an early visit from Saint Nick during the Pantry's December Holiday program. SPOTTED: State Rep. Jamie Andrade stopped by the Irving Park Community Food Pantry's December Holiday program and was immediately put to work (breaking down boxes) by Volunteer Manager Betsy Minor. SPOTTED: Heather Lauritzen from the Irving Park Baptist Church came to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry's December holiday program to hand out home-baked cookies to clients' children. All photos by Craig Shutt

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.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Beloved Broadway on 2/23

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present "Beloved Broadway," a review of popular tunes from Broadway musicals on Sunday, February 23rd. A quartet of vocalists from Music Theater Works will perform favorite songs from past Music Theater Works seasons under the direction of Roger Bingaman, Artistic Director of the Fine Arts Series and Music Director at Music Theater Works. Fans of Broadway musicals won't want to miss this performance! The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave., at 2:00 p.m. A reception with the artists will follow the concert, hosted by the Fine Arts committee.

The final concert of the season will be held on April 26th with Drums of Africa performing an interactive demonstration. Concerts are free of charge, but donations are gladly welcomed.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series is in its 26th season of bringing high quality, professional musical and theatrical events to the Irving Park neighborhood. The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is a program of Carlson Community Services, a non-profit serving 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.



Caption: Roger Bingaman will direct the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's February 23rd performance, "Beloved Broadway." Bingaman is the founder of the series and its Artistic Director. He also serves as the Music Director at Music Theater Works.

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)

New Chef at Soundbite Coffee

Executive chef Reyes, formerly of Bistrot Margot, Artango Bistro and Ka'lish joined SoundBite Coffee on January 6! Soundbite's dishes will continue to be created from scratch using fresh, natural ingredients that are ALWAYS locally sourced. In addition, they are proud to feature and support many Chicago-based brands and many women & minority-owned small business vendors and partners.

They also offer work-based learning opportunities through an internship partnership with Robert Morris College Culinary Program. Visit SoundBite at 4255 N. Knox Ave.

The **Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation** is the world's leading nonprofit dedicated to the childhood brain tumor community. The foundation serves the more than 28,000 U.S. children and teens battling brain tumors by investing in the most promising research and providing practical, informational and emotional support to families.

In the Auditorium: Maybe April (7 pm), The Dark Passengers (8 pm), Iron Horse & Hayden Thompson (9 pm), The Waco Brothers (10:30 pm).

On the Fifth Provence Stage: Kelsey & Owen (5 pm), Torri and Marshall (5:30 pm), Dry County Line (6:30 pm), Wild Erp & The Free For Alls (8 pm), Hodie Snitch (10 pm).

On the Fireplace Stage: Chicago SaddleTramps (6 pm), Scott "S.A." Anderson (7:30 pm), John Kimler (9:30 pm).

The event is conveniently located at the Irish American Heritage Center (4626 N. Knox) with plenty of free parking. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit: team.curethekids.org/event/cash-for-kids/e247482 or make a donation!

Cash for Kids January 25

Cash for Kids is Chicago's only Johnny Cash Festival and fundraiser for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Enjoy 10 bands on 3 stages throughout the evening, including touring and local acts – all in the spirit of the creativity, vibe and spirit of Johnny Cash and the Carter Family's contribution to American music.



2019 SALES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



4042 Springfield \$570,000



4153 Harding \$715,000



4815 Kostner* \$520,000



3715 Lowell \$725,000



4240 Berteau* \$405,000

*Represented Buyer

MOBILE: 773.251.3837

@properties

cengel@atproperties.com

Chicago Bibles & Books

3931 W. Irving Park Rd.

773.478.0550

Monday to Saturday 10-6
www.biblesandbooks.com



"Come now and let us reason together,

says Jehovah.

Though your

sins are like

scarlet, they

will be as

white as snow..."

Isaiah 1:18

Serving Chicago since 1981



Wellness Night at Belding

Please join Belding Elementary for a Wellness Fest held on Thursday, January 16 from 5 - 6:30 pm. We will have fun,

engaging activities with Chicago City Soccer, Urban Wellness, Yoga and StoryTown Improv. Smoothies and other healthy snacks will be available for purchase, but admission is free; with a suggested donation of a nonperishable food item or toiletry for a local food pantry. Belding School is located at 4257 N Tripp.

St. Edward School

Plan to attend St. Edward Catholic School's biggest open house of the year on Sunday, January 26 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm in Buckley Hall (gym) of the St. Edward School campus.

Learn all about what this vibrant school and community offer Pre-K through 8th grade students. Discover how St. Edward academics outperform in the community and how iReady instruction empowers teachers to enable students to achieve success in the classroom. Find out about the extensive fine arts programs including visual art, music and theater and explore the wide variety of extracurricular activities and athletics. We look forward to meeting you at the Open House and showcasing the complete package St. Edward has provided for 110 years!

As a 2017 recipient of the National Blue Ribbon, St. Edward School & Parish celebrates 110 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 - 8th grade. Before and after school care is available. Applications for the 2020-21 school year are now being accepted.

For more information, please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com or call us at 773-736-9133. Our campus is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue, easily accessible with close proximity to the Kennedy and Edens expressways, walking distance from the Blue Line, Metra station and the Montrose and Cicero Avenue bus lines.

Stephanie Cutter Irving Park Real Estate

**Coming Soon: New Construction!
3600 N Keeler Ave**



\$1,349,000

- 155'x39' Corner Lot
- 5184 Total Sqft.
- 7 En-Suite Beds
- 6.1 Baths
- 3-Car Garage
- Lower Level is 1834 Sqft. 2-Bed, 2-Bath Apartment

For more information, visit:
www.stephaniecutter.com/3600-Keeler



STEPHANIE CUTTER GROUP
Coldwell Banker
(c)312-965-9600 (o)312-475-3274
stephanie@stephaniecutter.com
www.stephaniecutter.com



Stay Current with West Walker Blasts!
To submit an announcement or get on the list, email wvcablasts@gmail.com today!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Let them know you saw them in the West Walker Wire.

With 8,500 baby boomers retiring every day, long term care is topic of concern for Americans. It's time to create an action plan to protect yourself and your family.

Knowledge is Power!

At this event you will learn:

- What government benefits are available to pay for your care.
- The PPA Pension Protect Act
- VA Benefits
- Dementia vs Alzheimer's...what's the difference?
- Financial and legal concerns.
- What caregiving issues and cost you could be facing.

Attendance is FREE. Seating is limited so email us to reserve your seat.
info@bsternins.com

Brought to you by: Beth Stern, CLTC
B. Stern Insurance Advisors 312.501.1522

Saturday, November 16, 2019
Noon-1:00 pm
Independence Library
4024 N. Elston Ave., Chicago

Thursday, December 5, 2019
6:00pm - 7:00pm
Independence Library
4024 N. Elston Ave., Chicago

Paddy Mac's

PUB & GRILL

Daily Specials (with purchase of a drink)

- Monday:** \$4.50 Burgers
- Tuesday:** \$4 Tacos (2), Open Mic at 9 pm
- Wednesday:** Ribs! \$8 Half Slab/\$13 Full Slab
- Thursday:** 60¢ Wings, Trivia at 8 pm
- Friday:** \$9.75 All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry
- Sunday:** FREE Bar Bingo from 8 pm - 10 pm

BEER AND DRINK SPECIALS EVERYDAY

4157 N. Pulaski 773-279-9300

Please contact us at PaddyMacsChicago1@gmail.com for Party/Benefit Bookings

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



Like us on Facebook! Paddy Macs Chicago





Barry Bebart, AIA Architect

Licensed Architect
Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin

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

23 years of experience in Chicago.

773-844-4580 barry@bebartarchitecture.com

www.bebartarchitecture.com

WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA!
Here's a list of neighbors who have joined or renewed as
of January:

Charlie Johnson

It's Membership Renewal Time!

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

Ten issues per year of the *West Walker Wire*,
delivered to residences and businesses
in West Walker, free of charge

The annual community garage sale

Area non-profit groups like the Irving Park
Community Food Pantry, Independence Park,
and Independence Library.

Free e-mail updates on neighborhood events
and area crime, and a LOT MORE!

**You can also pay your WWCA dues
with either PayPal or a credit card
at the West Walker website
(www.westwalker.org)!**



Follow West Walker
Civic Association
on Facebook!

Bring your 2019-2020 dues to our next WWCA meeting. Or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020

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

NAME: _____
(Please print. Write your name as you would like it to appear in the West Walker Wire.)

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Please note your e-mail address if you would like to receive e-mail updates:

E-MAIL: _____

Please make your check payable to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Mail or drop off your application and dues to: Sue Gregoire, 4106 N Springfield, Chicago, IL 60618

JAIIME



ANDRADE

Illinois State Representative • 40th District

Staterep40@gmail.com • (773) 267-2880

District Office 3007 W. Irving Park Rd, Suite A-Front Office



We encourage you to stop by if you need help accessing state services and to share your thoughts and ideas on ways to improve our community and state.

 [IL 40th District- Jaime Andrade](#)



St. Edward School

www.stedwardschool.com



OPEN HOUSE on January 26th **10:30 am to 1:00 pm**

- **PLAN** to attend St. Edward Catholic School's biggest open house of the year on Sunday, January 26, 2020.
- **LEARN** all about what this vibrant school and community offer Pre-K through 8th grade students.
- **DISCOVER** how St. Edward academics outperform in the community and how iReady instruction empowers teachers to enable students to achieve success in the classroom.
- **FIND OUT** about the extensive fine arts programs including visual art, music and theater and explore the wide variety of extracurricular activities and athletics.

We look forward to meeting you at the open house and showcasing the complete package St. Edward has provided for 110 years. Mass is at 9:30 and the Open House will start right afterwards in the gym.

WE OFFER BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL EXTENDED CARE.

Our campus is easily accessible with close proximity to the Kennedy and Edens expressways, walking distance from the Blue Line, Metra station, and the Montrose and Cicero Avenue bus lines.



St. Edward School - 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue - Chicago, IL 60630 - Phone: 773.736.9133