

# WESTWALKER ——WIRE——

**JANUARY 2022** 

www.westwalker.org

# **Turn On Your Porch Lights!**

Turn your porch light on from dusk till dawn every night. Encourage your neighbors to turn on their porch lights and make it a daily routine.

Crime tends to decline in neighborhoods that are well lit. Turning on porch lights is a simple way to start this process. It also makes the street feel more welcome to good residents who are out for a walk in the evening.

This also communicates a strong message of caring for the neighborhood by residents. This can become a daily routine or it can be accomplished by installing a timer. It is also immediate: for example, if you're waiting for the installation of a new streetlight, you can go ahead and add a little more light yourself. Then encourage other neighbors to do the same.

# **Community Meetings**

**The Independence Park Advisory Council** meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Location: East side of the Fieldhouse.

**GIPNA:** Next monthly meeting is Tuesday, February 1, at 7 pm. Join Zoom Meeting: https://tinyurl.com/2v5saeyr Meeting ID: 819 2958 6855, Passcode: GIPNA

**Athletic Field Advisory Council** meets every 2nd Monday of the month. The next meeting is Monday, January 10, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at Athletic Field Park (3546 W. Addison St.).

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed., Jan. 19 ● 6:30 pm
Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting
In-Person and Zoom
4650 N. Pulaski, Community Room
Email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.
org for an invitation.

Sunday, Feb. 13 ● 2:00 pm
Irving Park Fine Arts Committee
Presents: Beatriz Helguera-Snow, piano
Andrew Snow, cello
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding Ave. Free!

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



# Dear Neighbor,

WE ARE ENTERING 2022 MUCH AS WE ENTERED 2021. I, for one, feel that despite the current pandemic setback and our continuing education regarding the ancient Greek alphabet, we are bound to see a better 2022 than 2021. We are all more savvy, capable of coping, and just plain tired of being pushed around by a virus. Besides, there are many things we can look forward to this year we can do that will allow people to get together no matter what, like the Garage Sale and 4th of July.

Over the last 2 years, many of our local business have struggled to make it through the pandemic. Some didn't make it, but others have survived by adapting. Some have grown smaller, some have changed their business model, some are better than ever, and some have newly opened despite the odds.

This year we would like to identify as many of these businesses we can. From time to time, we will take a deeper dive into a single business, but we will also introduce you to places you may not know so you can become a customer.

We are fortunate to have a vibrant and diverse community and hope you will continue to support all the local businesses that call West Walker home. Please send me your stories of businesses that continue to serve and thrive in the neighborhood as we would like to highlight them throughout the year. Email me at webber.wwca@gmail.com with businesses you think should be recognized.

Here is a sample of a few businesses in West Walker. We will highlight many more in future Wires.

# Cafe Urbano

4176 N Elston Ave. Chicago, IL 60618 http://www.cafeurbano-chicago.com Highlight: Café with added beautification of their sidewalk cafe during COVID

### **Big Helpers**

4184 N Elston Ave, Chicago, IL 60618 https://www.bighelpers.com Highlight: New Handyman service that is an active participant in neighborhood initiatives

# **DS** Bicycles

4215 N Elston Ave, Chicago, IL 60618 https://www.facebook.com/Dsbikeschicago Highlight: Bike repair and sales open 7 days a week

Stay Safe and Well,

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

### 2021-2022 OFFICERS

President Pro Tem

Mike Webber 773.539.8346

Vice President Pro Tem Davor Engel

dengel@studiode.com

SecretaryVacantTreasurerSue 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**

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Beverly Birch
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The Webber Family
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.



# National American Veterans Museum reopens January 5.

In our museum we display various artworks from the NVAM collection. In addition we show special exhibitions, as well as participating in traveling exhibitions. Current exhibitions include:

**Above and Beyond -** on display at The Harold Washington Library–400 S. State St.–Above and Beyond comprises 58,307 dog tags. Each dog tag represents a person in the Vietnam War and is arranged in date order of death. And, each dog tag shows their name, date of death and military branch.

The Things They Carried - inspired by Tim O'Brien's book The Things They Carried, this exhibit serves as a visual companion that illustrates the narrative with fine art and photography from veterans that lived the stories in the novel.

We Are Resilience: Masks of Hope - inspired by an art therapy technique with veterans, Kids Rank partnered

Continued on page 11

# **Independence Parka**

by erica dreisbach



# **REAL ESTATE NEWS**



By Dorie Westmeyer Realtor®, MBA, ADPR Your Neighborhood Realtor!

# What Can We Expect in 2022?

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

- 1. Mortgage rates are projected to increase to 3.7% by the end of 2022.
- 2. Chicago home prices could increase up to 7.6%.
- 3. There will be a continued shortage of homes for sale in Chicago ranging from -5% to -15% depending on the month.
- 4. March, April, May & June could see the greatest number of home sales and the highest sale prices.
- 5. Supply chain issues will be resolved and we will see more new construction homes.
- 6. Urban living will become more attractive again due to the availability of vaccines and a return to working in the office.

Sources: Freddie Mac, IAR

So what does it all mean? 2022 will be another good year in real estate. The shortage of homes for sale will drive prices up, but less than the increases we saw in 2021. Higher mortgage rates & higher home prices could increase a homebuyers' monthly payment \$100 to \$200 per month for a \$350,000 home.

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**

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, January 19 at 6:30 p.m. in person at the 17th District, 4650 N. Pulaski and on Zoom. Email CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org for a Zoom invitation. Remember to always lock your vehicle, never leave it running unattended and be on the lookout for scams involving Covid-19 cures and scams related to income tax refunds. Remember, the IRS will never call you on the phone.

Here's how to 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



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

Homes in our neighborhood are selling fast. And as Your Realtor, I want you to get the top sale price.



**SOLD** 4309 N Bernard 4240 N Monticello



**SOLD** 



**SOLD** 4110 N Avers



**SOLD** 4145 N Harding



**SOLD** 4019 N Ridgeway

YES! It's still a sellers' market. The number of homes for sale are down 10% and my homes are getting multiple offers.

"This was my first experience selling real estate and entered the process without any knowledge or experience. Dorie walked me through the entire process, leaving nothing to doubt for me. She consistently checked in on progress, and gave me clear direction on each next step. It was an excellent overall experience working with Dorie." - Art Davis

It's important to have a realtor who represents you, the seller. 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 · cliarles rutenberg realty · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com



# News and Events from Carlson Community Services



Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit connecting

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

# Happy New Year from Carlson Community Services!

In 2021 we celebrated the resumption of our in-person concert series and the re-opening of our after-school program, now in its 15th year. Plus, at our community garden we harvested 450 lbs. of vegetables for the Irving Park Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated or participated in an event. We couldn't have done it without you!

### Free Concert 2/13/22

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present Beatriz Helguera-Snow, piano and Andrew Snow, cello in the third concert of its 2021-2022 season on Sunday, February 13th at 2:00 p.m. The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concert is free, but donations are always welcome!

A native of Mexico City, Beatriz Helguera-Snow is an active recitalist, chamber musician and collaborative pianist. She is a member of the Chicago Philharmonic Chamber Players and holds a Master's Degree in piano performance from Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist

University. She has played solo and chamber music recitals in all major recital halls





Pianist Beatriz Helguera-Snow and cellist Andrew Snow will perform music from Mexico, Argentina and Spain February 13th at Irving Park Lutheran Church. The concert is the third in the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's free concert series.

of México City. Helguera-Snow has taught hundreds of young pianists over the past 25 years as part of Betty Haag Suzuky Academy and DePaul University Music Community Division as well as in her private piano studio.

Born in Chicago, Andrew Snow is Co-founder of Chicago Panamerican Ensemble, member of Chicago Sinfonietta, Chicago Philharmonic and Lake Forest Symphony, and the chamber group Chicago Ensemble. Mr. Snow has performed in many of the major concert halls throughout Europe and Mexico City. He has played with the Milwaukee Symphony, Joffrey Ballet, Ravinia Festival, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago String Ensemble, Fulcrum Point, American Ballet Theatre and many more. He holds a Bachelor's of Music from Northern Illinois University, and a Master's in cello performance from Southern Methodist University. He is a prestigious cello instructor and judge for young cellist competitions and coach for chamber music festivals and youth orchestras, and has taught hundreds of young cellists over the last 30 years.

The concert will feature the music of three Spanish-speaking composers: Manuel Ponce, Mexico; Astor Piazzolla, Argentina; and Manuel de Falla, Spain. The date of the concert is subject to change -- please check our website or Facebook page for status updates. The church is spacious, so there is plenty of room to social distance. Masks are required.

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. Follow us on Facebook or sign up for our newsletters at carlsoncommunityservices.org if you'd like to stay informed about all that is happening!





The annual Magic After-School Place (MAP) featured choreographed dancers and magic tricks!



# **News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry**

By Craig Shutt

# **Pantry Seeks Toiletries**



The Pantry's Take-One table.

The Pantry continues to give out a variety of personal-use items to its most in-need clients from the Take-One table in the delivery area, where clients can select items from a variety of options. Most in demand are toiletries of all types, which are difficult to keep in stock.

To alleviate these shortages, we are asking for donations (or drives) of basic

toiletry items: toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, body wash, shampoo, razors and shaving cream. Other popular items are large sizes of diapers (# 5 and # 6), adult diapers, sunscreen, washcloths, men's white crew socks, lip balm, even children's books.

Donations can be dropped off at the Big Helpers store at 4184 N. Elston Ave. from 10 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. We appreciate your help to fill this ongoing need!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our holiday programs, in which we provided the makings of a holiday meal to all clients both for Thanksgiving and the holiday season. We also gave stockings of toys and goodies to clients' children up to 12 years old in December. Donations to help for these programs can still



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be made via PayPal at www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org or via check to Irving Park Food Pantry, 4256 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago IL 60618.

Every other week, Carolina Godoy of CaptionCall comes to the Pantry to provide information and set up service for clients (or anyone) who has hearing problems when on a phone call. The phones provide large, easy-to-read text of the conversation or voice mails and works like a regular phone.

The phone, delivery, installation and training are free to those with hearing loss through the federally funded Americans with Disabilities Act (and paid for by a tax on your phone bill). For details, call Carolina at 224/284-1862, email her at cgodoyouirk@captioncall.com or visit www.captioncall.com

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



Holiday stockings given to children in December.



Carolina Godoy of CaptionCall





# St. Edward School

Open House, January 30, 2022; 10:30 am to 1 pm. Register to attend the on our school website at www.stedwardschool.com.

Plan to attend St. Edward Catholic School's biggest open house of the year on Sunday, January 30, 2022 from 10:30 am to 1 pm in the Dominican Learning Center (gym), 4447 N. Lowell of the St. Edward School campus.

At St. Edward School, we recognize the importance of developing the whole child through rigorous academics, creative arts including music, theater and visual art, physical activity and sports, and our Catholic faith that honors the unique gifts and talents of each of our students. Our graduates attend their choice of Catholic high schools and selective enrollment public high schools and continue to contribute to their communities through service and leadership.

Our early childhood learning programs prepare our 3- and 4-year-olds by incorporating the academic, emotional, social, physical and spiritual needs to nurture and teach the whole child and encourage qualities needed for life-long learning.

Please register to attend the open house at www. stedwardschool.com. We look forward to meeting you at the open house and sharing all there is to offer that St. Edward School has provided for 112 years.

Mark your calendar for this upcoming Community Event that benefits St. Ed's and gives you a night off from cooking! Thank you for your support!

Portillo's, Tuesday, January 11, 5 pm to 8 pm. 7308 W. Lawrence Ave, Harwood Heights. Mention St. Edward School when ordering or provide the flyer (retrieve on the St. Edward School website under Community Days)

St. Edward School celebrates 112 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 - 8th grade. You can contact office@stedwardschool.com to schedule an in-person tour or individual Zoom tour with our principal. St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. For more information, please visit our website at www. stedwardschool.com or call the office at 773-736-9133 to learn more about our outstanding academic programs and extended care.

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# Paddy\* Mac's

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Specials price is for dine-in only

Monday: \$6 Paddy Mac Burger

Tuesday: \$5.50 Tacos (2), Open Mic @ 9 pm Wednesday: Ribs: \$10 Half Slab / \$15 Full Slab 70¢ Wings of Fire, Trivia at 8 pm Thursday: Friday: \$10.75 All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry

Saturday & Sunday:

\$6.50 Grilled Cheese Deluxe Sandwiches Each To Go item has an additional \$1 charge



4157 N. Pulaski 773-279-9300

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



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# In-Person Transactions at Driver Facilities to Re-Open Jan. 18

Due to an increase in COVID-19 cases statewide, Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is announcing that all Secretary of State departments will not conduct in-person transactions – including Driver Services facilities – from Jan. 3, 2022, through Jan. 17, 2022. All departments and Driver Services facilities will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 18. White is encouraging the public to visit ilsos.gov for online services. Online transactions will remain open for all departments to conduct office services, including, but not limited to the following:

- · Renewing a license plate sticker.
- Renewing a driver's license or ID card for those who qualify (individuals may call 217-785-1424 to confirm their eligibility or to obtain their PIN).
- · Obtaining a duplicate driver's license or ID card.
- · Obtaining a driver record abstract.
- · Filing Business Services documents, such as incorporations and annual reports.

In addition, the Drivers and Vehicles Services hotline phone number will remain open at 800-252-8980. Customers with issues involving administrative hearings may email adminhearings@ilsos.gov or call 312-793-3722 or 217-782-7065.

As a reminder, White has extended all driver's license and ID card expiration dates to March 31, 2022. This extension does not apply to commercial driver's licenses (CDL) and CDL learner's permits.

In addition, White has expanded remote renewal for driver's license and ID card holders. Since this fall, White's office mailed letters to eligible customers with expired driver's licenses and ID cards requiring them to renew online, by phone or by mail. The office estimates that this helps to eliminate the need for approximately I million people to visit a facility.

Source: Nadig Newspapers, December 29, 2021

# Wishing You and Your Family a Happy New Year filled with Peace and Joy. -Dorie



Dorie Westmeyer Realtor®, MBA, ADPR Your Neighborhood Realtor

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



# Do You Have a Submission for the Wire?

The West Walker Wire welcomes ads and articles from all of you! The deadline is always seven days prior to the first of the month. November issue's deadline will be January 25. Please keep contributions down to about 1/2 page of news (or approximately 400 words). Submit to: Lee Samsami Stein, Wire Editor, west\_walker\_wire@yahoo.com. If you're interested in placing an ad, contact Shannan Bunting at WWWire@solsticepr.com.

**Please note:** If you're sending articles or information about an event, please make sure it's in a Word or Google document or the text is directly in the body of the email. Unless your contribution is a Wire paid advertisement, it should not be in pdf format.

You can also post your events on our online community calendar at: westwalker.org/calendar.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lee at 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:

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!

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

### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

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

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

	Yearly Membership Dues: Eff	ective May 1, 2021 through Apr	il 30, 2022
Check one:	FAMILY \$15	BUSINESS \$20	SENIOR \$5
NAME: Please print. Write	 e your name as you would like	e it to appear in the West Walker v	 Vire.)
ADDRESS:			
PHONE:			
Please note your o	e-mail address if you would lik	e to receive e-mail updates:	
E-MAIL:			

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with the National Veterans Art Museum to create the We Are Resilience: Masks of Hope exhibit. During Spring 2020, through a 4- week workshop, Pride Members created masks to express their experience as a military child. These masks were originally planned as a Month of Military Child installation but the COVID-19 pandemic changed our plans. A catalog that takes a comprehensive look at this collaborative project was created. Thank you to Allstate for making project possible!

Works on Paper - A selection of works on paper form the National Veterans Art Museum's permanent collection featuring watercolors, drawings, prints, Combat Paper, and mixed media collage.

**Selections from the Permanent Collection** - Currently featuring a gallery of female veteran artwork selections. The main gallery features painting and sculptural selections from the over 2,500 works by 250+ veteran artists of conflicts from WWII to Afghanistan in NVAM's permanent collection.

Hours: Wed./Fri./Sat. from 10 am to 5 pm. Tues./Thur. by Appointment. Per CDC guidelines, all visitors will be required to wear a mask. For more information, visit www.nvam.org or call 312-326-0270 (email: info@nvam. org). NVAM is located at 4041 N. Milwaukee Ave., 2nd floor in Chicago.

# **Six Corners Board Meeting**

The next meeting for the Six Corners Association is Tuesday, February 1, 2022 from 6 pm to 7 pm. Join us for our monthly board meeting at the Association offices located at 4041 N. Milwaukee Ave., Suite 301. Due to the pandemic, RSVP is required. Please email: hello@ sixcorners.com if you wish to attend.



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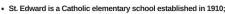


**DONATION DROP OFF:** We are now collecting donations on behalf of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.

Food Pantry M-F 10AM-4PM / 4184 N. Elston Ave Chicago, IL. 60618

# ST. EDWARD SCHOOL

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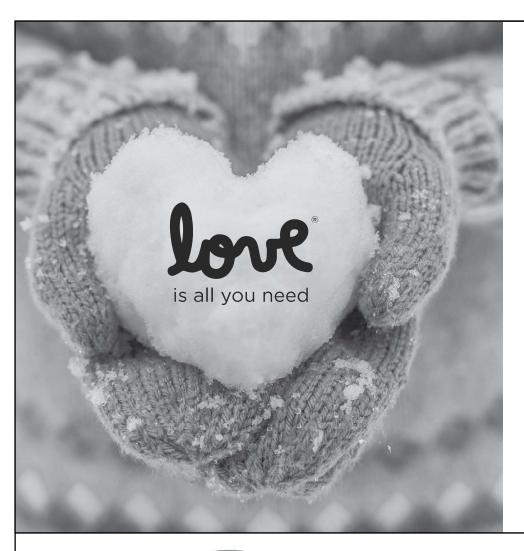
Providing excellence in education - designated a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Providing excellence in education - designated a Blue Ribbon Scriool by the U.S. Department of Education for Exemplary Education in 2017; Offering outstanding Academics, Art, Music, STEM Curriculum, Physical Education, and Extra-curricular Activities to all grades. The school is cleaned and disinfected daily, social distance is maintained, and

- students and teachers wear masks at all times; We offer morning and afternoon extended care.
- Our outstanding Early Childhood Learning is less than the cost of local Day Care.
  Our graduates gain a firm foundation that will lead them to success and confidence as
- they begin their high school careers at highly selective private and CPS schools including St. Patrick, Notre Dame, DePaul College Prep, Lane Tech, Walter Payton College Prep, and Loyola Academy.

### PRE-KINDERGARTEN TO 8TH GRADE

For an in-person tour, email office@stedwardschool.com





Wishing You a Happy and Healthy New Year! -Connie





773.251.3837 cengel@atproperties.com







# For more info., call 311 or visit: recyclebycity.com/chicago





Drop off your tree at any of the 26 locations listed below to be recycled.

BESSEMER PARK 8930 S. Muskegon Ave.

HUMBOLDT PARK BOATHOUSE 1369 N. Sacramento Ave.

LINCOLN PARK\*
Cannon Dr. at Fullerton Ave.
(East Side of Cannon Dr.)

WEST CHATHAM PARK 8223 S. Princeton Ave.

ROWAN PARK 11546 S. Avenue L

CLARK PARK

3400 N. Rockwell St. JACKSON PARK

6300 S. Cornell Ave. MARGATE PARK\* 4921 N. Marine Dr.

NORTH PARK VILLAGE\* 5801 N. Pulaski Rd.

SHERIDAN PARK 910 S. Aberdeen St.

FORESTRY SITE\* 900 E. 103rd St.

KENNEDY PARK 2427 W. 113th St.

MARQUETTE PARK 6700 S. Kedzie Ave.

NORWOOD PARK (Service Yard) 5800 N. Avondale Ave.

WALSH PARK

1722 N. Ashland Ave.

GARFIELD PARK 100 N. Central Park Ave.

KELVYN PARK

4438 W. Wrightwood Ave.

MAHALIA JACKSON PARK 8385 S. Birkhoff Ave. MCKINLEY PARK 2210 W. Pershing Rd.

PORTAGE PARK 4100 N. Long Ave.

WARREN PARK\* 6601 N. Western Ave.

GRANT PARK

900 S. Columbus Dr. LAKE MEADOWS PARK

3117 S. Rhodes Ave.

MT. GREENWOOD PARK\* 3721 W. 111th St.

RIIS PARK

6201 W. Wrightwood Ave.

WENTWORTH PARK 5701 S. Narragansett Ave.

\*Free mulch will be available to residents for pick up at six designated locations beginning Monday, January 10.