



# WEST WALKER WIRE

FEBRUARY 2013

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



## Witness the Arts Evolution: Inaugural Arts Festival

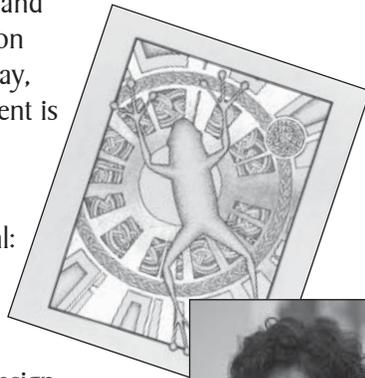
COME AND EXPLORE THE CONCEPT OF **what science is – and is not**. View the works of a dozen local artists, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and wine, and

purchase a piece for your private collection at our Opening Gallery Reception on Friday, February 22 from 7:00–9:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

On Saturday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m., there will be a staged reading of “On Trial: Intelligent Design and Evolution.” This work is based on the first U.S. Federal Court test of a public school policy that required the teaching of intelligent design. (2005 Supreme Court case *Kitzmiller vs. Dover Area School District*). The reading will highlight selected portions of testimony, the judge’s final decision interspersed with everyday Americans’ responses. The script was adapted from the trial transcripts by Tim Broderick with assistance from Christina Calvit and directed by Karen Hoyer.

In addition to the Opening Reception, the gallery artwork can be viewed on Saturday, February 23 from

*Continued on page 11*



*Clockwise from Top:  
Arts Evolution logo by  
curator Brad Gehrig,  
Frog by artist Nick  
Cragoe, Director  
Karen Hoyer*

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Sunday, Feb. 10 • 10 a.m.

Clarkson UMC Children’s Choir  
Irving Park United Methodist Church  
3801 North Keeler

### Tuesday, Feb. 12 • 5 - 7:30 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym  
4057 N. Harding

### Tuesday, Feb. 12 • 6 - 9 p.m.

Fat Tuesday Gala  
Irving Park United Methodist Church  
3801 North Keeler

### Saturday, Feb. 16 • 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Civic Orchestra of Chicago Woodwind  
Quintet, North Park Village Nature Ctr.  
5801 N. Pulaski

### Wednesday, Feb. 20 • 7:00 p.m.

CAPS Meeting Beat 1723  
4650 N. Pulaski, Community Room

### Saturday, Feb. 23 • 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.

St. Edward’s Big Red Rocks  
Buckley Hall, 4447 N. Lowell

### Saturday, March 9 • 10 a.m.

IP Fine Arts Committee present  
*The Fabulous Fable Factory*  
Irving Park Lutheran Church  
4100 N. Harding

### Saturday, March 9 • 6 p.m. - 12 a.m.

St. Edward’s Annual Auction  
Buckley Hall, 4447 N. Lowell

### Saturday, March 16 • 10 a.m.

IP Garden Club, Speaker Beth Botts,  
St. John’s Episcopal Church  
3857 N. Kostner

### Tuesday, March 19 • 7 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting  
Latvian Community Ctr., 4146 N. Elston

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

## WITHIN THE WIRE...

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# Dear Neighbor,

EXCEPT FOR A COUPLE COLD SNAPS, it's been a pretty unchallenging winter – I hope everyone has gotten through so far without undo difficulty and that we get through April without a major snow.

Looking down the road, I wanted to remind everyone that our next two meetings are on March 19, 2013 and April 16, 2013. Our program in March should be of interest to all, as it deals with ways to make your home more efficient and will provide information on how to obtain rebates for making those improvements. The meeting will feature a representative from Energy Impact Illinois, which is a residential energy efficiency program focused on helping homeowners make the lowest cost, most effective energy efficiency upgrades to their homes. They are funded by federal stimulus dollars as well as local utilities, and provide subsidized energy efficiency assessments as well as rebates to homeowners who participate in the program, which can cover 70% of the cost of these upgrades. This could be an opportunity to recapture some of your tax money! If you would like a preview, their website is located at <http://energyimpactillinois.org/>.



In the meantime, stay warm, stay safe, and we'll see you in March!

*Mike Webber*  
*President, Pro Tem*  
*West Walker Civic Association*

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saw them in the  
West Walker Wire.**

## 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 100 years of service  
to the West Walker Community*

### 2011-2012 OFFICERS

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

**Submit ideas and text to:  
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*Please include a phone number in case  
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## Irving Park Garden Club Off to a Great Start

By Maureen Taylor



In past years the Irving Park Garden Club has had famous speakers like TV and radio personality Mike Novak and not so famous speakers like "The Hosta Guy."

This year we have another famous speaker to start our 2013 season. Chicago Tribune writer Beth Botts will be our speaker. Her topic is "Spring - Beyond Bulbs: The Garden Comes Alive." The meeting will take place on Saturday, March 16th at 10:00 a.m. The second meeting's speaker is a "Gentleman Gardener" who will share his secrets to great tasting vegetables. Later in the season, a professional photographer will visit to teach us the proper techniques for photographing our gardens.

The Irving Park Garden Club meets once a month from March through October. Our meetings take place at St. John's Episcopal Church on 3857 N. Kostner. A few of the benefits of becoming a member are the "Members Only" Plant Exchange in May and a "Members Only" Garden Walk in July. Members also receive a very entertaining and educational monthly newsletter. As always, our meetings are free and open to all. Refreshments are served and we always have raffles and door prizes. Please come and check us out. I think you will be impressed. If you have any questions feel free to call me. Maureen Taylor, 773-255-2789

## Be a Bunny for a Child in Need

Once again the Irving Park Community Food Pantry will distribute Easter bags to its clients' children on Wednesdays beginning March 6th (Easter is March 31). We are collecting goodies (candy, snacks, small toys/ small games) for children in the age categories of under 2, 2-5, and 6-8 years old. Please drop off any donations at the Irving Park United Methodist Church (3801 N. Keeler - Grace St. entrance). About 75 Easter bags are given out each week. Financial donations are **extremely helpful** and are used to purchase necessary supplies. This can be done by mail or through Google checkout at the Pantry's website ([www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org)). Please email Vicci Rodgers at [viccirodgers@gmail.com](mailto:viccirodgers@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Thank you in advance!

## Programs at Independence Branch Library

Join us for "Story Time" fun! Children ages 2-5 are invited to participate in stories, learn rhymes, and sing songs as we celebrate books on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. "Mother Goose on the Loose" is for children ages 3 months to 24 months and takes place Mondays at 11:30 a.m. Children are invited to enjoy songs, rhymes and stories and have fun participating in activities with their parent or caregiver. Our library is located on 3548 W. Irving Park Road. Please note that there will be no programs on February 18, March 4, or March 25.

## Irving Park Baptist Church Seeks Musicians

Guitarists, drummers, keyboardists, bassists are wanted to expand the music ministry in Old Irving Park! Musicians can gain performance experience, enhance leadership skills, and this also offers great volunteer opportunities for students! Our style of music is a mix of contemporary and traditional music. For more information email [irvingparkbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:irvingparkbaptist@gmail.com) today!

Neighbors,

I live in West Walker and I have several clients looking to purchase in our neighborhood. The inventory of homes for sale is low, a fact noted by the Chicago Tribune on Jan. 23, 2013 when it stated that "(c)ompared to a year ago, inventory has plunged. For instance, in Chicago, there were 14,183 homes for sale in December 2011. Last month, there were 8,036 listed properties, or 43.3 percent less. As a result, the average number of days it took to sell a Chicago home fell almost 19 percent year-over-year, to 77 days last month."

If you have been thinking about selling please contact me to discuss. Even if you do not want to list your home on the Multiple Listing Service, I may still be able to assist you in selling your property to a qualified buyer.

Sincerely,  
Connie

**Connie Engel**

312.264.5864  
[cengel@rubloff.com](mailto:cengel@rubloff.com)



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## News and Events from Carlson Community Services



**Carlson  
Community  
Services**

*Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, serves the Irving Park*

*community with a variety of outreach efforts.*

### **Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents A Free Children's Show: "The Fabulous Fable Factory"**

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present "The Fabulous Fable Factory," a children's musical based on Aesop's fables, on **March 9th at 10:00 a.m.** "The Fabulous Fable Factory" tells the story of 12-year-old Monroe who wanders into an abandoned factory and accidentally trips a lever activating a living factory of fable creators. This musical adventure follows Monroe as he helps the fable makers re-create some of Aesop's most famous fables, such as "The Ant and the Grasshopper," "The Tortoise and the Hare," and "The Lion and the Mouse." An enjoyable show for the young and the young at heart, the bright and charming songs will intrigue the audience and the morals will invite thought and discussion.

The performance will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N Harding Ave. The show is free of charge, but donations will be accepted gladly. The performance will be followed by a juice and cookie reception with the actors, hosted by the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee.

The "Fabulous Fable Factory" was created by American Eagle Productions, a Chicago children's troupe specializing in children's classics. Past performances by American Eagle Productions have included "Charlotte's Web," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," and "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is in its 19th season of bringing high quality, professional musical and theatrical events to the Irving Park neighborhood. It receives funding from Carlson Community Services, a 501c3 not-for-profit. The mission of Carlson is to serve the community with a variety of outreach efforts, including fine arts. For more information, contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766, or visit [www.carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://www.carlsoncommunityservices.org).

## A Different Kind of Lent

Would you like to live a bit more intentionally? Our time on earth is limited – and we never know how long our life will last. We can, however, live a fuller life as we focus on 1. Living Passionately 2. Loving Completely 3. Learning Humbly and 4. Leaving Boldly. What are the things that you have been waiting until "later" to do that would bring you joy? Come be a part of the "One Month to Live" Challenge! This study is open to people regardless of religious affiliation or no religious affiliation at all. Working with the book, "One Month to Live," by Kerry and Chris Shook, we will discover the things that are holding us back from living fully, and find ways to move forward. We will have one conversation on Sunday evenings at 6:30pm in homes, and one at 6:30pm on Thursday evenings at McNamara's. Call the church at 773-283-6262 or email us at [irvingparkumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:irvingparkumc@sbcglobal.net) and we'll order a book for you (for \$10), or find your own copy and just call to tell us which group you would like to join. (Thriftbooks and Amazon are good sources.) There will also be frequent posts on our church Facebook page: Irving Park United Methodist Church. LIKE us and you won't miss a single one!

**Fat Tuesday Gala** Everyone is welcome to the Fat Tuesday Gala at Irving Park United Methodist Church! We will have an art exhibit featuring local artists on the top floor– A feast for the eyes! We will have music in the sanctuary on the second floor–A feast for the ears! We will also have wonderful food on both the first and second floors. A feast of tastes! The Gala will be held from 6:00-9:00 pm. We are located at 3801 N. Keeler.

**Farewell to a Friend** Joyce Mylander is retiring as Church Administrator. Joyce has given our church and community over 21 years of faithful service. On Sunday, February 24, we will be honoring her after worship and the community is invited to attend. If you would like to send a story about Joyce's kindness and helpfulness, you may email them to [kpaisley5@gmail.com](mailto:kpaisley5@gmail.com).

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# 39th Ward Report



THE OVERNIGHT PARKING BAN and snow-related parking restrictions are in effect until April 1st regardless of snow. Ignoring this ban could result in towing fees in addition to a costly ticket.

The Chicago Park District has a variety of programs for children and adults. Online registration for Spring 2013 programs begins on Monday, February 25th, and walk-in registration begins on Saturday, March 2nd. Please contact Independence Park (3945 N. Springfield - 773-478-3538) or the Chicago Park District website ([www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)) for further information.

On Saturday, February 16th at 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., the Civic Orchestra of Chicago Woodwind Quintet will be performing at the North Park Village Nature Center (5801 N. Pulaski). These concerts are open to the public, and tickets are not required. The concert will be held indoors and families with children ages 5 and up are encouraged to attend. Please call 312-294-3803 for more information.

If you have replaced your eyeglasses or hearing aids and are thinking about throwing out your old ones, please consider donating them. There is Lions of Illinois Foundation Used Eyeglass-Drop-Off Box in my office. Your old eyeglasses and hearing aids could really help someone who needs them.

If you have a dog in the city, you must register your pet with the City Clerk's office. License fees vary, with discounts available to residents 65 and older. You can register your dog online at [chicityclerk.com/licenses/dogs.html](http://chicityclerk.com/licenses/dogs.html) or in person at the City Clerk's office in either City Hall or at 5430 W. Gale Street. You may also call 312-744-DOGS to have an application mailed to you.

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

## Fat Tuesday & Magic Mushroom!

**Pancake Supper** Join us for Irving Park Lutheran Church's 24th Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Bake Sale! The event will be on Tuesday, February 12th, 2013 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. in the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gymnasium on 4057 N. Harding. Admission is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 years and under. Tickets also available at the door. Swedish & regular pancakes, lingonberries, apple topping, syrup, sausages and beverages will be served. Don't forget the Bake Sale table! For supper tickets, contact the church office at 773-267-1667.

The supper is our annual fundraiser for the Magic Mushroom Summer Program, now in its 38th year! (Additional Funding is applied for through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans). Registrations for 2013 begins at the supper, so download an enrollment form on [www.iplc.org](http://www.iplc.org) or pick up a form at the supper. **2013 Magic Mushroom program dates are July 8th through August 1st.** We look forward to seeing you!

**Lenten Meals and Worship** After Ash Wednesday, weekly Lenten Worship services will commence beginning Wednesday, February 20th. Please join us for a special Lenten supper preceding each worship. All are invited to this free supper (donations accepted). In keeping with awareness of world hunger, a group or family will prepare a meal focusing on a cuisine from a different country. Hope to see you there!

February 20th - West Bank  
February 27 - TBD (Cambodia or India)  
March 6 - TBD (Cambodia or India)  
March 13 - Egypt (Hosted by IPLC Girl Scouts)  
March 20 - South Africa

Lenten Suppers begin at 6:30 p.m. in Victory Hall, followed by Worship which begins at 7:30 p.m. Irving Park Lutheran Church is located at 3938 W. Belle Plaine. For more information please call 773-267-1666.



4110 N. Elston Ave.  
Chicago IL 60618

Phone: 773-539-1200  
Fax: 773-539-1482

Paul, Jack & Jean Prikos [www.gardenchicago.com](http://www.gardenchicago.com)

## News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt



*Top: Volunteers Missy Baumgarten and Magda Agudo helped prepare the Toy Room at the Pantry. They and other "elves" help clients pick out toys and books to give to their children. Photo by Craig Shutt*

### Thanks to Pantry Donators for Holiday Help!

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry would like to thank everyone in our neighborhood who contributed to the Pantry's holiday distribution program in December. This special program allowed our clients to prepare a nutritious holiday meal for their household and help make their holiday season a little more joyful.

Held on December 19th, the program provided the makings of a holiday meal to 1,350 people in 407 households. Nearly 200 of those households also received pet food and could select from other accessories for their pets, including collars and leashes, food bowls and Frisbees at the Pantry's Pet Food Corner.

Offering those groceries, in addition to our regular December distribution, required considerable extra effort from many people and organizations. They contributed money as well as time to run food drives, pick up food from supermarkets, set up food stations, pack groceries and direct clients that day.

Thanks especially to everyone who responded to our Holiday mailing. We appreciate your monetary donations, as we can buy food from the Greater Chicago Food Depository at 8¢ per pound. That means the funds you spare for us go a long way toward buying all kinds of food to supplement food donations.

Thirty-five volunteers and community residents helped set up food stations on Tuesday night, and 63 people worked on the pantry floor and in the special Toy Room during the distribution. Thanks to **Dale Tippet, Jr.** for

providing music while clients waited in the Irving Park United Methodist Church sanctuary. The sanctuary was standing-room only early that morning, and we appreciate Pastor Katherine Thomas Paisley for allowing us to use the facility to provide comfort and warmth for our clients.



*Arlene Simko (left) and Judy Powell take a break from packing food for clients during the Pantry's holiday distribution in December. Photo by Craig Shutt*

The corner of the sanctuary also provided Santa and his various elves with a place to greet children and to hand out small stuffed toys as they waited. Thanks to **Cody Cousino**, on break from Ohio State University, for taking on the role of Santa.

Included in the distribution, as we always have, was a station for ineligible clients. To qualify to receive the additional holiday groceries, clients had to have visited the Pantry at least three times during the calendar year prior to October. But the Pantry also has a policy of never turning away anyone who needs food for their family. Each week, we offer an emergency supply of food to those who don't qualify for our regular distribution (because they are out of the ZIP codes we serve), and the holiday distribution was no different.

This year, that group comprised about 135 people (65 households), including 12 new households (52 people) in our area. Those who were ineligible to receive the full holiday package for their household received a smaller amount of food: Enough frozen meat (chicken, sausage, etc.) for a serving for each in the household (courtesy of Jewel Foods), two cans of vegetables, one loaf of bread, a can each of fruit and soup, two onions, two carrots, six eggs, a carton of yogurt per person, milk (for children) and a dessert.

These supplies were made possible by the donations of money and food we receive from our contributors, and we thank everyone in the community for helping. Thanks to **Judy Powell** and **Arlene Simko** for operating this station, which often requires working with the visitors and new clients to explain what they have to do and what they're getting.

Thank you to the **Miriam Circle (Irving Park Lutheran Church)**, who donated \$256 from their Annual Bake Sale and Boutique proceeds. We also thank **Sylvia Aldrete**



Santa (Cody Cousino) and his elves, Gabby O'Hara (left) and Amanda Byrne, greeted clients' children during the Pantry's holiday distribution in December. Photo by Craig Shutt

and the employees at AT&T, who brought in a donation of \$1,000 to the Pantry in January. Thank you the Walmart Foundation, which has renewed its grant with the GCFD, from which the Pantry will receive funds.

Thanks also to Barbara Ries Murphy, who worked with Ted's Place (4425 N. Central), to hold a

food drive for the Pantry, promoting it on her Facebook page. The drive culminated in a party January 18th, where donations of canned food, hygiene products and money were collected. In all, she collected 78 boxes of food, three boxes of personal-care items and \$1400! We appreciate her efforts and everyone who contributed time and donations on our behalf!

Our Pet Food Corner seeks volunteers to help pick up donated pet food and supplies at the Community Animal Rescue Effort (C.A.R.E.) headquarters at 2310 Oakton Street in Evanston each Monday or Tuesday to deliver to the Pantry on Wednesday morning. A van or a truck would be ideal. Please contact Lee Stein at volunteer@irvingparkfoodpantry.org

The Pantry continues to operate a SNAP web-application assistance program, which helps about 15 to 20 households each month apply for SNAP benefits from the Pantry. Since March, when the program was launched, nearly 200 households with 320 people have applied for SNAP benefits through the Pantry.

In December, the Pantry served 2,638 people in 844 households with both distributions, including 40 new households with 116 people. About half of the households received pet food. That brought our totals for 2012 to 7,821 visits to provide food for 22,207 people, including 615 new households with 1,750 people during the year.

Please remember to visit our Facebook page and "Like" us so you receive updates on events, activities and comments about the Pantry. We have 433 Friends, and the number continues to grow. Thanks to everyone who helps us fulfill our mission of being Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

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John 6:63



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## CICS-Irving Park School

**Open House** CICS-IP is hosting a Prospective Parent Open House on February 26th. Come see what makes us the

number one ranked elementary charter school in Chicago for two consecutive years! Doors open at 5 p.m. We are located at 3820 N. Spaulding (at Grace St.).

**Testing 1-2-3!** NWEA testing ended in January. Next, teachers will analyze the testing data and meet with students to develop new academic goals, and to discuss their action plan for making their target goals. Involving the students in this post-testing planning gives them great pride in achieving their desired results.

**Capitol Idea!** Our 8th graders are planning a Spring trip to Washington, D.C. They have had several fundraising events, and collected funds from snack sales at school events. On February 8th, proceeds from a Staff vs. Student basketball game will go towards their trip. Wish them luck as they retrace history!

**It's in the Can!** The school-wide 2012 Canned Food Drive organized by the 8th graders was a success! All donations went to the Common Pantry in Lincoln Square. This project was a great way to build a stronger, more caring school community.

## St. Edward's School

We're thrilled to announce that 16 of our students competing in the Regional Science Fair at the Museum of Science and Industry, where they are competing against students from all over Chicagoland. Congratulations to the students and teacher Kim Emigh!

**Big Red Rocks** On Saturday, February 23rd from 7 p.m. to midnight, our gym will be a concert arena for Big Red Rocks, our annual tuition assistance fundraiser, featuring bands and musical performing groups of all sorts. Join us in Buckley Hall, 4447 N. Lowell! If you have never attended, it's a lot of fun and for a great cause. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 in advance by calling 312 925-9238 or [www.stedwardschool.com/BRR](http://www.stedwardschool.com/BRR).

**Annual McNulty/Kelly Corned Beef Dinner** Sunday, March 3rd from 12 noon to 5 p.m. in Buckley Hall, 4447 N. Lowell. This event is not to be missed! The most delicious corned beef dinner on the Northwest side is plated up. Sandwiches and kids' meals are available. Stay and enjoy the festivities, or take your meal to go. Enjoy Irish dancing, buy a raffle ticket, and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with St. Ed's. All profits from this event are used for scholarships for our 8th graders who matriculate to local Catholic high schools.

**Set sail with St. Ed's!** Our annual auction will be Saturday, March 9th, 6 p.m. to midnight at Buckley Hall. We'll have a live auctioneer, fabulous food and a cash bar. Items include Derrick Rose-signed shoes, a Shedd Aquarium family pass, Cubs, White Sox and Bulls tickets and a behind-the-scenes tour of NBC-5. Tickets available online or at the door. Visit [www.stedwardschoolbigredauction.com](http://www.stedwardschoolbigredauction.com).

If you can't make the event, an online auction will be held prior to the event, from February 22nd - 28th, so be sure to check out the fabulous items available! Last year's items included stays at downtown hotels, tickets to Disney World and dinners at various restaurants. Check it out at [stedwardschoolbigredauction.com/online-auction](http://stedwardschoolbigredauction.com/online-auction).

**Big Red Raffle** What would you do with \$10,000? Want to get away to Las Vegas? How about a \$500 gas card? These are the prizes for this year's Big Red Raffle! \$100 gives you a chance to win one of these fabulous prizes! Only 500 tickets will be sold. Email Chris Lewis at [MOSES@stedwardschool.com](mailto:MOSES@stedwardschool.com). The drawing will be Saturday, March 9th and you need not be present to win.

Registrations are being accepted for the 2013-14 school year. Call us for an application. While the heritage of our



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39th Ward

39th Ward Public Service Office  
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Ward Office: (773) 736-5594  
[Ward39@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Ward39@cityofchicago.org)



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121 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
(312) 744-7242

school travels back over 100 years, St. Edward has always understood that it is the future we are building. From age 3 to 8th grade, come see how we can give your child so much more than just a seat in the classroom. We are located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. Visit us at [www.stedwardschool.com](http://www.stedwardschool.com).

### Murphy School

Murphy School is a neighborhood school that offers a special school environment with qualities that go beyond the test scores. Murphy designs an environment to optimize all learners' potentials. Through a variety of methods such as a morning meeting where all students greet each other, to carefully setting routines in age-honoring ways, we set a high standard for social skills and interactions. We are the Caring Community.

Our Fine and Performing Arts magnet program includes Golden Apple Award Winner Sandy Lucas, who leads our music and visual arts program for all grades. We boast a 50-piece band and a 35-voice chorus! Our visual arts program covers a variety of mediums including drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture and more. MK Victorson, a professional dancer from Hubbard Street Dance Company leads our Dance and Drama program. To date, Murphy students participated in dynamic public dances as well as a "Tribute to Michael Jackson," which raised money for our 8th Grade Washington DC trip. Murphy-theatrical productions included the Nutcracker and local playwrights' works. For Spring: Shakespeare! Our partnerships include Old Town School, Ravinia Festival and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Our outstanding staff educates the whole child. Partnerships with NEIU, UIC, NLU, EIU and Indiana University's Urban Education Initiative are just some of the alliances that utilize Murphy School for educational practices and student teacher development. Most recently, our early childhood program received a grant from UIC for a Performance Garden and outdoor classroom! The American Heart Association awarded a Teaching Garden grant to engage our Murphy community in a natural outdoor experience. We have a new Mac lab, media center and equipment (iPads, document cameras, and interactive whiteboards) thanks to technology initiatives.

Past graduating students from Murphy went on to attend many selective enrollment schools across the city. Our test scores continue to increase annually making us a Level 1 School moving up! For more information, visit our website at [www.murphy.cps.k12.il.us](http://www.murphy.cps.k12.il.us). "Follow" us on twitter @JBMurphySchool!

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- The Wire is published 10 times a year (September through June).
- ALL AD ARTWORK is due on the 20th of the month prior. High-resolution pdfs, tiffs, and jpgs (black-and-white) are preferred. Microsoft Word files and camera-ready "hard copy" versions also are acceptable.
- WE PREFER that ad artwork be submitted as a file attachment and sent in an e-mail to: WWWire@solsticepr.com.

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**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.
- Free special events, like the Halloween Party and Fall Festival and 4th of July celebration at Independence Park.
- The Art In My Back Yard artistic series.

Bring your 2012-2013 dues to our next WWCA meeting on Tuesday, March 19th! Or you can mail in the application below.

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

**WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013

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.)

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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: Jack Prikos, 4238 N. Avers Ave., Chicago, IL 60618



## Free Events Through Swedish Covenant Hospital

The following events are free to the public. Please make a reservation before attending by calling 773-878-6888.

### A Prenatal Visit with the Pediatrician

Monday, February 18, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Dr. Andy Sagan, pediatrician and medical director of Swedish Covenant Medical Group Pediatrics, will present practical suggestions and tips to help expectant parents prepare for a successful transition home with their newborn. This event will be held at the Anderson Pavilion, Auditorium, 2751 W. Winona Avenue.

### Learning About Natural Childbirth

Wednesday, February 27, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sherri Ruerup, certified nurse-midwife and director of Nurse Midwifery at Swedish Covenant Hospital, will discuss natural childbirth and nurse-midwifery philosophies. This event will be held at Bloom Yoga Studio, 4663 N. Rockwell Avenue.

## Quick Tips for Beating the Flu

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water.
- Get a flu shot - it's not too late!
- Cover your mouth when you cough/sneeze.
- Refrain from touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Limit contact with people who you know are sick.
- See your doctor right away if you begin experiencing symptoms.

Stay Healthy!

*Continued from page 1*

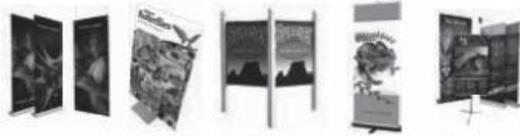
4:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 24 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

This 3-day event celebrates Darwin Day, a yearly international festival of science and humanity in honor of Charles Darwin's birthday. More updates and information can be found at [www.stjohnschicago.com](http://www.stjohnschicago.com). St. John's Episcopal Church is located on 3857 N. Kostner Avenue (corner of Byron and Kostner).

### REMEMBER!

The next West Walker Meetings are March 19 and April 16. We hope to see you there!

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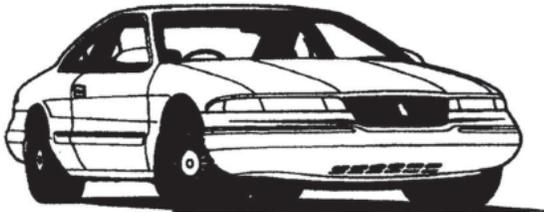
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