



WEST WALKER WIRE

SEPTEMBER 2016

www.westwalker.org

St. John's Concert Series Presents Baritono Finale

Sunday, September 11 at 3 pm Enjoy an afternoon with baritone Lyle Nicholson and pianist Mio Nakamura performing a collection of songs and arias spanning several eras of music. Selections begin with offerings from the baroque repertoire, followed by pieces by Schubert, Ravel and Verdi, concluding with songs from the Modern American Operatic/Musical theatre genre. St. John's Episcopal Church is located at 3857 N. Kostner. For more information, call 773-725-9026 or visit www.stjohnschicago.com.

Call for Artists and Artisans The third annual arts festival seeks artists and artisans to sell their works on Saturday, October 22 from 10 am to 4 pm and/or Sunday, October 23 from 8 am to 12 pm during our St. John's Maker's Mart at St. John's Episcopal Church. All items must be handmade or made of recycled materials in the category of Art, Food, Crafts/Toys/Home Goods. Artists can also offer an Interactive Maker Activity. Applications are available at www.stjohnschicago.com. To offer an interactive class, include the project you wish to teach, age range, cost of workshop, and what participants will make. There is no vendor fee, but artists will be asked to contribute 10% of sales to St. John's. A limited number of artists will be accepted depending on available space. Applications are due to Susan Boeman, curator, by Thursday, September 22 at info@stjohnschicago.com or mailed to 3857 N. Kostner, Chicago, IL 60641. Questions? Call 773-725-9026.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat., Sept. 17 • 4-8 p.m.

Independence Park Beer Fest
Independence Park
3945 N. Springfield

Wed., Sept. 21 • 7:30 pm

CAPS Meeting Beats 1722 & 1723
4650 N Pulaski, Community Room

Sun., Sept. 25 • 6:30 pm

Chicago Opera Playhouse presents
Once Upon a Windy City
Irving Park United Methodist Church,
3801 N. Keeler, \$10/adult, \$5/child 3-12

Sat., Oct. 1 • 10:30 am

Pet Blessing, Three Brothers Garden
*(in Pulaski parking lot of Irving Park
Lutheran Church)*, 3938 W. Belle Plaine

Sun., Oct 2 • 2 p.m.

The Allegro Trio Performs with
Constance Hughes, pianist
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding Ave.

Sun., Oct. 9 • 4 pm

Irving Park United Methodist Church
Mission Event: Community Feast
United Church of Rogers Park
1545 W. Morse

Sat., Oct. 15 • 7 pm

Trivia Event 2016 to Benefit
Carlson Community Services
IPLC Gym, 4057 N. Harding

Tues., Oct. 18 • 7:00 pm

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

Wed., Oct. 19 • 7:30 pm

CAPS Meeting Beats 1722 & 1723
4650 N Pulaski, Community Room

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

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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This Garden's For You! Join us on Saturday, September 24 at 5:30 pm. to dedicate our new memorial garden and celebrate the renovation of our yard. A party will follow! The Memorial Garden was designed and installed by Greenlawn, who also leveled and replanted the grass. The Garden is always open to the public for play and prayer, during daylight hours. We look forward to sharing this happy occasion with you!

Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym Repairs Update

The end of August has been a busy, messy month in the Gym at Irving Park Lutheran Church. The false ceiling came down, revealing a beautiful wooden arched roof in remarkable good condition. The top half of the walls were sandblasted, and as this issue of the Wire goes to print, dimmable LED lights are being installed. More interior repairs are yet on the horizon (bathrooms, Girl Scout room, and window trim) but we give thanks for all that continues to happen and the great generosity of people in our neighborhood and church that is making this happen.

Magic After-School Place (MAP) at IPLC Only a few spots remain for enrollment in MAP – the after school program that Carlson Community Services operates out of the IPLC Gym – five days-a-week, from 3 to 6 pm, following the CPS calendar. MAP serves students in K - 7th grade at Belding and Murphy Schools and includes safe passage from school to the program, snack, homework or educational activity time, art, character development exercises, physical activities, clubs and free time. Tuition is \$35 per week per child. Questions? Contact MAP Director Rachel Lockhart at 918-955-3976 or rachellockhart@carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Rally Day is September 11th! Everyone is invited to a free breakfast in Victory Hall from 9:15-10:15 am. Enjoy fellowship with one another—especially our newest members; there'll be a craft for kids (and/or adults); all ages can walk in our annual parade up and down Harding; and then we join in festive worship at 10:30 with the Chancel choir, Holy Smokes, and children leading worship in various ways.

We Need Your Voices! Sing with the Chancel Choir. Rehearsals are designed to accommodate busy lives; come when you can—you don't even need to sit with the choir during the service, just come on up after sharing the peace. Choir rehearses Sundays at 9:30 am (except 2nd Sundays) & one Wednesday a month (after the 2nd Sunday).

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

How's the Real Estate Market?

Hi Neighbors,
The summer real estate market in West Walker has been good! Mortgage rates are still very low for buyers. And buyers love our neighborhood. So home sale prices are up. But the market time to sell is a little longer. Here is a quick recap:

— **Single Family Homes:** 10 single family homes sold in West Walker in the last 3 months. The average sale price was \$424,253 up from \$365,290 last year. That's a 16% increase. The average time to sell is 116 days. There are 2 homes under contract with an average asking price of \$495,000 and another 7 homes for sale with an average asking price of \$480,243.

— **Multi-Family Homes:** 8 sold in the last 3 months at an average sale price of \$414,425, up 16% from last year. They sold on average in 17 days. There is 1 multi-family under contract asking \$350,000 and 5 more for sale with an average asking price of \$407,960.

— **Condos/Townhomes:** 3 three bedroom condos sold in the last 3 months at an average sale price of \$317,500, up 9% from last year.

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
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CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723

Tips From 17th District CAPS For Making our Neighborhood Safer

While this list is not all inclusive, it may help you find projects that are the right fit for your issues. Always remember to include your local police in projects to address criminal activity in order to increase your chances of successfully addressing the problem.

Conduct a neighborhood canvass

The purpose of the canvass is to identify not only issues around your block that may need to be addressed, but also to identify resources, such as businesses, libraries, parks and community organizations, that can help your block club implement projects. When canvassing the area around your block, also talk to other residents to find out if there are other block clubs in the area that may be interested in doing joint projects. Gather resident's names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses to form phone or text trees.

Organize a neighborhood clean-up

Criminals are attracted to neighborhoods that appear dirty

or unkempt. Regular clean-ups will deter criminal activity by bringing people out and visible on the street. The City, through the Clean and Green program, can loan your block club tools throughout the year to help you keep your block looking good. You can also use this as a way to meet all the neighbors on your block and get them involved.

Organize an alley numbering project

Alley numbers help speed response from police, fire and paramedics who under certain circumstances may need to respond through the alley. Alley numbers may be provided to groups by your local police district through a grant provided by the Allstate Foundation.

Establish a phone tree

A phone tree can provide a means for neighbors to first call 911 to request the police when a crime occurs and to then communicate among themselves. A phone tree lists residents according to their address and can be a rapid communication and reporting system for the block club.

Work on problem buildings

One bad building can ruin a whole block; one bad store can ruin a whole neighborhood, but you and your

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Our Neighborhood is Hot!



SOLD - 4017 N. Harding



SOLD - 4115 N. Springfield



FOR SALE - 4129 N. Pulaski

A lot of buyers are looking for a home in our neighborhood.

I can help you get the best price for your home with my proven 5 step marketing plan.

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Dorie Westmeyer
Broker, MBA, ADPR



39th Ward Report



Before we know it, summer will be over and with that some of our favorite warm weather activities. Don't want to miss the chance to shop at the Independence Park Farmer's Market (3945 N. Springfield) on Sunday, September 11, and Sunday September 25, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. In addition, it's not too late

to have a garage sale or block party. If you are interested, please contact my office for your free permit.

It's hard to believe that we will be entering into flu season in a few months. Once again, you can get your free flu shot in my 39th Ward Public Service office (4404 W. Lawrence). Please stop by on Tuesday, September 27 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm to be protected from this season's flu virus.

In business news in and around West Walker... Seafood City, 5033 N. Elston, is opening in September. Located in the former Elston Avenue Kmart, Seafood City will be a multi service grocery store that specializes in Filipino food and offers something for everyone. Seafood City has

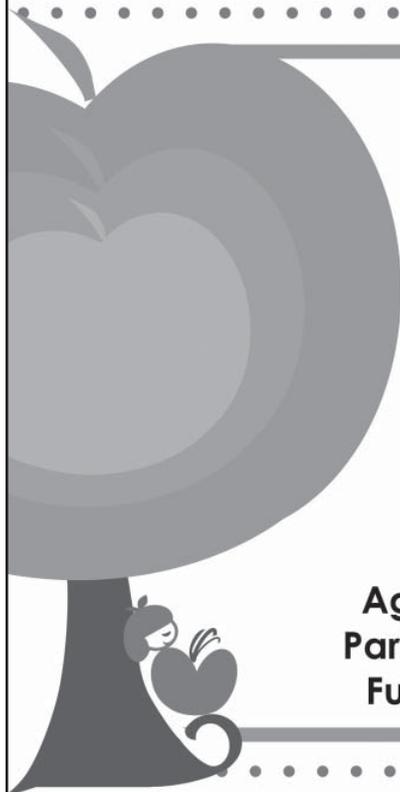
successful stores on the west coast and in Hawaii. This is their first venture in the Midwest.

The planned Wendy's at the shuttered car wash on Pulaski, just north of Montrose, is one step closer to construction. The Zoning Board of Appeals recently granted their special use permit for a drive-through, with no community objections. The developer can now apply for permits for demolition and construction.

Residents of the 39th Ward are among the most avid recyclers in the city. However, if non-recyclable items show up in your cart, the entire cart may be contaminated and may not be collected and recycled. Plastic bags and styrofoam are a few of the biggest troublemaker blue cart items. For a refresher on what may and may not be recycled, visit this handy guide to recycling in Chicago at <http://www.recyclebycity.com/chicago>.

Don't forget to sign-up for my newsletter at either www.AldermanLaurino.com or by sending a request to Ward39@cityofchicago.org. As always, please contact my office at 773-736-5594 or e-mail us at Ward39@cityofchicago.org with your concerns or questions.

Sincerely,
Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward



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45th Ward Report



What does health and wellness mean to you? Join over 50 vendors in the medical and safety field during the 45th Ward School and Community Resource Fair sponsored by Alderman John Arena. The event will take place on Saturday, October 8, from 10 am to 2 pm at Carl Schurz High School,

3601 N. Milwaukee. The Chicago Department of Public Health will attend the event to offer free seasonal influenza vaccinations. There will also be free health screenings, exercise classes, family-friendly activities, and much more.

All community members are welcome to attend this free, family-friendly event. If you have any questions, please contact Alderman Arena's office at ward45@cityofchicago.org or 773-286-4545."

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neighbors can help make a real difference when it comes to problem buildings. By working with police and other City Departments, you can help hold landlords or store owners accountable for criminal or nuisance activity that may be occurring on their property.

Start or participate in a neighborhood garden

Beautification efforts make the neighborhood more pleasing for everyone and, again, are a deterrent to crime. Gardens could be planted on vacant lots, in the parkway or in traffic circles. You might also consider a vegetable garden, allowing all the neighbors to share the fresh produce throughout the summer. Don't forget-recruit young people in your neighborhood to help maintain and care for the garden. The City can provide training and assistance to groups who want to start a garden through the Greencorps program. Three Brothers Garden at 4107 N. Pulaski is also a resource and welcomes volunteers at its harvests every Tuesday from May to October.

Become a Court Advocate

Often criminals go free because victims and witnesses are afraid to go to court. By volunteering with your Police District's court advocacy group, you can provide vital support to victims and witnesses. Attending court or administrative hearing proceedings also shows judges that the community is concerned about an issue and visibly demonstrates the impact crime has on you and your neighbors.

Celebrate

Block parties are a Chicago tradition throughout the summer, but you don't have to confine your celebrations to just one day. Smaller events can be easily organized throughout the year.

Tips for Callers to Chicago's Emergency Communications Center (9-1-1)

Here are some tips that callers to 9-1-1 should keep in mind when requesting emergency police, fire or medical services:

When placing a call to 9-1-1, if you encounter an extended ring cycle, do not hang up and redial unless the ring lasts more than a few minutes. You will only delay your access to the Emergency Communications Center.

In most instances, calls will be answered before the caller even hears a ring. However, under some circumstances, heavy call volumes will occur and extensive rings can happen. If all call takers are busy, calls are held in the order in which they are received and are distributed to call takers in that order as soon as they become available.

When providing information about an incident, be as descriptive as possible. You will be asked to give identifying information about any persons or automobiles involved in the situation. The more information you can provide, the more information dispatchers will be able to relay to responding police units.

If you do not want your name given to responding police units, be sure to inform the call taker. There is a box that the call taker will activate so that you will remain anonymous. The only way for this to be deactivated is with your approval upon contact by a supervisor.

Calls for police service are dispatched on a priority basis. Any situation that represents an immediate threat to life, bodily injury or major property damage or loss is a high-priority dispatch. These calls are to be dispatched within 10 minutes.

Incidents where there is no immediate threat to life; no one was injured in the incident; the incident is not in progress; the offender is not in the immediate area, and the incident does not involve a major loss or damage of property are of a lower priority. These calls are to be dispatched within one hour. If your call is not a high priority, as defined above, you will be informed that a unit will be sent when available.

Use the police non-emergency number 3-1-1 when a personal police response will not affect the outcome of an incident. By using the non-emergency number, you will help ensure the availability of adequate resources for emergency situations.

When calling for emergency medical services and the nearest ambulance is more than 18 blocks away, a fire engine or truck will be sent prior to the arrival of the ambulance. Members of the fire suppression company are all trained in basic life support techniques and can administer emergency care until the arrival of paramedics.

Ambulance service is provided only in real emergencies -- situations that cannot wait. Minor illnesses and routine transfers to medical facilities are referred to private ambulance services. The City does charge a fee for ambulance service; however, no one will be denied service because of inability to pay.

Note: 17th District Commander Voulgaris has advised 9-1-1 callers to request to speak to a supervisor if they are unsatisfied with the call taker's response. The Commander emphasized that it is important to call 9-1-1 whenever a resident sees suspicious activity. The more calls made by neighbors, the higher the priority given the incident.

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.

Carlson Kicks Off Fall Programs and Events!

Fall is a busy time for Carlson Community Services. With **Three Brothers Garden** still producing vegetables for the Irving Park Food Pantry, our volunteers are harvesting every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:30, usually through October. Help is always needed – join us at the garden, located at 4107 N. Pulaski to pick and prepare veggies for pantry clients. All are welcome!

Staff of the **Magic After-School Place** is busy preparing for our 10th year of providing high quality, affordable after-school care for children attending Murphy and Belding Schools. MAP serves 50 kids 80% of whom come from low-income households. With tuition at \$35 per week per child, MAP provides working parents a safe place for their children to go after school that's

affordable. Equally important, children receive homework help and tutoring, gain leadership skills and participate



The Allegro Trio will perform on October 2nd.

in a mentoring program with high school students from Schurz High School and Northside College Prep. Affordable tuition is made possible by foundation and corporate support, individual gifts and fund raising events as well as Irving Park Lutheran Church's donation of program space.

MAP welcomes high school students in need of service hours and adult volunteers. For more information, contact Rachel Lockhart at mapdirector@carlsoncommunityservices.org.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee kicks off its 21st season with a free concert on Sunday, October 2 at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The Allegro Trio will perform, along with pianist Constance Hughes. The Trio consists of Scott Metlicka, flute and piccolo, Drew Pattison, bassoon and Gene Collerd, clarinet. Metlicka and Hughes will perform works from Godard and Liebermann first, followed by the woodwind trio. The concert is free, though donations are welcome. Following the concert, the audience is invited to enjoy a delicious reception prepared by the Fine Arts Committee.

Trivia 2016!

Save the date for **Carlson's Trivia Night**, scheduled for Saturday, October 15th at 7:00 pm at the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gymnasium (4057 N. Harding). Look for details in the West Walker e-mail blast and on our web site at www.carlsoncommunityservices.org. It's a fun evening and a great way to support our programs!

The mission of Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is to connect the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. For more information, contact Liz Mills at lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org. Follow us on Facebook for photos and info about our programs and events!

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www.ward45.org

News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt



Volunteers from Praying Pelican Missions from Minnesota helped out at the Pantry one week this summer. Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis and Volunteer Jeri Winkels coordinated their visit. Photo by Craig Shutt.

Pantry Collecting Coats for October

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry will be distributing winter coats to our clients (one per family) in October, so please check your closets for any gently used coats that you can do without and bring them to the Pantry. All sizes and shapes of heavier coats for winter, for children and adults, are needed. They can be left with food donations at the bottom of the stairs at the Grace Street Entrance at Irving Park United Methodist Church (3801 N. Keeler). To ensure the church is open when you want to drop them off, call 773-283-6262. They also can be delivered on Wednesday mornings during the Pantry's operating hours (9 am to noon).

Thank you to **RedRover**, which provided a \$2,000 grant to our Pet Food Corner to help buy food and supplies for our clients with pets. We are the only pantry in Chicago to supply our clients with pet food.

Thanks also to **MB Bank Charitable Foundation**, which brought in a \$2,000 donation. The MB Bank branch at Lawrence and Western also will be providing a collection box this month for our winter coat drive, so please drop off coats there if it's a convenient location.

The Pantry is once again in need of toiletries, especially shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and razors for both men and women. The Pantry also needs men's and women's white crew socks, especially since winter is coming!

Congratulations to **Gina Hubberts** on being named the Pantry's Volunteer of the Year. Gina runs one of our grocery lines and delivers to homebound clients each month. She also makes monthly purchases of toiletries and helps out in many other ways. Thanks also to the staff at **Trattoria Porretta** for hosting our luncheon and providing a great family-style meal.

Hands to Help Meal Welcomes 50 Neighbors

On July 28th, Hands to Help partnered with Schurz's BuildOn students and Irving Park Lutheran Church to host a community meal, where neighbors shared sustenance and dialogue. Over fifty community members of all ages dined that evening.



The taco dinner was held at IPLC. Parishioners connected with neighbors in need and enjoyed conversation and a scrumptious meal. Pastor Erin Bouman remarked after the dinner, "Irving Park Lutheran was so happy to host, and would be delighted to do so again!" A meal of tacos, beans, salad and dessert was prepared by ten Schurz high school students. Microgreens from the Schurz food science lab were an added treat. In addition, Hands to Help was grateful for the support of the Irving Park Food Pantry, which provided much of the food for the event.

If you missed this one, Hands to Help is planning additional meals. Soon Hands to Help will host a meal with OIPA and Six Corners' members. Hands to Help also looks forward to hosting with Irving Park Baptist Church and its sister Latino parish. For more information contact Hands to Help Executive Director, Gayle Nelson at hthexecdirector@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook: [HandstoHelpMinistries](#) and Twitter: [HandstoHelpChgo](#).

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

39th Ward Public Service Office
4404 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594
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St. Edward School

Athletics are a big part of our school. We offer Big Red Bitty Basketball for students in pre-k through 4th grade. Held on

Sundays, kids learn basketball basics, and have a chance to compete in games against each other.

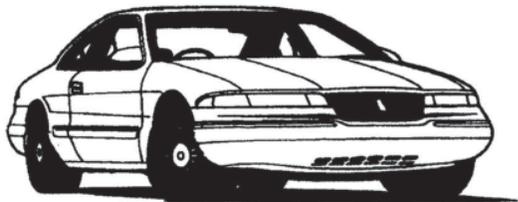
Football games are held at Gompers Park, 4222 W. Foster. Visit our website for days and times, and for information regarding our big Homecoming festivities from September 22nd through the 25th.

Rehearsals for "James and the Giant Peach" are in full swing. We are thrilled to continue our partnership with Youth Company Chicago, part of Windy City Theatre Company. Look for more information about performances in early January.

Our Parish Fall Fest will be held on Saturday, October 8th. Please check the school website for more details! St. Edward is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information call 773-736-9133 or visit www.stedwardschool.com.

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Irving Park United Methodist Begins Broadway Rehearsals

The Broadway Kids show begins rehearsals on Monday and Tuesday 4-5:30 pm on September 12 and 13. Participation fee is \$25 to help cover production costs; scholarships available. For more information, email irvingparkumc@comcast.net with BROADWAY in the subject line or show up to rehearsals. Performers are asked to commit to one rehearsal a week. Performance dates are Friday evening, October 21 and Sunday afternoon, October 23 (times TBD).

Flood Buckets for Louisiana Bring needed supplies to help Louisiana or make a donation. We'll be assembling buckets at 11:30 am on Sunday, September 11. The link for contents of flood buckets is: www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies/Relief-Supply-Kits/Cleaning.

Youth Events We are collaborating with several churches, these events are open to all youth grades 6 and up! We start with **Back to School Dodge Ball** at Sky High on Friday, September 16. We'll leave from Eden UCC (5051 W. Gunnison) in Jefferson Park at 8 pm. \$20 plus food money. Call 773-283-6262 to reserve a spot and a ride, or to reserve a spot and meet us there! **Ecumenical Urban Strategy Youth Worship Experience** is Friday, September 23 at Maple Park United Methodist Church, located at 11705 S. Elizabeth St. How do we relate to our city as the people of God? Be a part of the conversation! Meet at Eden at 5 pm to catch a ride. **Youth Gatherings** meet Sundays in October at 6 pm at 5049 W. Gunnison. If you would like to be added to our youth email list for events, email us at irvingparkumc@comcast.net. Irving Park United Methodist Church is located at 3801 N. Keeler. For more information call 773-283-6262.

WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of September, 2016 appears below.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bob & Glenda Begeske | John Finnell |
| Jessica Hublar | Gayle Irvin |
| Wayne & Martha Johnson | Judith Krych |
| Maureen Littlefield | Evelyn & John McGuire |
| Naisbitt Family | Tony Stompanato |
| Karin Turnquist | |

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 2016-2017 dues to our next WWCA meeting on October 18th! Or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017

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

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