

WEST WALKER WIRE

OCTOBER 2017

www.westwalker.org

Open House at Muslim Community Center Saturday, October 14

The Muslim Community Center of Chicago is hosting a Chicago-wide Open House at their mosque on Saturday, Oct. 14th from 10 am until 5 pm.

The Muslim Community Center of Chicago was established in 1969. It's one of the oldest and largest Muslim organizations in the Chicago area and it has a diverse membership, democratic leadership and three locations across the city.

The mosque was formerly the 1,300-seat Rivoli Theater. It screened movies for several decades before it was made into a ballroom and banquet hall. The Muslim Community Center moved into the building in the early 1980s and offers prayer services and many other programs. While much of the exterior has been covered over, the arch surrounding the main entry is original, as are many elegant decorative details in the main auditorium where prayer takes place.

Last year, at least 300 non-Muslims visited our mosque on Elston! Learn about the work of Chicago's oldest and largest Muslim community organization.

Last GIPNA Farmers Market October 22

Fall is here, but the Independence Park Farmers Market will soon be gone. Only one market remains this year! Join us on **Sunday, October 22nd** for the best of the Fall season with apples, squash and pumpkins, as well as the finest coffee, baked goods and chai tea, and unique gifts to help you get started on your holiday shopping! Thanks to everyone that has joined us this year and the many that have volunteered their time at the market. We look forward to seeing you on the 22nd from 9 am to 4 pm!

WITHIN THE WIRE...

- 2 Dear Neighbor
- 3 500th Anniversary of Reformation • St. John's Choir
- 4 CAPS Report
- 5 39th Ward Report • Attorney Fees Explained
- 6 News and Events from Carlson Community Services
- 7 News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry
- 8 Neighborhood School News

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Oct. 17 • 7:00 pm

WWCA General Meeting
Latvian Community Center
4146 N. Elston

Wed., Oct. 18 • 7:30 pm

Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting
17th District Community Room
4650 N. Pulaski

Sun., Oct. 22 • 3:00 pm

St. John's Concert Series Presents
*Double Take: Musical Pairings
Through the Ages*
Featuring Chicago Recorder Quartet
St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N Kostner

Sun., Oct. 22 • 9 am - 1 pm

GIPNA Farmers Market
Independence Park
3945 N. Springfield

Sat., Nov. 4 • 7:00 pm

Carlson Trivia Night
Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym
4057 N. Harding
carlsoncommunityservices.org

Sunday, Dec. 10 • 2:00 pm

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents
An Octave Above Holiday Concert
Free Admission, Reception with Artists
carlsoncommunityservices.org

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

Dear Neighbor,

I hope that everyone enjoyed our "September is the New August" weather.

I wanted to point out two new additions to the neighborhood which I encourage everyone to visit.

Opened over the summer, **Hearth & Crust** is located at 3608 W. Irving Park Road. Hearth & Crust is owned by the same people who brought you Buona Terra in Login Square. Hearth & Crust offers pizza, salads, entrees and more – including a full bar.

The Picnic Basket, located at 4102 N. Pulaski, opened in September. The Picnic Basket is backed by the owners of the The Cabin at Old Irving, with a shared décor and direct access. The Picnic Basket offers customizable Deli sandwiches and sides.

On the horizon, the Independence Tap at 3932 W. Irving Park recently approached Alderman Arena to explore plans to add live music and food service to the operation. These plans were presented to the neighborhood in a meeting on October 4, 2017, and additional permits will need to be approved in order for the Independence Tap's plans to move forward. If you weren't able to make the October 4 meeting and want to learn more, or want a refresher on the plans, please attend the WWCA General Meeting on October 17 at 7:00 pm at the Latvian Center.

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**

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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.*

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

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500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Irving Park Lutheran Church will commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on Sunday, October 29 at our festive 10:30 am worship. At this time we'll also celebrate the 100th anniversary of our sanctuary, and affirmation of faith of 10 confirmands! A reception of Brats & Beer in the gym follows at 11:45 am - join us!

Participate in **Gentle/Chair Yoga** on Thursday Evenings. This gentle class also includes mindfulness and meditation. Utilize chair as a prop, Good for anyone wanting a gentle practice. Class times are 6:45-7:45 pm (on the third Thursday of the month the class meets from 6:30-7:30 pm).

Irving Park Lutheran Church is located at 3938 West Belle Plaine. Visit www.iplc.org or call 773-267-1666.

Join St. John's Children's Choir

All children in 1st to 6th grade are invited to join the St. John's Children's Choir. One-hour sessions (performances included) are Thursday evenings at 5:15 pm. The choir uses the Royal School of Church Music curriculum, which guides young students from no knowledge to an in-depth understanding of music by adolescence. Rehearsals run through December 7 (no rehearsal on November 23), and snacks will be provided beforehand. The choir is directed by Lieve Buzard, who has served as the St. John's Children's Choir Director since Fall 2016. The cost for materials is \$30, scholarships available. For more information please contact the church office, music@stjohnschicago.com.

St. John's Concert Series Presents Double Take: Musical Pairings Through the Ages featuring Chicago Recorder Quartet. Join us on Sunday, October 22 at 3 pm for an afternoon with Chicago Recorder Quartet as it performs its newest program "Double Take: Musical Pairings through the Ages." Chicago Recorder Quartet (CRQ) continues its tradition of inventive programming and explores unique musical combinations and juxtapositions, finding similarities and uncanny common themes in different musical forms and eras. CRQ is a Chicago-based professional recorder quartet. Its mission: bringing early music to the contemporary world and presenting contemporary music on one of the earliest known instruments. This concert is FREE! All are welcome! St. John's is located at 3857 N Kostner. Call 773-725-9026 for more information.

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

Should You Sell Your Home in the Fall?

Hi Neighbors,

In Chicago, most people think of selling their home in Spring or Summer. However, Fall can be equally appealing. Sales prices in our neighborhood are still strong. Mortgage rates are still low and buyers want to get settled in before the holidays. Here are a few tips when selling your home in the Fall.

1. Keep the grass mowed and leaves raked.
2. Clean your windows and turn up the lights so your home looks light & bright.
3. Keep the temperature in your home comfortable.
4. Add splashes of Fall colors throughout your home – oranges, golds, greens...
5. And in any season, declutter.

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.

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

Dorie Westmeyer

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CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723 Meeting, September 20, 2017

Present: 17th District Commander Elias Voulgaris, Sgt. with the undercover tactical unit, CAPS Officer Hamid, Alderman Margaret Laurino, Gail Beitz, 39th Ward Office (Alderman Laurino), Monica Trevino, 35th Ward Office (Alderman Ramirez-Rosa).

A larger than usual number of officers and Lieutenants attended the meeting, as well as Commander Voulgaris. Under previously reported issues, a resident inquired as to the status of reports of drug dealing in the alley between Pulaski and Harding at Berateau. A neighbor reported finding glassine bags and syringes in the alley near a trash can. The Commander reported that he had two undercover units looking into the issue and had visited the site himself that day. The Commander commended the resident for reporting it and for ensuring that Streets and Sanitation removed the drug paraphernalia. Another inquiry was made about gym shoes hanging from power wires in the alley behind the 3800 block of W. Berateau.

The Commander and Alderman Laurino presented a Certificate of Courage to a 39th Ward resident, his son and nephew for the apprehension of an offender who was arrested and charged with criminal sexual assault, burglary, theft and possession of burglary tools in an incident that occurred July 23rd in the 4600 block of Kildare. Everyone present at the meeting expressed their appreciation as well.

Commander Voulgaris took some time to talk about crime trends in the 17th district. He reported that overall, shootings, murders, shots fired and aggravated battery are all down compared with one year ago. Since his time in the district from 1986-1994, he believes gang activity is less. However, there's been a spike in burglaries over the summer. Garage burglaries are most prevalent as well as theft from autos and catalytic converter thefts. The Commander encouraged people to etch some identifying information on their catalytic converters so if they are recovered they can be returned and to lock up garage door openers in the glove box. He also warned that there are robbery crews operating east of the river, mostly after midnight, though they haven't shown up in the 17th.

The Commander spoke about the excellent relationship that the 17th District maintains with immigrant communities. He

Continued on page 10

How's the West Walker Real Estate Market?



SOLD - 4015 N. Harding



SOLD - 4017 N. Harding



SOLD - 4239 N. Ridgeway

Hot. It's a Sellers Market!

"Dorie has great knowledge of the neighborhood and did a wonderful job of advising us of what to ask for the sale price, how to stage the house, and in showing the house effectively. We had buyers before the house was actually listed and we received a good price." – Mary Byrns

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.



Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR
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Dorie Westmeyer · 847-989-4870 · CHARLES RUTENBERG REALTY · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com

Attorney Fees Explained

by Audrey Cosgrove, Attorney

When potential new clients call to ask our fee they are either pleasantly surprised or appalled. The subject of attorney fees is completely shrouded in mystery. Part of the issue is that a random sampling of law firm websites reveals that exactly 0% put their fees on the website, including us. The other issue may be that since clients usually come to us because they have a delicate problem, it is safe to say they are not discussing their case with their friends, let alone the fees they paid their lawyer. Law, like most service professions, charge a fee based on the complexity of the issue, and every case is different, but it wouldn't hurt to know what you can expect.

Legal fees are charged in three ways: *contingent*, *hourly* or *flat rate*. Contingent fee means the attorney will get paid a percentage of what you win or settle for in the case. This fee arrangement is most often used in personal injury matters and other litigation where the plaintiff is seeking an award, like a class-action law suit. A lawyer cannot accept a contingency fee in a criminal or domestic relations case. It comes as a surprise to some people that no lawyer is going to take a case on a contingency where little or no money is at issue. *Ahem, lawyers don't work for free.* However, if you locate an attorney who is looking for experience they make take a case under these circumstances.

Hourly rates are charged in most legal cases but especially where you are the defendant in a civil case, domestic relations, bankruptcy and business litigation. What you should confirm is what the firm charges per hour and in what increments. For example, if they bill in 15-minute increments, and charge \$250 an hour, that 2 minute phone call will cost you \$62.50. There is no limit to how much a case may end up costing. And you will always pay a retainer up-front to cover the attorney starting the work on the case.

Flat fees are used most often for real estate transactions, criminal, traffic and estate planning. Whether the attorney spends 10 minutes or 10 hours on your case the fee will be the same, which is great for budgeting. You should confirm with the attorney what the flat rate includes, and more importantly - what it *does not* include. For example, the real estate attorney may charge you a lower rate for a closing but will not review your condo documents for that price, where a higher-priced attorney will do the document review.

Audrey Cosgrove is the owner of The Cosgrove Law Firm L.L.C., in Chicago.

39th Ward Report



With the summer heat behind us and the trees changing colors, fall is officially here. Between watching football and raking leaves, I invite you to enjoy some of the festivities in the 39th Ward.

If you're a fan of classic cars or delicious pizza, swing by Marie's

Pizza & Liquors 8th Annual Classic Car Show on Sunday, October 8th, 2017. The car show, which will be held at 4129 W. Lawrence, goes from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Registration goes from 11:00 a.m. until noon. For more information, call Marie's at 773-725-1812.

Come visit the 25th Annual Harvest Fest and Farmer's Market at the North Park Village Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski, on Saturday, October 14 and Sunday, October 15, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The 46-acre nature center's fall celebration features a scarecrow-building contest, storytelling, live music, a farmer's market, tours of the preserve, and refreshments for sale. Registration is not required. For more information, please contact the Nature Center at 312-744-5472.

I am proud to say that Wendy's, located at the former self-serve car wash at 4412 N. Pulaski, is scheduled to open! On Monday, October 9, the anticipated fast food restaurant and drive through will be open to the public. In other West Walker News, the Independence Park Library/Senior Housing project is continuing to move along through the legislative process.

For 39th Ward updates, please sign-up for my newsletter at www.AldermanLaurino.com or follow my Facebook page. As always, contact my office at 773-736-5594 or e-mail us with your concerns or questions.

Sincerely,
Margaret Laurino
Alderman, 39th Ward

Dorsi Thillens Finnegan

President
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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.



Ready for fun (and homework) at the Magic After-School Place

Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that helps at-risk kids succeed with The Magic After-School Place (MAP), provides vegetables to people in need and beautifies our neighborhood with Three Brothers Garden and makes fine arts affordable and accessible through the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Magic After-School Place

The Magic After-School Place is in its 11th year of providing high quality, affordable after-school care for children attending Murphy and Belding Schools. This year, MAP has reached record enrollment of 60 children! With a tiered tuition structure based on income, MAP is a valuable partner for working, low-income families who need a safe place for their children to after school. Equally important, children receive homework help and tutoring, gain leadership skills and participate 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 fundraising events. Program space is generously donated by Irving Park Lutheran Church, helping us do this important work in our community. MAP welcomes high school students in need of service hours and adult volunteers. For more information, contact Rachel Lockhart at mapdirector@carlsoncommunityservices.org.



The Bole team took home the prize winnings and glory at Trivia 2016

Carlson Trivia Night Fundraiser November 4th

Dust off your thinking cap and gather your teammates...it's time for Carlson's Trivia Night! The annual contest will be held on Saturday, November 4th to benefit Carlson's after-school program, community garden and concert series.

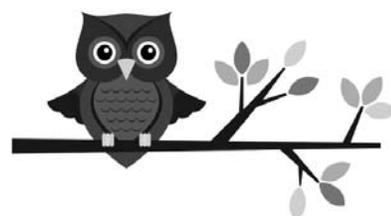
Teams of 8 can purchase a table for \$280 (\$300 after October 28h). Partake of an appetizer buffet (while it lasts) or bring your own snacks! Wine, beer and soda will be sold at the bar. Trivia Night takes place at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym at 4057 N. Harding from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. The event is open to adults 21 and over. For more information or to register your team, e-mail Helen Lira at helen@chilira.com or 773.406.9821.



Join us for Ward Night
Tuesday evenings from 5-7 PM

Contact the 45th Ward Office

4754 N. Milwaukee Ave. • Chicago, IL 60630
Phone: 773-286-4545 ward45@cityofchicago.org
www.ward45.org





News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

Pantry Seeks Coat Donations

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is distributing winter coats to clients this month and is still accepting donations. Please check your closets for any gently used coats that you can do without and bring them to the Pantry.

Donations can be left at the bottom of the stairs at the Grace Street entrance at the Irving Park United Methodist Church or delivered on Wednesday mornings during Pantry operating hours (8:30 to noon) and on Tuesday October 9th (6 to 7:30 p.m.). Additional drop-off points include Disney II Magnet Elementary School (3815 N. Kedvale), Old Irving Brewing (4419 W. Montrose Ave.), and the Linnemeyer front porch (3822 N. Tripp Ave.). All sizes of coats, especially those for men, are needed.

The Pantry was selected to receive a \$1,000 donation from Jewel/Osco in celebration of the Six Corners store's grand reopening. We appreciate all of Jewel's support on a weekly basis, which includes a variety of grocery items.

The Pantry is participating in a promotional effort with AT&T to pass out information about the company's new low-cost broadband service available to SNAP recipients. AT&T also has made a \$2,500 donation to the Pantry.

Thank you to Marla Cueva, Andrea Guthman, Christine Lee, Renee Linnemeyer and Kitty Tataryn for handling our weekly school-supply distribution to clients' children during August. Thanks also to everyone who donated money, supplies and time to help more than 250 neighborhood children start the year right!

The Pantry's program of health screenings and blood-pressure readings, along with information for clients, expanded in September to include health classes. The programs continue all fall. The programs are conducted in cooperation with Presence Resurrection Medical Group, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and the American Heart Association.

Volunteers from the Pantry will be staffing a booth at the last GIPNA Farmers Markets of the year on October 8th and 22nd. They will answer questions and accept donations. You also can sign up to receive our Breadcrumbs e-mail newsletter. We appreciate all your support in ensuring we live up to our motto of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

40th District State Representative



Jaime Andrade



773 267 2880 • staterep40@gmail.com • 3657 N. Kedzie Ave



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.

Like us on Facebook

IL 40th District-Jaime Andrade



Jewel-Osco Six Corners Store Manager (center) and mascot Jojo present a \$1,000 donation to Irving Park Community Food Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis during the store's grand reopening in August. Photo by Craig Shutt

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Schurz High School

Haunted Evening at Schurz: Enjoy a concert of haunting music from 6 to 7 pm in the auditorium! Watch the Friends of

Schurz Facebook Page for more details about this event!

Schurz Fall Open House for prospective students will be on Thursday, November 2, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. See what our neighborhood high school has to offer! Meet faculty, tour the school, and learn about Schurz' wide range of programs.

Photography teacher Elena Diadenko is in search of donations of old digital cameras for a unit on basic photography. Donations of gently used, functioning cameras can be brought to the Schurz Main Office during the school day. Put camera in a Ziploc bag and include the charging cable (or a fresh set of batteries). Donations of new memory/SD cards also welcome. Include a note with your name and email address so the class can thank you!

Join the **Yolobe** professional network to connect with Schurz students seeking employment, internship, and other opportunities in their community. For more information on how to get involved, email Dee Barrett at dee@yolobe.com or visit yolobe.com.

CICS-Irving Park School

CICS Irving Park kicked off the 2017-18 school year with a newly-appointed school director: Mr. J.W. Kuebler, who steps into this role as the outgoing director, Karin Breo, takes on a larger leadership role as the Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement for Distinctive Schools. Together, Ms. Breo and Mr. Kuebler have built an amazing school where last year, 21 8th graders were accepted to Selective Enrollment high schools, and another 17 were accepted to International Baccalaureate and Scholars Programs.

A large majority of the student body participated in a \$2 dress-down day to raise money and awareness for hurricane victims. In fact, three very determined sisters Amanda, (6th grade) Arianna (5th grade), and Miley (kindergarten) created an ice cream sundae stand on their front lawn, and, over the course of two days, raised over \$120, which they donated to the CICS Irving Park Hurricane Relief Fund. All told, the school raised \$850 towards this effort! Keep up with CICS Irving Park on Facebook @CICSIRVINGPARK or at cicsirvingpark.org.

Belding School

Join the Belding community at an after school Fun Fair to celebrate the joy of fall on October 28 from 4-6 pm. A DJ will spin current hits while children dressed in costumes play games for prizes and run a bouncy house obstacle course. The evening will culminate with the annual flash mob Thriller dance by our eighth grade zombies!

Belding School has earned Level 1+ rating with the CPS rating policy. Our students meet or exceed national norms in reading by 87% and math by 71%. Are you curious to see what Belding Elementary has to offer? Upcoming tour dates include: October 17, November 21, December 19, and January 16. Tours begin at 8:00 a.m. in the school office.

St. Edward School

In line with this year's theme, "We are one Body," each classroom created a puzzle, showing that we are all connected. St. Edward School has acted upon this theme by donating towards the Archdiocese special collection for Hurricane Harvey victims. Our community continues to think about all hurricane, flooding, and earthquake victims.

Tour Tuesday is Tuesday, November 14 from 9-10:30 am! Potential St. Edward students and families are welcome to tour and learn about St. Edward School at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or visit www.stedwardschool.com.

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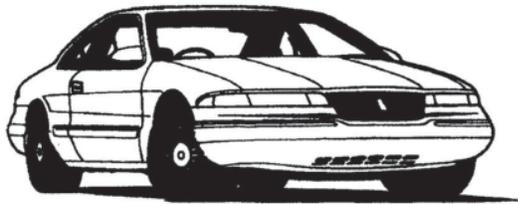


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Continued from page 4

reminded everyone that officers are prohibited by municipal code from asking about immigration status.

In new issues, a question was raised about drug dealing in the alley between Monticello and Central Park in the 4100 block. The resident was advised to call 911 when drug dealing was observed, as well as getting neighbors to call.

As always, 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 begin at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, October 18th, 2017. 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.

You can reach the 17th District CAPS office by phone: 312-742-4588, or email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org. Follow them on Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17 or Facebook: www.facebook.com/CAPS.017. Event Calendar: http://home.chicagopolice.org

Liz Mills
CAPS Coordinator

WWCA Members

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

Alison Jensen
Mary Aileen O'Callaghan
Friends of Jamie Andrade, Jr.

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.

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.

Bring your 2017-2018 dues to our next WWCA meeting on October 17! Or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018

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: _____

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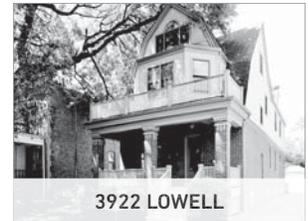
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