



WEST WALKER WIRE

APRIL 2007

www.westwalker.org

April Meeting: Garden Tips & Fishguy

Our April 17th general meeting will feature two West Walker residents and area business owners.

Jack Prikos of the Farmer's Market Garden Center will help you get your garden into shape this spring with garden tips. Whether you're an experienced gardener or a novice, Jack will have great ideas about what to plant and where. Bring your questions and garden challenges!

We'll also hear from Bill Dugan, proprietor of The Fishguy fish market. We'll hear about all that's new at The Fishguy and about Wellfleet, Bill's newest "occasional dining" concept, which opened last fall to rave reviews.

Join us at 7:30 p.m. at the Latvian Community Center at 4146 N. Elston Ave.

Build A Bag Benefit for the Irving Park Food Pantry

Join the West Walker community for an afternoon of fun and service as we assemble toiletry kits for those in need served by the Irving Park Community Food Panty on Sunday, April 22nd at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym.

In order to "Build the Bags" we'll need travel-sized toiletries as well as gently used purses and shaving kits, so consider picking up a few items on your next shopping trip. The afternoon will also feature snacks and craft projects for the kids. Can't make the event but have items to donate? You can drop them off at the April West Walker meeting or call Helen Lira at 406-9821. During the month of April, the food pantry is eligible to receive matching funds, so our food and monetary donations will be doubly appreciated!

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 16 • 9:00 a.m.

Independence Park, summer program online registration begins
www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

April 17 • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting
Latvian Community Center
4146 N. Elston Ave.

April 21 • 9:00 a.m.

Independence Park, summer program walk-in registration begins

April 21 • 6:00 p.m. – midnight

St. Edward's Big Red Auction
Buckley Hall, 4343 W. Sunnyside Ave.
See page 6 for information

April 22 • 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

WWCA Build-A-Bag Fundraiser
Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym
4057 N. Harding Ave.

April 29 • 2:00 p.m.

Irving Park Fine Arts Series
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding Ave.
See page 7 for information

May 15 • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting

May 19 • 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WWCA 22nd Annual Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale

May 20 • Time TBA

GIPNA Fine Craft Fair
Independence Park Field House
See page 6 for information

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

Dear Neighbor:

Robins, snow drops, budding shrubs and trees are all welcome signs of spring. But the warming weather also brings less welcome signs, like graffiti and reports of burglaries. The southwest corner of West Walker has recently been the target of both – and during daylight hours. With incidents on the rise in West Walker, this is a great time to consider forming a Block Club on your block. The 17th District offers Block Club training each month. For information, contact **Christopher Wright** at (312) 742-0961 or email christopher.wright@chicagopolice.org.

The Special Events Committee has another great event scheduled for this month – the 2nd Annual Build A Bag event on Sunday, April 22nd at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym. Bring any new or unused travel-sized toiletries to the event, plus handbags or shaving kits and we'll put them together for the people served by the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. Build A Bag is a great way to meet new people, reconnect with neighbors and provide a valuable service. So bring the kids, enjoy some refreshments and Build A Bag!

The Safe Neighborhoods Committee's **Anne Marie O'Kelley** and **Martina Gombas** joined me in meeting with **Alderman Laurino**, **Commander Dulay** of the 17th District and a traffic engineer from the City. Strategies to relieve speeding on Hamlin were discussed, along with better traffic flow at Tony's Market and stop sign enforcement. Future meetings are planned to discuss our options.

Alderman Laurino believes strongly that traffic problems are solved through a three-pronged effort – dubbed the Three Es – engineering, enforcement and education. Please take some time to evaluate your own driving habits and review the rules of the road. For instance, the speed limit on all Chicago streets is 30 miles per hour, unless otherwise posted. And stop signs, despite popular opinion, are not optional. You can expect to see better enforcement of speed limits and stop signs in our area, so beware!

Thanks to *Wire* editor **Beth Tigue**, who has put together another great newsletter, and to all our carriers. Special thanks to **Glenda Begeske** for her service, and to **Diane Zito** who has recently joined the ranks. Substitutes are always needed -- phone **Bob Begeske** at 267-5942 if you'd like to help.

Former board member **Jane Nagle** has agreed to serve as head of this year's nominating committee. If you're interested in serving as an officer of the Board, please call Jane at 588-1926. A slate will be presented in May, followed by officer elections in June.

The April meeting promises to be a good one as we hear from two neighborhood businessmen, Jack Prikos of the Farmer's Market and Bill Dugan from the Fishguy. Hope to see you there!

Liz Mills
President

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 more than 95 years of service to the West Walker Community

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Secretary	Mike Webber 539-8346
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Editor
Beth Tigue

The West Walker Wire is published monthly by the West Walker Civic Association.

All story ideas and text are due by the first of the month. Submit ideas and text to: west_walker_wire@yahoo.com. Include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you.

For information on advertising, please see our Advertising Rates, Page 11.



2nd Annual Build-A-Bag Family Fund Raiser
BENEFITING THE IRVING PARK FOOD PANTRY

Sunday April 22nd, 2007
2-4p.m.

Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym, 4057 N. Harding

PLEASE DONATE UNUSED (OR NEW) TOILETRIES

(Travel size shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, make-up samples, feminine products, soap, shaving cream, razors, small hair brushes, liquid handsoap, hand lotion, etc.)

And/or GENTLY USED OR NEW PURSES AND SHAVING KITS

We'll be building and then donating the final products to the Irving Park Food Pantry

♥A great way to have fun and help the community!♥

Complimentary Kids Crafts, snacks & drinks

Questions or want to volunteer? Call Helen Lira at 406.9821

Sponsored by the West Walker Civic Association

West Walker Civic Association – General Meeting Minutes March 20, 2007 – 20 present

WWCA President Liz Mills opened the meeting at 7:36 pm.

The first order of business was a talk by George Santiago, V.P. and Branch Executive of the First Chicago Bank & Trust (formerly Labe Bank). Mr. Santiago spoke about the Bank's desire to continue the 100 year history of Community involvement which was part of Labe Bank. The plan for a new bank building and commercial space at Elston & Pulaski was discussed, although a final plan is not ready to be presented. Mr. Santiago encouraged neighbors to visit the Bank. Questions regarding bank services, from the proof department, which counts deposits, to changes in consumer accounts were answered.

Also on the program was John Borovicka, the District Director for U.S. Congressman Rahm Emanuel's 5th Congressional District office. The Congressman represents 675,000 people and is now in his third term. Issues handled by the office include all services offered by the Federal government, such as income tax assistance, social security, passports and veteran's affairs. The Congressman is head of the Democratic Caucus and on the Ways and Means Committee. Local programs include Rahm's Readers, for young readers and the "Congressman on your Corner" where the Congressman goes to local venues to meet his constituents. The Congressman is working on children's health legislation as well as clean lakes and prescription medication access measures.

The February General Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Bob Beigeske reported a general account balance of \$2,451.35. Bob also reported that additional Wire carrier volunteers are needed.

Liz Mills reported on the success of the Winter Social, which drew 60 people out on one of the wintriest nights of the year.

The Vision Committee is participating in the Creative Chicago Expo on April 21. This is an effort by the City to match neighborhoods with various artistic and creative people and organizations.

Liz Mills reported that there is a proposal for development of the old C. Manny's property at 4154 N. Elston, which will be reviewed and considered in cooperation with the Alderman's Office in the near future.

Bob Beigeske reported on the recent CAPS meeting and the need for more volunteers to attend meetings to collect the report and relay it to the Monthly WWCA meetings.

The West Walker second annual Build-a-Bag gathering to benefit the Irving Park Community Food Pantry will be rescheduled. (Editor's note: The new date is Sunday, April 22nd.)

May 19, 2007 is the date for the 22nd Annual WWCA Garage Sale.

The May General Meeting will include updates on summer programs from the Independence Library Branch and Independence Park on their summer programs.

Also in May will be the formation of the Nominating Committee to recommend Officers for next year. All interested in participating should talk to any Board Member or Officer.

A neighbor talked about the new business in the commercial building on Elston Ave. at Avers Ave., That Strip Joynt. The neighbor has detected noxious odors coming from the building, which is a wood refinishing business. The Dept. of the Environment and Alderman Laurino's office have been contacted. West Walker will arrange a meeting with the business owner and Alderman Laurino's office.

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

39th Ward Public Service Office
4404 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594
Ward39@cityofchicago.org



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West Walker Civic Association

22nd Annual Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale

Saturday May 19, 2007, 9am to 4pm - Rain or Shine

All West Walker residents are invited to participate in our 22nd Annual Garage and Yard Sale.

The sale will be advertised in the Chicago Tribune and Lerner Neighborhood newspapers. Signs will be posted on the main perimeter streets. **3,000 MAPS INDICATING THE LOCATION OF EACH REGISTERED ADDRESS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THE WEEK OF THE SALE.**

Under current city ordinance, every home having a garage sale **MUST DISPLAY** a Garage Sale Permit, which must be acquired from the Alderman's office. The Garage and Yard Sale Committee will file the applications for permits and obtain the permits for all paid participants. To accomplish this, we must have your paid application to participate by **May 12, 2007.**

Return the form below to have your address listed as a participant in the sale, along with your application fee. Remember, your fee covers purchasing ads in newspapers, as well as the distribution of maps throughout the area. For further information call Bob Crowley at (773) 267-1921.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION GARAGE AND YARD SALE
Saturday, May 19, 2007

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

I am a current member of the West Walker Civic Association.
 Enclosed is my **\$5.00** participation fee.

I am **not now** a member of the West Walker Civic Association. Enclosed is my **\$15.00** participation fee. Please credit \$10.00 towards my West Walker Civic Association 2006-2007 dues.

Please make your check payable to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 Mail or drop off your form and payment to: Bob Crowley, 4125 N. Harding Ave, Chicago, IL 60618

Big Red Auction

St. Edward's will hold it's annual "Big Red Auction," on Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 6:00 p.m. until Midnight.

Many exciting prizes will be on the live and silent auction block. The evening will also include dancing and a DJ beginning at 8:30 p.m. A cash bar and complimentary heavy hors'doeuvres will be available. Dress for the event is casual. The gala will be held in Buckley Hall – the school gym – at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue (one block north of Montrose at the corner of Lowell).

If you plan on coming to bid and buy, keep in mind closing times on bids will be staggered during the evening.

Each year proceeds from the auction help St. Edward School continue its commitment to providing a quality Catholic education to area children.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Partygoers must be 21 to attend. For more information, call St. Edward's school at 773/736-9133.

Fine Craft Fair Set for May at Independence Park – Artisans Wanted!

The Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA) will host its first Fine Craft Fair at the Independence Park Field House on Sunday, May 20.

The Fine Craft Fair will feature original handmade craft items such as jewelry, weaving, glass, quilts, sculpture, felted items, and basketry. Products aren't limited to only those items—all fine craft disciplines are welcome. All work must be original and handmade (non-kit) by the artisan.

The entry fee is \$20 per table, up to 30 inches by 72 inches in size. The \$20 entry fee reserves your space; you can bring your own portable table or rent a 30x72-inch table for an additional \$5.

Submit checks for fees with your application no later than April 20, 2007. Make checks payable to GIPNA, P.O. Box 18184, Chicago, IL 60618. If you have any questions, please e-mail GIPNA@sbcglobal.net.



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**MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

**SATURDAY
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

April Irving Park Fine Arts Concert

On Sunday, April 29, 2007 at 2:00 p.m., the final program of the Irving Park Fine Arts series' 13th season promises to be a treat for all lovers of musical theater. Irving Park Fine Arts Artistic Director Roger L. Bingaman with singers Ann McMann and Kenneth Nichols will explore the history of American Musical Theater in song. The concert will be held at the Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave.

Ann McMann has been seen in many roles at Light Opera Works. She has sung under the baton of Maestro Daniel Barenboim with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in the Liszt "Dante Symphony" and under Erich Kunzel as Snow White in "Hooray for Hollywood."

Baritone, Kenneth Nichols performed with the Metropolitan Opera and the New York City Opera before landing in Chicago, Illinois by way of Hal Prince's revival of Showboat. Kenneth is in his seventh season with Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Roger Bingaman is music director for Light Opera Works/Chicago, and also music director for the Lyric Opera of Chicago's Opera in the Neighborhoods. He is program and music director of the Apprentice Artists for the Sarasota Opera as well as the Chorus Master.

The Irving Park Fine Arts series, under Roger L. Bingaman's leadership has a mission aimed at providing a venue for professional musical and theatrical performances in the Irving Park neighborhood at a nominal cost to patrons. There is no set admission charge for this event, but a free will offering is taken to help defray the costs of the productions. For more information call 773-297-1666 or visit their website at irvingparkfinearts.org.



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Athletic Field Park Begins Spring Activities

Athletic Field Park will be hosting several community activities and events this spring.

Stroller fitness class: To be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting the first week of April, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., with a \$5 charge.

Spring Walking Group: This activity also will begin the first week of April, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is no charge, and walkers with strollers are welcome.

For more information, please contact the park at 773-478-2889.

Farmer's Market Dates Set at Independence Park

Mark your calendar for the Farmer's Market! The markets are held at Independence Park from June to October on the first and third Sunday's of the month. The market has produce, coffee, pies, bakery, and flowers. Market is open from 8 a.m until Noon. Dates are:

June 3rd & 17th July 1st & 15th August 5th & 19th
September 2nd & 16th October 7th

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Open House
Sunday, April 25, 8:30-11:30

www.sbschool.homestead.com

Office Report: 40th District

State Representative Richard Bradley • 3520 N. Pulaski Road, Chicago IL 60641 • (773) 794-9444



Make A Contract With Your Teen

Sometimes it's best to have something in writing that will spell out parents' expectations and teen's rules. Here is a sample contract. Note that many experts recommend putting written penalties next to each agreement.

TEEN DRIVING CONTRACT

I, _____, agree to the terms of this contract allowing me the privilege of driving. If I violate this agreement, I will forfeit my driving privilege to the extent and degree of the violation.

I WILL:

- wear my safety belt at all times, when driving or riding as a passenger;
- require that every passenger wear a safety belt;
- keep my doors locked while driving;
- always drive at safe speeds for the conditions — at or below the speed limit;
- obey traffic laws.

I WILL NOT:

- drive under the influence of alcohol or other drugs;
- be a passenger in a car driven by someone under the influence of alcohol or other drugs;
- allow alcohol or other drugs, or weapons in the car;
- engage in thrill-seeking, stunts, or any form of racing;
- conceal any tickets, warnings, or collisions from parents/guardians;
- allow anyone else to drive the car;
- allow passengers, other than parents, until that privilege is given by my parents.

I have read the above agreement and sign this in accordance with the rules.

Teen Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Source: Adapted from contract at Teendriving.com



CAPS Update: Beat 1723

CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) meetings for 2007 for our beat are held at the 17th District in the community Room, 4650 N. Pulaski. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. monthly on the 3rd Wednesday and typically last one hour.



Florence Stoller, the CAPS facilitator for Beat 1723 mentioned that she is to testify about adding cameras to key alleys. Ms. Stoller also said parking problems and suspicious activity continues to take place, reinforcing the need for the cameras to be installed. The police said they will continue to cite violators for parking in the alleys illegally.

A burglary occurred on Monday, March 26 in the 4100 block of Springfield around 11:00 a.m. The person entered the house by cutting a screen on the side porch and stole a purse. A neighbor saw the man put the screen in the back by the alley with no particular sense of urgency so she thought he was a worker. The following is a description of the burglar: male, white or Hispanic, approximately 20-30 years old, between 5'8" or 5' 10" with very dark hair. He was wearing a beige baseball cap and a blue striped shirt. There was also another burglary earlier in the month in the 4100 block of Springfield, but additional details are not available.

As always, be vigilant about keeping doors locked when you are outside or away from home and call 911

to report any suspicious people or activity in your neighborhood.

On Sunday, April 1, about a dozen garages in the vicinity of Springfield/Avers/Harding and Belle Plaine were "tagged" with graffiti. The Alderman's office recommended that everyone who was tagged call the [Alderman's] office to file a report and request the Graffiti Blasters

(if they don't want to paint themselves). The Alderman also recommended that homeowners affected call 311 to file a police report as this will make the issue more prominent with the police and increase our visibility. At this point, the graffiti does not appear to be gang-related.

A meeting with the 17th district commander and Alderman Laurino took place on April 4 to discuss traffic enforcement in West Walker, and all of these recent incidents were added to the agenda.

The next CAPS FREE Block Club training will be held on April 21st at the 7th district station community room at 4560 N. Pulaski from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For more information on Block Club training, contact Chris Wright at (312) 742-0961 or email christopher.wright@chicagopolice.org.

The next CAPS meeting for Beat 1723 is April 18 at 7:00.



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Office Report: 39th Ward

Dear Neighbor,

Spring is finally here! The city offers a great opportunity for everyone in the community to get involved and help to beautify our ward. Please remember to reserve **Saturday, May 5th** for **Mayor Daley's Spring Clean and Green Event**. Once again we will be offering Blue Recycling Bags to each volunteer, as well as compact fluorescent light bulbs. Please contact my public service office with any questions or to register for this event.



Mark your calendars! On **Monday, June 4th**, the City Clerk's office will be selling **City Vehicle Stickers** and **Residential Permit Parking Stickers** here in my public service office. Stickers will be sold from **10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in replacing your sidewalk(s), it is that time of year to apply for the city's **Shared Cost Sidewalk Program**. This is a program in which the city will replace the sidewalk in front of a home, and the homeowner splits the total cost with the city. For senior citizens (age 65 or older) and disabled persons, the city will pay 75% of the total construction costs. Applications are available at my public service office.

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.

Sincerely,

Margaret Laurino
Alderman, 39th Ward

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FAX: 773-539-5276

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Chicago IL 60646

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890 N State St
Elgin IL 60123

Bloomington Branch

150 S Bloomington Rd
Bloomington IL 60108

Norridge Branch

7040 W Forest Preserve Dr
Norridge IL 60706

Park Ridge Branch (Main St)

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Park Ridge Branch (Touhy Ave)

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