

WESTWALKER ——WIRE——

JANUARY 2019

www.westwalker.org

Volunteer Opportunity at Hands To Help Ministries

Hands To Help, a small neighborhood organization that helps those who are struggling with homelessness. The organization is comprised of an allvolunteer board, a paid part time Service Manager and Outreach Worker.

In order to grow the organization and help more people, Hands to Help Ministries is always looking for additional board members and volunteers. Currently, we are looking for people with skills in the following areas:

- Financial (payroll, funding requests, monthly reporting, budgeting, data input)
- Social work (education, statistics, evaluations, health, HMIS or All Chicago knowledge)
- Event Planning
- Fundraising
- · Grant / Report Writing
- · Community Relations
- · Organizational Development
- Human Resources (forms, processes, procedure, training, on/off boarding)

If you are interested or know someone who may be contact Roberta Bole 773-505-2595 or Deann Sherlock at 773-430-3120 to be connected with the group.

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed., Jan. 16 ● 7:00 pm Beats 1722-1723 CAPS Meeting 17th District Community Room 4650 N. Pulaski

Sun., Feb. 10 • 5:00 - 7:00 pm Soup & Bread for Carlson Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym 4057 N. Harding

Sun., Feb. 17 • 2:00 pm

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Concert with Mary Jo Neher, Horn, Joe Burgio, Horn Irving Park Lutheran Church 4100 N. Harding Ave.

Sat., Feb. 23 • Time TBD WWCA Winter Social Location TBD

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

Dear Neighbor,

WELCOME TO 2019! I'm sure for many of us, we are glad to see 2018 behind us. May 2019 bring healing, security, prosperity and comfort to everyone.

First, save the date of Saturday, February 23, 2019 for the West Walker Winter Social, our annual "beat the winter blues" bacchanal! Location is yet to be determined, but we'll keep it close for all our neighborhood revelers.

Also, there are no more scheduled WWCA general meetings until March. Until then, stay warm, stay safe and read the weekly e-mail blasts for updated community information.

Finally, I would like to extend a greeting and hopes of a Happy New Year to all. The New Year is often a time of reflection as well as a time to imagine self-improvement and envision a better future and world.

Resolutions are often viewed as a once-a-year activity. But personal experience (as well as some research) shows that resolve isn't really influenced by the calendar. We should all strive to take the time to identify things that will make our lives, or the lives of those around us, a little better. It doesn't have to be earth-shaking or life-changing. It doesn't have to start on January 1st. But when you find yourself saying, "Wouldn't it be nice if..." Take the time to see if there is some little thing you could do to nudge things in a better direction. Everyone sees things differently, and not everyone will act to make the same change. But a lot of people making many little improvements will make things better for everyone. Whatever your Politics, I believe that one resolution that would benefit everyone would be: "Get involved and stay involved."

Mike Webber, President, Pro Tem West Walker Civic Association

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

2018-2019 OFFICERS

President Pro Tem Mike Webber 773.539.8346

Vice President Pro Tem Davor Engel dengel@studiode.com

Vacant

Secretary Treasurer

Sue Gregoire

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER Dorie Westmeyer

CAPS COORDINATOR

LizMills@sbcglobal.net

Send crime concerns to Ed Gardner at westwalkercrimealerts@gmail.com

WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Chris & Mauve Altman Carol Barry Eric Bauer Beverly Birch Tori Bohannon & John Lopez Alexander & Max Engel Jim Medd Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews

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EDITOR

Lee Samsami Stein

WEST WALKER EMAIL BLASTS Anne Marie O'Kelley

The West Walker Wire is published monthly September through June by the

West Walker Civic Association. All story ideas, text, and ads are due a week before the first of the month. Submit ideas and text to: west walker wire@yahoo.com.

Please include a phone number in case we need to follow up with you. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space and content. For information on advertising, please contact Shannan Bunting at WWWire@solsticepr.com.

News From Irving Park Lutheran Church

Gentle Yoga at IPLC on January 10 and 17 Designed for seniors or anyone wanting a slower paced exercise program, with poses done in a chair or standing near a chair, using it as a prop. The poses can improve posture, flexibility, strength, breathing and mood, and can reduce stress. Participants are requested to contribute \$10 per session. For more information, contact the instructor, Janet Misbach: jgmisbach@gmail.com The classes will take a break after January 17th, resuming again in March.

Women's Volleyball Seeks a Few Players Join the IPLC women's volleyball team! Current players include Dana Buetow, Erin & Ruth Bouman, and various subs-if you would like to relive high school memories on the court and have fun join us! The season runs from January through mid March. All games are on Sunday afternoons at 2 pm or 3:15pm at St. James Lutheran, 2101 W. Orchard Avenue. For more information, contact Pastor Bouman erinbouman@sbcglobal.net

An Odd Couple, Jonah & Ruth: Lessons for our Fractured World." Sunday Bible Study at IPLC Beginning January 6 through February 24 our topic is "An Odd Couple, Jonah & Ruth: Lessons for our Fractured World." The book of Jonah uses the character of an outrageous excuse of a prophet to show the leaders and people of Judah just how foolish they looked with their insistence on isolationism and the exclusion of "the other." It asks the question, "If God loves the outsider, shouldn't we?" The book of Ruth is an idealized story of what life would look like if God's people treated each other with his loving-kindness-insiders and outsiders alike. A key understanding in Ruth is that God uses these acts of the loving-kindness of people to demonstrate that which God gives to all, whether they realize it or not. Join us as we delve into these two treasures of the Old Testament. Sunday mornings from 9:15 - 10:15 am in the Chapel.

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

REAL ESTATE NEWS



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

What Can We Expect in 2019?

Happy New Year neighbors. Here's what economists are forecasting.

- 1. Chicago **price projections are mixed** Realtor.com projects a 1.9% decrease. Zillow projects a 6.1% increase.
- 2. Market time will increase It may take longer to sell your home.
- 3. Mortgage rates could rise to 5.5% A \$300,000 loan could cost an extra \$180 month.
- 4. **45% of home buyers will be Millennials (22-37 years old)** 37% will be Gen Xers (38-53 years old). And 17% will be Baby Boomers (54-72 years old).
- 5. New construction homes will be more competitively priced. However volume of new construction homes will decrease as land and construction costs are increasing. *Sources: KCM, Realtor.com, Zillow*

So what does it all mean? We are moving to a new normal. Home prices will stay strong but we are moving slightly toward a buyer versus seller market. Sellers need to price their home competitively or it may sit on the market.

If you are thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to get the highest sale price, please call me for a free home consultation.

Call Dorie, Your Neighborhood Realtor 847-989-4870

Dorie Westmeyer

charles rutenberg realty 847-989-4870 · Dorie@DorieWestmeyer.com

CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723 Meeting December 19, 2018

Attendees: Commander Pontecore, CAPS officers Hamid and Zander, Captain Hoffman, 2 Beat Officers, Gail Beitz, 39th Ward, Scott, 35th Ward Superintendent

Commander Susan Moss has been transferred to Area Central and the 17th District has a new leader, Commander Ronald Pontecore, Jr. He was most recently the commander of the 8th District (Chicago Lawn). Pontecore is a 27-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department.

The meeting began with a somber reminder of the recent deaths of two officers killed on duty when they were struck by a Metra train.

Officer Zander gave a report on recent arrests, including an arrest of four people for auto theft. In 60% of car thefts, the auto is running with no one inside. The Commander warned that police will start ticketing cars that are warming up, unoccupied. The Tactical Team made 3 gun arrests last month. The officers reminded residents that if they are making a Craigslist or Facebook purchase or sale, make sure they are doing it in a safe place. The police station is one option.

A resident asked what a Shot Spotter is and whether the 17th District has one. According to the Commander, a Shot Spotter picks up the audio of gunfire and sends it to California where the exact location of the shot is dispatched to the appropriate district. This technology is not currently in use in the 17th District, but CPD is talking about using it in more districts.

A resident asked about a recent shooting in the 3700 block of Montrose. There was a suspected robbery gone wrong that resulted in a shooting in the alley between Ridgeway and Lawndale, just south of Montrose. The Commander had visited that site earlier in the day and there are plans to place a pod camera in that area to monitor suspected gang activity.

Officer Zander warned of a "Gypsy Ruse" being used to gain access to the homes of senior citizens, which are then robbed. The criminals pose as city or utility workers or construction workers who claim to have materials left over from a recently completed job and want to

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4034 N. Harding



4249 N. Hamlin



West Walker Homes SOLD!

4239 N. Ridgeway



4017 N. Harding



4137 N. Pulaski

"I cannot speak highly enough of Dorie. She was with me through the whole process of selling my current home and buying a new one. She took the initiative to do extensive research on both neighborhoods, post ads for both the sale and my search for a new house, and provide critical guidance on the process & price negotiations. She sold my house within a week of listing and at the price I wanted. Her knowledge of the neighborhoods was invaluable and she constantly went above and beyond to make the process easier for me." — Jake Gerstein

I love our neighborhood & have lived here for over 20 years. If you're thinking of selling in the next 24 months, and want to get the highest sale price, please call me for a free home consultation.



Dorie Westmeyer Realtor®, MBA, ADPR Your Neighborhood Realtor

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45th Ward Report



Recycle Your Christmas Tree Jan. 5 - Jan. 19

Beginning Saturday, Jan. 6 and continuing through Saturday, Jan. 19, Chicago residents can begin to recycle their Christmas tree at any of the city's 25 locations.

The city has once again partnered with the Chicago Park District to provide residents with this free service. Trees can be dropped off anytime during normal business hours. Free mulch will also be available on a first come, first served basis starting Jan. 7 at Lincoln Park, Margate Park, Mt. Greenwood Park, North Park Village, Warren Park, and the Forestry Site.

The closest recycling locations for 45th Ward residents are at Norwood Park, 5801 N. Natoma, and Portage Park, 4100 N. Long.

Only live/natural trees free of flocking will be accepted (this means no garland or wreaths). All trees must have any tinsel, ornaments, lights, and strands removed in order to be recycled. Any plastic bags used to transport the tree to a drop off location must also be removed.

A map of all drop off locations is available to view on my website at http://ward45.org/2019-christmas-treerecycling/.

> SAVE THE DATE Saturday, February 23 West Walker Winter Social Location TBD!

Dorsi Thillens Finnegan President

dthillens@thillens.com 773.279.5768 direct 847.702.4444 mobile

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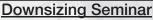
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Stephanie Cutter



Moving from a home you have lived in for decades can be a long and overwhelming process. Join us to learn some tips, meet some great resources, and hear from others who have been through it!

> Speakers include: **Dawson Renovation** Everything But The House Stephanie Cutter Local Residents who have recently downsized.

March 23rd, 2019 1:00-3:00pm St. Viator Elementary School Recreation Center Lounge (2nd Floor) 3644 N Kedvale Ave

Go to stephaniecutter.com/downsizing for more information and to register for the event!



STEPHANIE CUTTER GROUP Coldwell Banker (c) 312-965-9600 stephanie@stephaniecutter.com

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News and Events from Carlson Community Services



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

the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. Carlson Community Services January 2019 Wire

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Horn and Organ Recital

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a free concert featuring Mary Jo Neher, horn and Joseph Burgio, organ on Sunday, February 17th at 2:00 p.m. In a unique pairing of horn and organ, Neher and Burgio's program will include the Corelli Sonata in G Minor, Saint Saens' Adagio and Andante as well as music for solo organ and unaccompanied horn.

Mary Jo Neher was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska and left the last frontier after high school to pursue her love of music. While working on her Bachelor of Music in Boston, Mary Jo had the pleasure of performing with the Boston Philharmonic, Masterworks Chorale, and the New Bedford Symphony. Since moving to Chicago in 1999 she has been an active freelance and chamber musician, performing in the Chicagoland area with Ars Viva!, Lake Forest Symphony, Elgin Symphony, Music Theater Works (formerly Light Opera Works), Chicago Arts Orchestra. Illinois Philharmonic. New Philharmonic. Chicago Philharmonic, Midwest Mozart Festival and the Chicago Sinfonietta. Mary Jo has performed in Miami, Florida with the New World Symphony Orchestra and has toured across Japan with the Pacific Music Festival where she worked with Academy Award winning composer, Tan Dun. She has performed for Fine Arts audiences as part of Uber Horn Quartet and the Polykrome Brass Ensemble.

Joseph Burgio earned a Bachelor of Science in music education and organ at Nazareth College and a Master of Arts in pastoral music, awarded jointly by Colgate-Rochester Divinity School and the Eastman School of Music. He has performed in both the Summer Sunday and Advent Vesper series at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral, and presented workshops for the Hymn Society, which named him a Lovelace Scholar. He has served in music ministry in parishes in Syracuse, Norfolk and Chicago.



The Magic After-School Place celebrated the holidays with a gingerbread contest and talent show. Pictured are the winning gingerbread architect and his tower and the boys demonstrating their break dance skills.



The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Admission to the concert is free of charge, although donations are gladly welcomed. A reception with the artists follows the concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. The concerts are relaxed and casual, lasting about one hour. Perfect for families!

The final concert of the 2018/2019 season will be held on Sunday, March 24th at 2:00 pm and will feature John Ling and his mariachi orchestra. For more information, contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766.

MAP Program Holds 6th Annual Talent Show

The Magic After-School Place (MAP) held its sixth annual talent show on December 20th. The acts included comedy, hula hoop tricks, singing and dancing. Family members and friends were amazed at the talent on display!

The talent show was the culmination of eight weeks of dance instruction by Chicago Loves Dance, part of the

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News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt



Coordinators Debby Fries (front row second from left) and Sara Yoest (in Pantry t-shirt) prepare volunteers to help clients in the toy room during the Pantry's holiday program in December.

Pantry Holiday Program a Success!

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry would like to thank everyone-volunteers, donators community organizations and businesses-who helped make our holiday program on December 19th a big success!

We provided a holiday meal to more than 250 families (about 950 people in the 60641 and western half of 60618 ZIP codes) along with toys, books and stocking stuffers for their kids. In all, more than 250 toys were given to 116 families along with countless stocking stuffers, books and hats/gloves and blankets.

Due to the community's generosity, after the program we were able to donate 57 toys to the Magic After-School program run by Carlson Community Services, three bags of toys to the Jesse Sherwood Elementary School in Englewood (288 students, 99% low income) and two bags of toys plus stocking stuffers to Lydia Home.

In all, donations allowed us to distribute more than 700 toys, games, books and articles of clothing to people in our neighborhood this holiday season! Special thanks to Sara Yoest and Debby Fries for their hard work in collecting toys and running the toy room.

Thank you to St. Edward High School (4343 W Sunnyside Ave) for running a food drive for the Pantry in December that brought in several carloads of food. They gave points for donations, with extra points for those items we are in special need of for our holiday program. Thanks also to the group from VSA Partners who volunteered at the Pantry for our final regular distribution of the year on December 14th. They performed a variety of duties and kept things moving during our last regular distribution of the year, which was one of our busiest of the year



The results of a food drive by St. Edwards High School were delivered to the Pantry in December by Fr. Dominiz Clemente (right) and staff members (l-r) Barbara Carabio, Caitlin Summon and Ken Karbowiak.

with more than 140 families served.

We appreciate everyone in the West Walker neighborhood who supports our efforts and helps us to meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."



Volunteers from VSA Partners worked a variety of stations during their visit to the Pantry in December.



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

Chicago Bibles & Books

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"But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, Ephesians 2:4

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

> City Hall, Room 300 121 North LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60602 (312) 744-7242

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MAP program's arts enrichment. The kids got to show off what they learned -- hip hop for the girls and break dancing for the boys.

MAP serves 60 kids from Murphy and Belding schools, 65% of whom come from low-income households. MAP's affordable tuition and engaging programming keeps kids safe and offers peace of mind to working parents.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee and the Magic After-School Place are programs of Carlson Community Services, a 501c3 non-profit. Its mission is to connect the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through culture, education and service. To learn more, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org.



Carlson's annual Soup & Bread fundraiser will be held on Sunday, February 10th.

Save the Date for Soup & Bread! Soup & Bread for

Carlson Community Services will be held on Sunday, February 10th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church gym, 4057 N. Harding Ave. Up to 10 satisfying soups from local restaurants and neighborhood cooks will be served along with delicious breads

to benefit Carlson's programs. The planning committee is forming now – if you'd like to volunteer to help or have a soup to suggest, contact Liz Mills at lizmills@ carlsoncommunityservices.org.





Continued from page 4

perform work for cheap. Don't open the door. Ask to see identification.

The Commander took some time to spell out his priorities for the 17th District. He has created a new District Level Strategy which prioritizes areas of concentrated crime with a dedicated Tactical Team. The current area is Cullom to Ainslie, Hamlin to Spaulding. When crime decreases, the boundaries will change. The commander has made changes in the Tac Team leadership and is making greater use of officers on bikes. "I'm going to make the 17th District a safer place than it was when I got here," he said. There will be more arrests and more traffic stops.

The CAPS officers encouraged residents to participate in the Court Advocacy program. Also, they are looking for a Beat Facilitator for Beats 1722 and 1723. For more information about either, contact the CAPS office at the contact info below.

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 are held on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. 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.

Here's how to reach or follow the 17th District CAPS office. Facebook: www.facebook.com/CAPS.017 Twitter: @ChicagoCAPS17 Email: CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org Phone: 312-742-4588 Event Calendar: http://home.chicagopolice.org

Liz Mills, CAPS Coordinator

WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! Here's a list of neighbors who have joined or renewed as of January:

> Pulaski Cleaners Rich McDermott & Jane Nagle Rich Reschke & Melanie Duggan



You can also pay your WWCA dues with either PayPal or a credit card

at the West Walker website

(www.westwalker.org)!

It's Membership Renewal Time!

WWCA MEMBERSHIP runs May 1 through April 30 annually. Your dues help fund a variety of items:

Ten issues per year of the *West Walker Wire*, delivered to residences and businesses in West Walker, free of charge

The annual community garage sale

Area non-profit groups like the Irving Park Community Food Pantry, Independence Park, and Independence Library.

Free e-mail updates on neighborhood events and area crime, and a LOT MORE!

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

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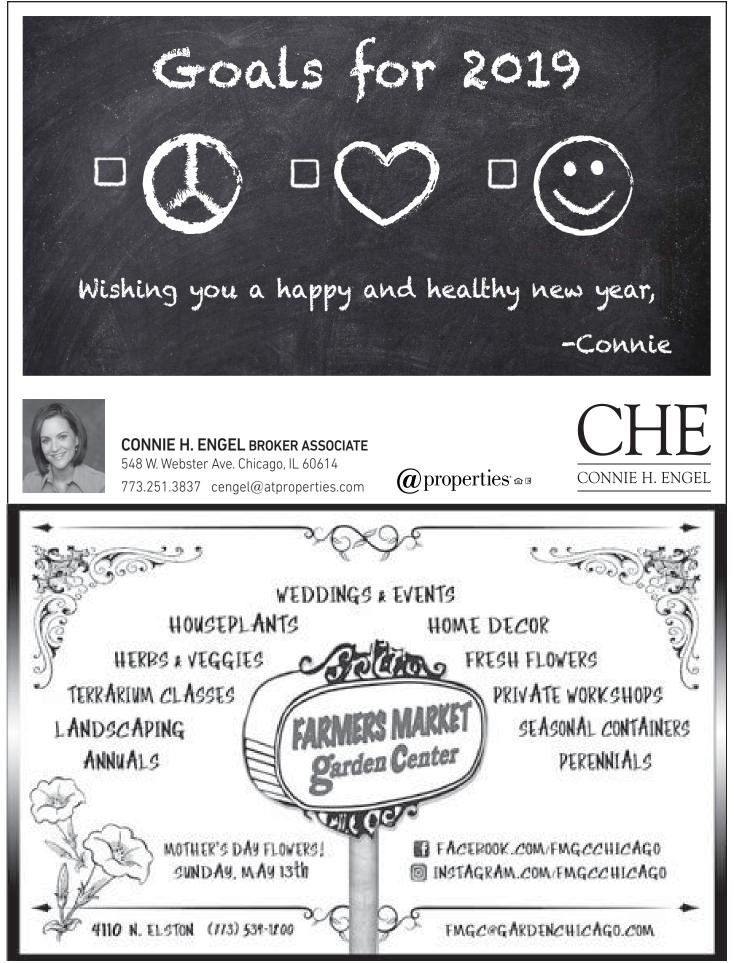


Follow West Walker Civic Association on Facebook!

Bring your 2018-2019 dues to our next WWCA meeting. Or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019			
Check one:	FAMILY \$15	BUSINESS \$20	SENIOR \$5
NAME: (Please print. Write	your name as you would like	e it to appear in the West Walker V	Vire.)
ADDRESS:			
PHONE:			
Please note your e	-mail address if you would lik	e to receive e-mail updates:	
E-MAIL:			
Mail or drop	5 15	able to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASS s to: Sue Gregoire, 4106 N Spring	





40th District State Representative



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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.

Online: <u>www.staterep40.com</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/andraderep40</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/IL40thDistrictJaimeAndrade</u>