

WESTWALKER ——WIRE——

NOVEMBER 2018

www.westwalker.org

GIPNA Wine & Cheese Party Saturday, November 10



Join us on Saturday from 4-7 pm at the Independence Tap, located at 3932 W. Irving Park Road.

Come for the wine, raffle, food, silent auction and mingling with your neighbors - perhaps meet some new neighbors!

Come and bid on great Silent Auction prizes like Bulls Courtside tickets, a membership to the Museum of Contemporary Art, tickets to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and many more incredible items. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$45

All proceeds benefit the Independence Park Farmers Markets and John B. Murphy Elementary School.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed., Nov. 14 • 6:30 pm Community Input Meeting Former Sears Site., 4035 N. Cicero See story on page 8.

Tues., Nov. 20 • 7:00 pm WWCA General Meeting Latvian Community Ctr., 4146 N. Elston

Wed., Nov. 21 • 7:00 pm Beats 1722-1723 CAPS Meeting 17th District Community Room 4650 N. Pulaski

Sun., Dec. 9 • 2:00 pm IPFAC Presents Bear Williams Blues Band Christmas Show Irving Park Lutheran Church 4100 N. Harding Free admission, donations welcome

GIPNA member Pat Clark advertises the Wine & Cheese Party at the Independence Park Farmers Market in October. Photo by Lee S. Stein

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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

Dear Neighbor,

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE LAST WEST WALKER GENERAL MEETING on November 20, 2018. The meeting will be held at the Latvian Center, 4146 N Elston Avenue, at 7:00 pm. This is our last meeting until March, 2019.

Joining us on November 20 will be Mike Quigley's Congressional Aide, Jessica Merritt, to provide updates on Congressmen Quigley's activities and agenda, as well as to answer your questions. This should be a great postelection opportunity.

Our library is moving forward. We will be providing on update on the facility, planned opening of the library and residential components.

HOPE TO SEE YOU.

Mike Webber President, pro tem, WWCA

News From Hands to Help Ministries

This month Hands to Help is especially thankful for all who help us throughout the year! We could not help as many people stay in their homes or those who need assistance in our own neighborhood without you.

To continue this work, we are asking that you remember us on **Giving Tuesday, November 27,** with a financial gift to Hands To Help. You can donate at our website handstohelpministries.org under the "TAKE ACTION" tab in the upper right corner. You can also help by adding us to your Amazon Smile account where we will receive a portion of your purchases.

Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving!



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

Secretary Treasurer Vacant

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 Beverly Birch Eric Bauer Joe Crowley Martha Donnelly Alexander & Max Engel Jim Medd Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese Tricia Ramirez & Mike Hawlitzky Rick & Melanie Reschke Max Webber

> **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.

45th Ward Report



Do Not Blow Leaves Into the Streets Please remember that it is illegal to blow leaves into the city streets. When leaves are disposed of in our streets, it clogs the drains and makes it so street sweepers cannot effectively clean the streets.

Additionally, unless Streets and

Sanitation witnesses a lawn care contractor blowing leaves into the street, a homeowner can be held responsible for the actions the contractor takes.

Instead, please bag leaves and yard debris for the Department of Streets and Sanitation to collect. Residents can call 311 or my office at 773-28-4545 to request separate bagged yard waste collection service April through November.

News from Irving Park Lutheran Church

Confirmation Sunday Nov. 11th After two years of study, service, and growth in community, on November 11th ninth graders Ruth Bouman, Tommy Crook, and Kiera Gettings with affirm their faith (the rite of Confirmation). They'll have special leadership roles in worship that day and we'll have a cake reception afterwards.

Free Blood Pressure Screening at Irving Park Lutheran Church Nov. 18th Newly retired from a nursing career of more than 30 years, Vivian Shin has volunteered to serve as IPLC Parish Nurse. She'll do blood pressure screening before and after worship on Nov. 18th and be introduced in worship. She is also available for conversation or home visits, offering input and assistance with various health needs, and/or to be a liaison with providers as members negotiate medical issues, prescriptions, and treatment. For more information, contact Service Team leader Sandra Stumme or Pastor Bouman.

Hanging of the Greens Saturday Dec. 1st 10:00 am Irving Park Lutheran Church invites everyone to join us Saturday, December 1st at 10 am for the "Hanging of the Greens"–getting the church ready for Advent and Christmas. This is a great activity for families–bring children and grandchildren! There's beautiful, meaningful decorations to arrange and plenty of treats to share. Irving Park Lutheran Church is located at 3938 W. Belle Plaine.

REAL ESTATE NEWS



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

How's the Real Estate Market?

With the stock market posting dramatic swings up and down, a lot of people are asking – how's the real estate market? Here's what experts are saying.

- **1.** Chicago home prices are up **4.3%** in **2018**. Zillow projects Chicago will be up 7.1% by August 2019.
- 2. Interest rates are rising. Mortgage rates are up ½ point to almost 5% and may go higher. It's a good time to buy.
- **3.** Chicago market is undervalued. Of 20 financial markets surveyed, in September 2018 UBS Group says Chicago is the only undervalued real estate market.
- **4.** Cost of owning a home is going up due to rising interest rates, property taxes & federal tax code changes that limit deductions.
- **5.** Chicago market is more affordable. Chicago home prices are more in line with incomes making it easier to get into a home.

Watch next month for an update on our West Walker market.

Want to know how much your home is worth? 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 October 17, 2018

Thank you to Dorie Westmeyer for attending and taking notes at the October meeting.

Attendees: Commander Moss, CAPS officer Mary Jane Parks, Officer Diaz, Officer Lopez, Ald. Rosa and staff member, 13 neighbors.

Old Issues: A neighbor asked about recurrent gang conflict near Lawrence. Commander Moss said there is a conflict between Conservative Vice Lords and Spanish Gangster Disciples. She said police need to catch the gangs in the act. Calls come in spurts when there is a shooting then there's usually retaliation. Next the commander gave a report on recent arrests: 1 arrest for robbery; 1 arrest of known robbers who committed 3 burglaries and 1 robbery; arrest in 3400 block of Sunnyside for possession of controlled substance; arrest in 4300 block of Kimball for possession of controlled substance.

Commander Moss then discussed crime statistics from September 1 to October 17 this year versus last year for beat 1722 and beat 1723. For beat 1723, which covers all of West Walker: vehicle thefts - 10 this year (8 last year), burglaries - 8 this year (10 last year), robbery - 5 this year (11 last year).

New Issues & Questions: In response to a neighbor's question, Commander Moss said we gained 20 officers and then lost 20 officers due to attrition, promotions. We are down officers and Commander Moss has asked for more. Concerning equipment for officers, she said all officers ranked Sergeant and below carry a Taser (which is checked nightly) and wear a body camera. Some of the officers are trained on carbine rifles. The 17th district has received 10 new cars since February.

A neighbor asked the Commander what her goals are. She responded she wants to see crime reduced and prevent crime from neighboring districts moving in. She'd also like to reduce gang crimes. The 17th is getting more technology to help meet those goals.

Announcements: Alderman Rosa announced that Ward Night is Monday, November 5th from 5-7 pm in the 17th District Community Room. November 15th at Murphy School there is a Community Meeting about a proposed new Portillo's at Addison & Kimball.

Continued on page 7

It's a Sellers' Market in West Walker!



ALL SOLD - 4015 & 4017 N. Harding



4249 N. Hamlin



4239 N. Ridgeway



4034 N. Harding

"I highly recommend Dorie Westmeyer to handle all of your real estate transactions. She listened closely to my needs, developed a comprehensive marketing plan & implemented the plan. Her experience & strong negotiation skills were critical in getting my house sold. She was very responsive during the process & definitely is a great partner for any buyer or seller. I totally trust Dorie & will definitely use her services again in the future. Thank you Dorie!!!!!" – Cathy Lawler

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

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



News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

Pantry's Holiday Distributions Need Donations

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry has begun gathering donations for its two holiday distributions, in November (for Thanksgiving) and on December 19th (for the holidays). We are asking for contributions of funds, food and fun (i.e., books and toys) to make the season brighter for those in our community who need a helping hand during the holiday season.

In November, we provide clients during our regular weekly distributions with additional meat and trimmings for a Thanksgiving dinner. On December 19th, we hold a special distribution at which clients receive the makings for a full holiday dinner and can take home a gift for each of their children, along with a book and stocking stuffer.

For these special distributions, we are especially in need of juice, stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned yams and vegetables, instant potatoes, cake mixes, Jell-O and pumpkin-pie filling.

We typically give out about 400 toys to children (up to 12 years old). For some, it will be the only gift they receive. We especially need gifts for older children (more than 10), particularly boys. Soccer balls and basketballs are popular options.

We also often run out of books for all ages early in the day. Older boys enjoy biographies, sports and other nonfiction books.

Unwrapped new toys and food donations can be brought to the Pantry at the Irving Park United Methodist Church (3801 N. Keeler Ave.) on Wednesday mornings (9 to noon) or on Tuesday evening, Nov. 13th (6 to 7:30 p.m.). Toys only also can be dropped off at Old Irving Brewing Co. (4419 W. Montrose Ave.) or the Linnemeyer front porch at 3822 N. Tripp Ave. Local businesses also will have drop-off boxes; please check our Facebook page for locations.

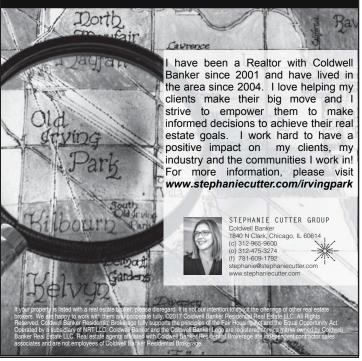
The deadline for contributing toys is Friday, December 14th. Volunteers are needed to collect toys, organize the toy room, and help with the toy distribution on December 19th. For information, contact Sara Yoest at sara.yoest74@gmail.com.



Dozens of neighborhood volunteers helped prepare the Pantry's Toy Room during the Tuesday night setup in 2017. If you would like to donate or participate to the program contact Sara Yoest at sara. yoest74@gmail.com Photo by Irving Park Food Pantry

Thank you to the volunteers from MB Bank who volunteered in September through the MB on the Block program. We appreciate everyone's help and support to ensure we can continue to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."

Stephanie Cutter



News and Events from Carlson Community Services



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

the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service.



Ed White, Pete Gettings and Aldo Naris, the winners of Carlson Community Services' 1st annual golf outing.

Carlson Hosts Successful 1st Annual Golf Outing

Thanks to the golfers and hole sponsors who made Carlson Community Services' first annual golf outing a success! Carlson teamed up with the Czechoslovak Heritage Museum to host the event at Maple Meadows Golf Course in Wood Dale on September 11th. Pete Gettings, Aldo Naris and Ed White were the

winners, each winning a seat at Carlson's Trivia Night. Hole Sponsors included Fish Guy, Swedish Covenant Hospital, Wintrust Bank, Grey Sage, Paul Greenslade Agency, Johanna Zorn, Helen Lira and Melanie Zech. Shout out to Carlson Board Member Mike Jordan for organizing the outing. The event raised more than \$2,000 for Carlson's neighborhood programs. See you on the greens next year!



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



Bear Williams and his band will perform a Christmas show on December 9th at Irving Park Lutheran church as part of the Fine Arts Concert Series.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Bear Williams Band Holiday Show

Blues and Americana roots artist Bear Williams will bring his blues band to the West Walker neighborhood for a special Christmas show as part of the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series. The Bear Williams Band will perform on Sunday, December 9th at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concert will feature Bear's original songs along with bluesy versions of familiar Christmas songs.

Bear, who also has performed as Larry Kimpel, was raised in Chicago and spent 25 years in Los Angeles touring and recording with musicians ranging from Mavis Staples and the Staple Singers to Anita Baker. His early influences include blues legends Howlin' Wolf, Robert Johnson and R.L. Burnside. For more information about Bear and to purchase his recently released album, Waters of Love, visit bearwilliamsmusic.com.

Other concerts in the series include Mary Jo Neher, horn and Joe Burgio, organ on February 17th and John Ling and his mariachi orchestra on March 24th. All concerts are at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concerts are free of charge, but donations are gladly welcomed. A reception with the artists will be held after each concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. Dates and programs are subject to change. For more information, contact Liz Mills at lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org.

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.

Continued from page 4

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, November 21, 2018 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.

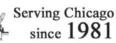
Liz Mills, CAPS Coordinator





We have children's Bibles, and Bibles in different languages such as English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, German, French, Arabic and many more.

Chicago Bibles & Books 3931 W. Irving Park Rd. 773.478.0550 Monday to Saturday 10-6 www.biblesandbooks.com



Know Someone Who Wants to Live in Our Neighborhood?





Come see 4334 N. Lawndale – For Sale! Move-in condition, 3 bedroom, 2½ bath with many updates including new roof, siding, kitchen, bath..... Contact Dorie for details!



Dorie Westmeyer Realtor®, MBA, ADPR Your Neighborhood Realtor

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

Veterans Day Art Exhibition

November 11th is Veteran's Day. Pay a visit to the National Veteran's Art Museum to reflect on the sacrifices our veterans have made to protect our country.

On Saturday, November 10, come to the exhibition reception for CreatiVets from 4 to 6 pm. View the artwork of vets who participated in a 3-week introduction to art making.

On Sunday, November 11, the museum will be open from 12 - 4 pm to observe all of its exhibitions. NVAM is located at 4041 N Milwaukee in Chicago.

What Do You Want at the Former Sears Six Corners Location?

The developers for the former Six Corners Sears will be listening to your suggestions and recommendations at a community planning meeting to be held 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 14, at the former Sears site at 4035 N. Cicero.

We have partnered with the Alderman John Arena to host an input session where community members will be able to provide direct input to the development team of Seritage Growth Properties/Tucker Development Corp. This will also provide the developers an opportunity to introduce themselves to the community.

It is too early in the process for the developer to present a proposal. Instead, this meeting will be your opportunity to tell the developers how you think this important site can serve the community.

Of course, we are aware that a concept plan did appear on a real-estate broker's website. Those plans, however, were just concepts shopped around to tenant prospects. They have not been vetted nor codified by the city's planning department nor the community. As the Alderman has said, the site remains a blank slate.

We urge you to attend this meeting to share your thoughts.



Schurz High School

Schurz High School is seeking professionals to speak at it's Career Day!

If you are looking for

a way to give back to your commuity in a simple, yet meaningful, way here is your opportunity.

A student survey showed specific interest in the following careers (these are not the only careers that were suggested, there were just too many): Nurse, Doctor, Psychology/Counseling/Social Work, Veterinarian, Lawyer, Business, Journalism, Engineering/Computer Science, Auto Mechanic, Law Enforcement (especially anyone involved in forensics), Military, Firefighter/EMT

One of the most important aspects of this program is to expose students to a variety of careers in addition to giving them the opportunity to connect with adults on a personal level.

The event will take place on November 14th. Plan to be at the school from 8:00am to 9:30am. Please sign up ahead of time. Fill out the Google form (go to: http:// bit.ly/SchurzCareerDay) if you are interested and we will contact you for more details. Please feel free to share this opportunity with friends, family and co-workers.

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.



Follow West Walker Civic Association on Facebook!





Dorsi Thillens Finnegan President		WWCA Members	
dthillens@thillens.com 773.279.5768 direct 847.702.4444 mobile		Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! Here's a list of neighbors who have joined or renewed as of November:	
	F-3-0	Kathy	Wyant
THILLENS.COM 888.539.4446	CAGISTICS	Bonilla	Family
www.bebartarchitecture.com Margaret Laurino Alderman 39th Ward	Barry Bebart, AIA Architect Licensed Architect Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin House Expansion, Renovation Remodeling. Kitchen, Bath, Deck. Commercial, Interior. Commercial, Office, Interior, New Construction. Signage 23 years of experience in Chicago. 773-844-4580 barry@bebartarchitecture.com	 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! 	
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594 Ward39@cityofchicago.org City Hall, Room 300 121 North LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60602 (312) 744-7242		You can also pay your WWCA dues with either PayPal or a credit card at the West Walker website (www.westwalker.org)!	
Bring your 2018-201	9 dues to our next WWCA meet	ing on November 20, or mail i	n the application below.
	ER CIVIC ASSOCIAT		
Check one:	FAMILY \$15	BUSINESS \$20	SENIOR \$5
NAME: (Please print. Write y	our name as you would like it to a	appear in the West Walker Wire.)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ADDRESS:			
PHONE:			I
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			





November 2018

West Walker Civic Association

40th District State Representative







773 267 2880 • staterep40@gmail.com • 3007 W. Irving Park Rd, Suite A-Front



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>