



WEST WALKER WIRE

DECEMBER 2021

www.westwalker.org

News From Irving Park Community Food Pantry

By Craig Shutt

Pantry Providing Holiday Meals

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is providing its clients in the 60641 and 60618 ZIP codes with a full holiday meal this month, including meat, stuffing, vegetables, potatoes and desserts. This is in addition to its regular array of groceries during our four distributions this month (each Wednesday morning and 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14th; we are closed December 22nd and 29th).

This year, we are asking for monetary donations via PayPal at our website, www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org, or a check to Irving Park Food Pantry, 4256 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago IL 60618 rather than direct food contributions. We appreciate your understanding and generosity while the pandemic makes food drives and deliveries more difficult.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our mission this year through all the challenges we all faced. We appreciate every donation of money and food and the help with our special programs for Easter baskets,

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From top: Dan O'Donohue, co-owner of Jet's on Kimball Ave., drops off a load of coats with volunteer Laura Barnes. Photo by Craig Shutt. Mimi Nguyen (left) and Anna Zolkowski Sobor prepare bags of Thanksgiving food to be given to Pantry clients. Photo by Craig Shutt

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sun., Dec. 12 • 2:00 pm

Gaudete Brass Quintet
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding Avenue
Free. Donations welcome.

Wed., Dec. 15 • 6:30 pm

Beat 1723 Hybrid CAPS Meeting
17th District Community Room
In person and on Zoom
4650 N. Pulaski
Zoom: email.CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org for a Zoom invitation

Happy Holidays!



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

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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Dear Neighbor,

Merry Christmas!

gëzuar Krishtlindja Shnorhavor Surb tsund

vesela koleđa shèng dàn kuài lè SELAMAT NATAL

Nadelek lowen Sretan Božić God Jul

veselē Vānoce **glædelig jul**

vrolijk Kerstfeest Joyeux Noël Giliotsavt, Shobas

fröhliche Weihnachten **Mừng Chúa Giáng Sinh**

kala christougenna hag molad saméa'h

KRISMAS KI SUBHKAMNA boldog karácsonyt

Buon Natale souksaan wan Christmas

merii kirisumasu SEUN-TAN CHU-KA-HAE-YO

Noela we piroz be **grečan božić** priecīgus Ziemassvētkus

SU KALĒDOMIS **Wesołych Świąt** un Crăciun fericit

VESELE VIANOCE **FELIZ NAVIDAD**

Stay Safe and Well

Mike Webber

WWCA President, Pro Tem

Independence Parka

by erica dreisbach

A person can get used to a lot of things, but i'm still not used to COVID



i'm not used to climate change, either



Another record hurricane season followed a record fire season and flood season ...

... but i AM getting used to not showering!



indyparka

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

2021-2022 OFFICERS

President Pro Tem Mike Webber
773.539.8346

Vice President Pro Tem Davor Engel
dengel@studiode.com

Secretary Vacant

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

Rachael Bild

Beverly Birch

Shannan Bunting

Tori Bohannon & John Lopez

Donnelly/Fabrini Family

Kotche Family

Gloria Lasley

Jim Medd

Mark Pascale & Susan Matthews

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

Will & Caitlin Poirier

Jeanne Pozy & Joel Reese

Rick & Melanie Reschke

Sue Trudeau & Tom Williams

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

Join us for Christmas Worship at Irving Park Lutheran Church: Sunday, December 19th - Children's Christmas Play at 10:30 am.

Christmas Eve Worship, Friday December 24th - Family Service 4:30 at pm, Festive Service at 10:00 pm.

Christmas Day Worship, Saturday December 25th - Worship at 10:30 am.

IPLC Gym Roof Replaced One of the larger repairs addressed by our Special Building Campaign this summer was replacement of the Gym roof. Initially we thought this project might wait until next spring, but this fall we found yet more leaks and, thankfully, a contractor who had materials on hand—helpful with current supply chain concerns. Moreover, prices for building materials continue to rise, so there's likely cost savings there, as well as savings on heating costs this winter, as insulation was also installed, along with the roof. With roofs it can be hard to see your money at work, but know that with this replacement we are investing in a sound future for a structure that strengthens community. Thank you to all who so generously supported the special building campaign, as well as our ongoing operations!

Hat & Mitten Tree Buy a new hat or pair of mittens and gloves and add them to the tree in the Fellowship Hall. They'll be distributed to recipients at the Irving Park Food Pantry. Deadline is Sunday Dec. 12th. Thanks!

Adult Bible Study: The Light Will Shine: A Study for Advent Discover fresh perspectives for the journey through Advent, to Christmas and beyond including John the Baptizer, The Fulfillment of All Promises, The Dawning of Day, and Shine, Jesus, Shine: Epiphany Day. Join us in the Chapel Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am.

Join the Choir for Christmas! Rehearsals Sunday Mornings 9:15 am How great is it to be worshipping inside! How great to have work being done on our building, ready for us to grow again! How great would it be to hear the choirs singing? The Chancel choir is reconvening for Christmas. Here's the plan. There will be rehearsals at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, plus one extra rehearsal later in December (which may include some "milk and cookies"). We will be wearing masks, and socially distancing. Hope to see you!

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

Is Winter a Good Time to Sell Your Home?

In Chicago, winter is usually not the best time to sell your home. It's cold out; it's the holiday season; and many buyers wait thinking there will be more homes for sale in the Spring.

But Covid has taken the seasonality out of home buying and selling in Chicago. Buyers have pent-up demand and are out looking and ready to buy. In fact, the last several homes I sold in our neighborhood in the last month all had multiple bids and sold within a week.

Here's why analysts think winter could be a good time to put your home on the market.

1. Incredibly low mortgage rates— Interest rates are at historic lows and buyers want to lock in a low rate. The lower rate allows them to afford more for a home.
2. There are estimates of 10-30% fewer homes for sale than last year. It's still a sellers' market.
3. Buyers aren't waiting until spring. ShowingTime tracks the number of appointments buyers are scheduling (showings). The number of showings is higher than it's been in the last few years.

Data shows "Buyer demand remains unusually strong going into this Winter"

Source: Realtor.com, KCM

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

November 17, 2021 - Hybrid Meeting Zoom and In-Person

In Attendance: Sgt. Debbie Iza, Community Organizer John Campos, Erika Wozniak from Ald. Nugent's Office (39th), Jessica from Ald. Rosa's office (35th), Vicko Alvarez from Rosanna Rodriguez's office (33rd)

John Campos reported on the top 10 crimes in Beats 1722 & 1723 for the past month. In 1723, which covers all of West Walker, the top crimes were Battery (22), theft (15) criminal damage (10), assault (9), motor vehicle theft, (9), criminal trespass (3).

Sgt. Iza discussed several incidents of shots fired in Beat 1723. On 10/27 shots were fired in the 3500 block of Sunnyside. The offender fired at a vehicle and fled in a white pick-up truck. The offender was a white male, 50-60 years old. On 10/20, in the 4300 block of Avers there was reckless firearm discharge. Shell casing were recovered. On 11/7, in the 4200 block of Monticello there were multiple reports of shots fired. On 11/15 at

1:00 pm an officer responded to shots fired and saw a muzzle flash. A SWAT team responded and an AR 15 was recovered. The offender is in custody.

Jessica from Ald. Rosa's office reported that their office is continuing to work with city departments on enforcement actions against buildings owned by Gary Carlson.

Erika Wozniak from Ald. Nugent's office reported new Ward office hours, which are Monday from 9 am to 7 pm, Tuesday through Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm, Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. Participatory budgeting is underway. Visit aldermannugent.com to vote. Repaving work on Pulaski is expected to be completed by 11/20.

Vicko Alvarez from Ald. Rodriguez's office reported that they are working in conjunction with the 35th Ward and the law department on properties owned by Gary Carlson. Visit 33rdward.org to vote Participatory Budgeting projects.

The 17th District is sponsoring an Angel Tree for the Salvation Army. There is a tree in the lobby with items that can be shopped for.

Residents and delivery drivers are reminded that with colder weather on the horizon, don't leave your car

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GatewayMontessoriSchool.org

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Neighborhood School News



St. Edward School

Save the Date: St. Edward School Open House, January 30, 2022, from 10:30 am to 1 pm.

Meet teachers and current

families, tour the campus and learn all that St. Edward School offers PK3-8th grade!

Congratulations!

The 7th grade girl's basketball team are the undefeated conference champions! Additionally, the 6th and 8th grade teams advanced to the playoff brackets. We are BIG RED proud of all our girls basketball teams this season!



Mark your calendar for this upcoming Community Event that benefits St. Ed's and gives you a night off from cooking! Thank you for your support!

Panda Express, Wednesday, December 15, All Day
2949 W. Addison St., Chicago. Show the flyer when ordering in person (retrieve on the St. Edward School website under Community Days) or order online and enter the promo code 326939 (orders can be placed in advance of the actual day).

St. Edward School celebrates 112 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade. Contact office@stedwardschool.com to schedule an in-person or Zoom tour with our principal. St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. For more information, visit www.stedwardschool.com or call the office at 773-736-9133 to learn more about our outstanding academic programs and extended care.

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school supplies, coats and holiday gifts. We also thank everyone who has volunteered their time and effort to help during this unprecedented year.

The number of our neighbors visiting the pantry has been rising in recent weeks, but we will always strive to ensure everyone receives food and other help each week. We appreciate your efforts to help us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

Paddy Mac's PUB & GRILL

Daily Specials (with purchase of a drink)

Specials price is for dine-in only

Monday: \$6 Paddy Mac Burger
Tuesday: \$5.50 Tacos (2), Open Mic @ 9 pm
Wednesday: Ribs: \$10 Half Slab / \$15 Full Slab
Thursday: 70¢ Wings of Fire, Trivia at 8 pm
Friday: \$10.75 All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry

Saturday & Sunday:

\$6.50 Grilled Cheese Deluxe Sandwiches

Each To Go item has an additional \$1 charge

BEER AND DRINK SPECIALS EVERYDAY

4157 N. Pulaski 773-279-9300

Please contact us at PaddyMacsChicago1@gmail.com for Party/Benefit Bookings



Like us on Facebook! Paddy Macs Chicago



News and Events from Carlson Community Services



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

Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit connecting

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Gaudete Brass Quintet, December 12, 2:00 pm



Gaudete Brass will perform in a free concert sponsored by Carlson Community Services on December 12th at 2:00 pm at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present the second concert in our 2021-2022 season on Sunday, December 12th at 2:00 pm. The annual holiday concert will feature the Gaudete Brass Quintet performing sacred and seasonal favorites. Musicians in the quintet are Charles Russell Roberts and Bill Baxtresser, trumpets; Natalie Douglass Grana, horn; Paul Von Hoff, trombone; and Scott Tegge, tuba. The group's name, Gaudete, means "rejoice" in Latin and the concert program will include joyful carols and arrangements of sacred songs that celebrate the season.

The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concert is free. Donations



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are always welcome! The date is subject to change. Please check our website or Facebook page for status updates. The church is spacious, so there is plenty of room to social distance! Masks are required.



Halloween fun at the Magic After-School Place!

Carlson Community Services connects the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org or contact Liz Mills at 773-398-6766 or lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org. Follow us on Facebook or sign up for our newsletters at carlsoncommunityservices.org if you'd like to stay informed about all that is happening!

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unattended and running. Turn off the vehicle and take the keys.

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 rely on the number of calls for service in determining the allocation of officers to a district. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m. in person at the 17th District, 4650 N. Pulaski and on Zoom. Email CAPS.017district@chicagopolice.org for a Zoom invitation. Remember to always lock your vehicle, never leave it running unattended and be on the lookout for scams involving Covid-19 cures and scams related to income tax refunds. Remember, the IRS will never call you on the phone.

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>

WWCA Members

THANK YOU! Here are neighbors who have joined or renewed as of November:

**Helena Lefkow
Marilynn Rubio**

Do You Have a Submission for the Wire?

The West Walker Wire welcomes ads and articles from all of you! The deadline is always seven days prior to the first of the month.

The next deadline is **December 23rd**. Please keep contributions down to about 1/2 page of news (or approximately 400 words). Submit to: Lee Samsami Stein, Wire Editor, west_walker_wire@yahoo.com. If you're interested in placing an ad, contact Shannan Bunting at WWWire@solsticepr.com.

You can also post your events on our online community calendar at: westwalker.org/calendar.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lee at west_walker_wire@yahoo.com.

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SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS! Let them know you saw them in the West Walker Wire.

You can pay your WWCA dues with either PayPal or a credit card at the West Walker website! www.westwalker.org

Mail in your 2021/2022 dues along with the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022

Check one: FAMILY \$15 ☐ BUSINESS \$20 ☐ SENIOR \$5 ☐

NAME: _____
(Please print. Write your name as you would like it to appear in the West Walker Wire.)

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Please note your e-mail address if you would like to receive e-mail updates:

E-MAIL: _____

Please make your check payable to: WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Mail or drop off your application and dues to: Sue Gregoire, 4106 N Springfield, Chicago, IL 60618



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Also
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DONATION DROP OFF: We are now collecting donations on behalf of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.
 M-F 10AM-4PM / 4184 N. Elston Ave Chicago, IL. 60618

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A Tradition of Excellence



- St. Edward is a Catholic elementary school established in 1910;
- Offering Preschool through 8th grade;
- Providing excellence in education - designated a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education for Exemplary Education in 2017;
- Offering outstanding Academics, Art, Music, STEM Curriculum, Physical Education, and Extra-curricular Activities to all grades.
- The school is cleaned and disinfected daily, social distance is maintained, and students and teachers wear masks at all times;
- We offer morning and afternoon extended care.
- Our outstanding Early Childhood Learning is less than the cost of local Day Care.
- Our graduates gain a firm foundation that will lead them to success and confidence as they begin their high school careers at highly selective private and CPS schools including St. Patrick, Notre Dame, DePaul College Prep, Lane Tech, Walter Payton College Prep, and Loyola Academy.

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Wishing You a
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 New Year!

-Connie



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