



WEST WALKER WIRE

May 2007

www.westwalker.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Elston Development

At the May 15th West Walker Civic Association general meeting, developers will present a proposal for two eight-unit condominium buildings to be built at 4154 N. Elston Ave., the site of the old C. Manny's restaurant.

The West Walker executive board is seeking input on whether to recommend approval of this project to Alderman Laurino. Please plan to attend this important meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Latvian Community Center, 4146 N. Elston Ave.

Shop 'Til You Drop at WWCA Garage Sale

Get out your comfy walking shoes and prepare to shop! Whether you're looking for vintage jewelry, baby equipment, old records or furniture, you are sure to find something of value at West Walker's 22nd Annual Garage and Yard Sale! The sale will be held Saturday, May 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event is held rain or shine so make sure to check the forecast and prepare accordingly (to shop or sell).

The sale will be advertised in the Chicago Tribune and Lerner Neighborhood newspapers. Signs will be posted on the main perimeter streets and 3,000 maps indicating the location of each registered address will be distributed the week of the sale. Plan to greet your neighbors and be prepared to see lots of extra people in the area.

Under city ordinance, every home with a garage sale must display a Garage Sale Permit. Applications for permits were published in the March and April issues of the Wire and were due May 12th. Call Bob Crowley at 267-1921 with any questions.

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 15 • 7:30 p.m.

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

May 19 • 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WWCA 22nd Annual Neighborhood
Garage and Yard Sale

May 20 • 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

GIPNA Fine Craft Fair
Independence Park Field House

June 2 • 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Villa Neighborhood Garage Sale
See page 6 for more information

June 3 • 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Farmer's Market
Independence Park

June 8 • 7:00 p.m.

Kids Dance Spring Recital
See page 5 for more information

June 17 • 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Farmer's Market
Independence Park

June 19 • 7:30 p.m.

WWCA General Meeting &
Officer Elections
Latvian Community Center
4146 N. Elston Ave.

June 9 to August 4

Library Summer Reading Program:
"Chicago City of Big Readers"

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

Dear Neighbor:

April was a great month for the West Walker Civic Association. Several committees worked on a number of projects that I know will bear fruit in the coming months. Here's a recap:

The Zoning Committee met again with the developer of a project proposed for 4154 N. Elston, the long-vacant, former C. Manny's Restaurant property. As a next step, the developer will present the proposal at our May meeting. Please see the cover story for details. This project could be a first step in the hoped for revitalization of Elston Ave. that our Vision foresees, so please come and share your opinion. Thanks to **Davor Engel**, **Evan Price**, **Mike Webber** and **Marvin Weinstein** for their contributions to this vitally important work.

The Vision Committee participated in a wonderful event sponsored by the City of Chicago called the Creative Chicago Expo. It was held on a beautiful Saturday afternoon and it afforded the Vision Committee the opportunity to talk with artists and arts organizations about West Walker and our vision for a cultural group on Elston Ave. Thanks to **Beth Tidmarsh**, **Johanna Zorn** and **Roberta Bole** for giving up their day to staff the expo; to **Pam Maremont** and **Marvin Weinstein** for creating a great marketing piece; and to **Dawn D'Amico** from the Pulaski Elston Business Association for her assistance.

In other Vision Committee news, work by **Andrea Terry**, **Eddie Torrez** and **Davor Engel** on a photographic survey of Elston Ave. is nearly complete. This monumental project will aid the committee and developers in identifying properties ripe for redevelopment while helping us to preserve the scale and proportion of the neighborhood.

I'd like to thank the folks who recently agreed to become committee chairs, lightening my load considerably. They are **Davor Engel**, chair of the Zoning Committee, **Anne Marie O'Kelley**, Safe Neighborhoods, and **Johanna Zorn**, Vision Committee. I'm grateful to them for taking on added responsibilities to their already busy lives.

Personal thanks to the anonymous donor who contributed \$500 to the WWCA in recognition of its work. It's nice to be appreciated! If only I had \$500 to give everyone who works so hard on behalf of West Walker!

A neighbor suggested assembling a list of things to do and see in West Walker, so on page 5 you'll find information on how to submit your ideas, to be published in the June Wire. We're looking for a broad range of ideas, from things to eat, to architectural details, to interesting plants or trees, historical sites, etc.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the 22nd Annual Garage Sale, surely the highlight of the West Walker year. Until then, enjoy Spring!

Liz Mills

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

2006-2007 OFFICERS

President	Liz Mills 267-9298
Vice-President	Evan Price 267-1740
Secretary	Mike Webber 539-8346
Treasurer	Bob Begecke 267-5942

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Eisenhart
Peg Klimek
Maria Menard
Dorie Westmeyer

West Walker Carrier Staff

Carol, Augie & Gabie Barry
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Mike Hawlitzky & Tricia Ramirez
Conni Heminover
Peg Klimek
Debbie Koller
Pat & Maura McKee
Maria Menard
John & Betsy Minor
Maureen Nelson
Melanie Reschke
Pat & Marianne Turk
Diane Zito

Editor

Beth Tighe

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 7.

Build-A-Bag Thanks

Congratulations to the Special Events Committee on the success of the 2nd Annual Build-A-Bag event to benefit the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. More than one hundred toiletry bags were delivered to the pantry, along with \$40 raised from the day's raffle. In a note from the food pantry, co-director Barb Cohn thanked us for our generosity to their clients.

Thanks to the following individuals for making the day a success!

- Helen Lira, Special Events Committee Chair
- Pat Eisenhart
- Tarin Kendrick
- Peg Klimek
- Patti Freko
- Tara McKee
- Liz Mills
- Dorie Westmeyer

And thanks to the Irving Park Lutheran Church and the Edward M. Marx Foundation for their support.



ABOVE: Gloria Lasley supervises daughter Faith and Maura McKee



ABOVE: Pat Eisenhart and Peg Klimek

BELOW: Patti Freko gets some help from junior volunteers Maura McKee and Grace Kendrick

BELOW: Faith Lasley checks out the shampoo donations



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WWCA – General Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2007 – 26 present

WWCA Vice-President Evan Price opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m..

The first order of business was a talk by Bill Dugan a/k/a The Fish Guy from the Fish Guy Market at 4423 N. Elston. Bill has been a West Walker resident for years and advocates fresh, sustainable food sources, both on land and sea. He has many weekly specials, including Family Wednesdays and Ten Buck Tuesdays (catch of the day at a discounted price). He even turns the store into a restaurant once a month called Wellfleet for a special and unusual night out. Read more at www.fishguy.com.

Jack Prikos of the Farmer's Market Garden Center was present to give a timely presentation on the Market and answer questions about gardening. Jack was very excited about improvements at the Market and their emphasis on quality products and outstanding service. He has cultivated relationships with local vendors to ensure quality plants of all types, including new varieties which have better disease and insect resistance. New personnel have also been brought in to handle landscape and design needs of the Market's customers. Jack is also a West Walker resident and encourages people to stop in at the Market at 4110 N. Elston.

Moises Correa of That Strip Joynt was also in attendance, Moises has recently moved to 4176 N. Elston from farther south on Elston. Moises has been in the wood stripping business for 30 years and was present to answer questions about his new location. He informed us that his wood restoration business catered mostly to home renovators and that he had plans to improve his newly purchased property at 4176 N. Elston with new equipment and fencing. He has been working with the Alderman's office to address any concerns and hopes to be a good neighbor.

The March General Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Bob Beigeske reported a general account balance of \$2,283.85. Bob also reported that West Walker received an anonymous donation of \$500.00, which is greatly appreciated.

Evan Price reported that the Vision Committee is coordinating West Walker's participation in the Creative Chicago Expo on April 21, which helps match neighborhoods with various artistic and creative people and organizations.

The second annual WWCA Build-A-Bag event to benefit the Irving Park Community Food Pantry is April 22 at the Lutheran Church gym.

Safe Neighborhoods has held a meeting to discuss traffic issues with Alderman Laurino's office and Commander Dulay. Further meetings are being scheduled to address neighborhood concerns regarding traffic and enforcement.

A second meeting has been set to discuss the 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.

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

The Mayor's Clean and Green Day is Saturday, May 5. Alderman Laurino's office can be contacted for more information and supplies, including compact florescent lights.

Nominations for West Walker officers will take place at the May General Meeting. Anyone interested in being nominated for an officer position, or helping on any of the committees should talk to any Board Member or Officer.

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West Walker's Favorite Things

In celebration of the West Walker Civic Association's 95th year, we'd like to do a list of 95 things to do and see in and around West Walker. We'll put the best 95 suggestions in the June Wire to give you the summer months to check them out. To get you started, here are five:

1. the Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave.
2. candy, ice cream, or a snack.
3. in the parkway near the alley at approximately 3855 W. Belle Plaine.
4. in West Walker. Built in 1901, it was the home of Edward Washburn, the sole selling agent of lots within William B. Walker's addition to Chicago (West Walker).
5. Open daily 10 – 1, and by appointment, 588-2085.

Send suggestions by June 1st with your name and a phone number or e-mail address to:

95 Things c/o Liz Mills
4115 N. Harding Ave.
Chicago, IL 60618

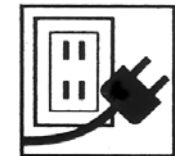
Or e-mail west_walker_wire@yahoo.com. The Wire editor reserves the right to edit suggestions.

St. Edward's Expanding Preschool

St. Edward's is happy to announce that it is expanding its preschool offering for the 2007-2008 school year. The program now includes a wider range of full-day options for three and four-year old students, including 2-full days (Tuesday and Thursday), 3-full days (Monday, Wednesday, Friday), as well as a five-day full-day option. A variety of half-day options are also available, but space is limited! Contact the school at 736-9133 for more information or registration materials.

Kids Dance Spring Dance Recital

Kids Dance is having their Spring Dance Recital "Kids Dance Musical" on Friday, June 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Irving Park Lutheran Church Gymnasium/Auditorium. The recital is free to the community and for friends and family. The performance will star kids ages 2 years old to 13 years old in a dance review inspired by Broadway and Hollywood Musicals. For more information contact Kids Dance at kidsdance77@sbcglobal.net or 777-5477.



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Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

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Chicago, Illinois 60630-2511
Ward Office: (773) 736-5594
Ward39@cityofchicago.org



City Hall, Room 203
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 744-7242

Nomination Time for the West Walker Officer Elections

Nominations for the upcoming WWCA officer elections will be presented at our May meeting. If you're interested in being nominated, or would like to nominate someone else, contact Nominating Committee Chair Jane Nagle at 588-1926. Officer elections will take place at the June WWCA meeting.

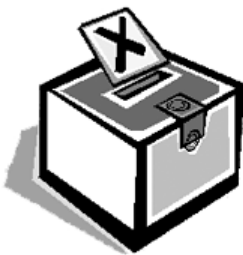
WWCA Officer Responsibilities - If you've ever wondered what exactly your West Walker Civic Association officers do, here's a brief description gleaned from the WWCA constitution and by-laws.

The President presides at all meetings of the association and executive board, and casts a deciding vote in case of a tie. The officer also appoints the Nominating Committee and the chairs of other committees, other than those headed by the Past President and by current officers.

The Vice President assists the president in performing those duties. In the president's absence, the vice-president presides at meetings and fulfills the president's other responsibilities.

The Secretary keeps minutes of association meetings, maintains a record of WWCA business, and conducts other WWCA correspondence as directed by the association. The office is also technically responsible for notifying members of WWCA meetings.

The Treasurer keeps accurate membership and auditable financial records. He or she disburses money according to spending limits approved by the Executive Board.



Get your nominations
in NOW for the
2007-2008 WWCA
Officer Elections

Nominations currently
being accepted.

Elections in June!

Hunger Walk taking Registrations

The Irving Park Food Pantry needs walkers to participate in the 22nd Annual Hunger Walk for the Chicago Food Depository.

The walk takes place on June 16th at Montrose Harbor, with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and the walk at 9:30 a.m. The fundraiser is a 2.5 mile walk along Chicago's lakefront. If you can't walk, sponsors are needed for registered Irving Park Food Pantry participants.

The Irving Park Food Pantry procures food from the Depository through an account where they are able to buy food at low prices. This is a big help in serving the 1400 people that come to the pantry on a monthly basis.

Refreshments will be served at the walk and every walker will receive a T-Shirt. Get registration/pledge forms at the Greater Chicago Food Depository website: <http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org>, from your representative on the pantry board (Pat Eisenhart 478-4027), call the pantry at 283-6296, or e-mail irvpkfoodpantry@aol.com.

Treasures Await You at the Villa Garage Sale June 2nd

Gas prices may be going up but you can still find a bargain at the Annual Villa Garage Sale to be held Saturday, June 2, 2007 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. The Villa is the neighborhood bounded by Addison, Hamlin, Avondale and Harding just east of Old Irving. The Garage Sale has been a Villa tradition for many years and usually more than 25 families participate as sellers. The items for sale can run the gamut from furniture to clothing to quirky one-of-a-kind treasures. Shop early, buy often at this neighborhood outdoor summertime bonanza. There is something for everyone.



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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.



José Murphy from the Department of Buildings reported on several problem properties and noted the progress made addressing the concerns. Several properties on N. Monticello have been reported as buildings with gang and drug activity. There were over 25 complaints made about the two properties, two of which were code violations.

There was additional discussion about illegal auto repair and sales at 4419 N. Springfield and in the surrounding vicinity. It was mentioned how difficult it is to catch these types of operations—mainly back alley mechanics. If you see any suspicious activity call 911.

Police cameras have been a regular topic at the CAPS meeting and this month was no different. A resident mentioned a recent crime (outside the West Walker area) and asked if the installation of police cameras

would help to deter this kind of activity. There was discussion, both pro and con. Officers said the cameras capture crimes in progress, but once they are noticed the problems migrate out of camera range. The CAPS facilitator also mentioned that block clubs can impact positively on a neighborhood, citing the success of IPCNA. Free block club training is offered through CAPS. In a block club, neighbors can share ideas and information, and become better acquainted, which in turn builds and strengthens neighborhoods. Block clubs also can help reduce crime. When neighbors organize and collectively address issues and concerns, they can achieve most anything. The next block club training is in the 17th district station community room at 4560 N. Pulaski from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 19. For more information, contact Chris Wright at Christopher.Wright@chicagopolice.org or 312/742-0961.

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- ½ Page - \$50/month _____ #/months Total \$ _____
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- Full Page - \$100/month _____ #/months Total \$ _____

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- West Walker Wire is published monthly August - June
- ALL AD ARTWORK must be black-and-white and is due by the first of the month.
- WE PREFER that ad artwork be submitted as a file attachment, sent in an e-mail to: ferrislaura@sbcglobal.net. Camera-ready "hard copy" versions also are acceptable.

Send all ad copy and payments (and any ad questions) to:
Laurie Gardner, 4039 N. Harding Ave., Chicago, 60618
ferrislaura@sbcglobal.net 773-866-0665

Office Report: 39th Ward



Dear Neighbor,

Now that construction season has begun, I would like to remind you once again that the **Irving Park streetscape** will continue with work between Pulaski and Tripp. This project is scheduled to be complete by the end of the construction season.

Once again, 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.** The City Clerk's Office requests that everyone bring the following information so that the line moves along quickly and smoothly: your phone number, drivers license, and license plate number. They will not be accepting debit or credit cards.

The City of Chicago is offering **Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFL)** to city residents. We still have these **CFL bulbs available here at our public service office**. These CFL bulbs are the equivalent of 60-watt incandescent bulbs, and are free for residents of the 39th Ward (while supplies last).

Also, the Department of Streets and Sanitation has begun **Street Sweeping** on residential streets. Street sweeping occurs on weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Please keep an eye out for those bright orange 'No Parking' signs on light poles and trees on your block. Failing to comply with parking restrictions for street sweeping can result in a \$50.00 citation.

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





IPAC Seeks Members

The Independence Park Advisory Council (IPAC) welcomes new members. If you would like to become a council member, monthly meetings are normally held the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. on the second floor in the Fieldhouse. IPAC invites community members to volunteer their help with major IPAC sponsored events, such as our annual Spaghetti Dinner, Fourth of July festivities, Oktoberfest, and Movies in the Park. If you can spare some time, talent and/or expertise and would like to volunteer, please email IPAC at info@ipac-chicago.org.

IPAC's mission is to actively and collectively work together to develop, foster and sponsor programs and community activities that raise funds to enhance our historic 100 year old (plus) neighborhood gathering space, Independence Park. IPAC is made up of civic-minded neighborhood volunteers who have helped raise more than \$320,000 in contributions and grants to support park improvements.



NOT JUST ANOTHER PRETTY SAUCE

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WEST WALKER BANNER RESERVATION FORM



Noticed the promise of spring in the banners around the neighborhood? You're in luck. There are poles still available for the next round and the time is now to place your order.

Sponsor a West Walker banner and show your support for the community. The program helps to raise awareness of our neighborhood. West Walker is a vibrant family-oriented community that has experienced much improvement in recent years and creating a strong community identity will help our area continue to improve in the coming years. The West Walker Banner Program is an important part of our community identification initiative.

The following company/individual wishes to reserve a West Walker Banner and understands that the following terms and conditions apply. Banner reservations and payments must be received by June 30, 2007.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The West Walker banner is \$30.
Banner reservations are held.
Banner reservations are held.

included in the purchase price;

4. The banner will be displayed within the boundaries of West Walker on one of the following streets: Pulaski Road or Elston Avenue;
5. West Walker Civic Association cannot guarantee a specific site at which the banner will be displayed;
6. Banners will be displayed for three years. Once removed, the original banner will be available to the sponsor to own.
7. Make checks payable to West Walker Civic Association, c/o Jackie Kazarian, 4052 N. Avers, Chicago, IL 60618.

Sponsor's Name: _____

Address/City/St/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

EXACT WORDING TO APPEAR ON THE BANNER

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

PAID NAME DATE SIGNATURE

Office Report: 40th District

Attention Seniors and Illinois Cares Rx Users

Recently the Department of Healthcare and Family Services increased the Illinois Cares Rx income limits. Many of you may have been denied due to over income limits. If you have been denied for over income guidelines, your application will be reprocessed under the new income limits. The new income guides are in effect now and are as follows:



Illinois Cares Rx Basic:

- \$22,793 for a household of one
- \$30,594 for a household of two
- \$38,393 for a household of three

Illinois Cares Rx Plus:

- \$21,936 for a household of one
- \$29,412 for a household of two

The income limits increases impact Illinois Cares Rx drug coverage only. The income limits for the Circuit Breaker property tax grant and license plate discount have not changed. If you haven't applied for Illinois Cares Rx drug coverage this year because your income was over the limit, apply now. You may apply online at www.cbrx.il.gov or contact the Senior Helpline at 1-800-252-8966 or 1-888-206-1327 (TTY) to request a paper application.

Please feel free to contact my office if I can be of any assistance; the above is just one of the many State services offered at my office.

Richard Bradley
State Representative 40th District
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WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective September 1, 2006 through August 31, 2007

Check One: FAMILY \$10 BUSINESS \$15 SENIOR \$5

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ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Please note your email 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: Bob Begeske; 4251 N. Avers Ave.; Chicago, IL 60618

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 311 (Always request a tracking number)

17th Police District: 312.744.8346

Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting: 3rd Wednesdays of the Month
- 7:00 p.m. at 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski Road

39th Ward: Alderman Margaret Laurino
773.736.5594 4404 W. Lawrence Ave.

Email: ward39@cityofchicago.org

Web: www.aldermanlaurino.com

Constituent Night: Mondays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

(Call ahead. Meet Alderman Laurino to discuss Ward concerns.)

39th Ward Streets and Sanitation: 312.744.8163

33rd Ward: Alderman Richard Mell
773.478.8040 3649 N. Kedzie Ave.

Email: rmell@cityofchicago.org

Web: www.33rdward.org

33rd Ward Advisory Council: Third Thursday each month at
Horner Park Fieldhouse, 2741 W. Montrose Ave.; 7:00 p.m.

(Discuss your issues with the advisory council)

33rd Ward Streets and Sanitation: 312.744.1451

40th District State Representative: Richard Bradley
773.794.9444

20th District State Senator: Iris Y. Martinez
773.283.7000

5th Congressional District: Rahm Emmanuel
773.267.5926

Independence Branch, Chicago Public Library:
3548 W. Irving Park Road 312.744.0900

Independence Park, Chicago Park District:
3945 N Springfield Avenue 773.478.3538

Graffiti Removal Hotline: 312.744.1234
(Always request a tracking number)

Neighborhood Relations: 312.744.3774

Poison Control Center: 800.942-5969

Illegal Businesses, City Department of Revenue:
312.747.5317

www.cityofchicago.org: All city departments

www.cookcountyassessor.org: Property assessments

www.cookcountytreasurer.org: Property taxes

www.legis.state.il.us: Check pending state legislation

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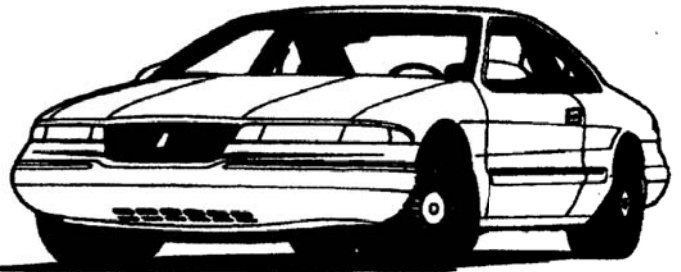
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