

WEST WALKER WIRE

JUNE 2011

www.westwalker.org

Celebrate the 4th at Independence Park!

by Dorie Westmeyer

Looking for a family event to celebrate on the 4th of July? Come out to Independence Park for the annual 4th of July festivities. Show your patriotism. Decorate your bikes, trikes, kids and dogs and walk in the annual parade around the park. Line up for the parade starts at 10:00 AM. Then join in on some family fun. See if you can win the egg toss without scrambling your egg! Hop to your heart's content in the sack races. And show off your speed in the kids' and adults' running races. West Walker will be there to cool your thirst with tasty lemonade. Hope to see you there!



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, June 11 • 3 - 10 p.m.
Disney II "Arts Alive" Outdoor Festival
3800 block of Kedvale Avenue

Saturday, June 11 • 7:00 p.m.
Live Music in the Garden
St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N. Kostner

Monday, June 13 • 7:00 p.m.
Seanachai "Evening of Entertainment"
with guest speaker John Mahoney
Irish American Heritage Center
4626 N. Knox

Wednesday, June 15 • 7:00 p.m.
CAPS Meeting, Beat 1723
Community Room, 17th Dist. Police Dept.
4650 N. Pulaski

Thursday, June 16 • 7:00 p.m.
"History of Gardening in Chicago"
St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N. Kostner

Saturday, June 18 • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
St. Viator Rummage Sale
4140 W. Addison

Saturday, June 25th • 11:00 a.m.
Butterfly Garden Class w/Dolores Foster
Three Brothers Garden
3938 West Belle Plaine

Monday, July 4 • 10:00 a.m.
Independence Day Parade & Festivities
Independence Park, 3945 N. Springfield

Friday, July 15 • 10:00 a.m.
"The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe"
Irving Park Lutheran Church
3938 West Belle Plaine

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

Dear Neighbor,

The WWCA has traditionally sponsored events, published the Wire, held general meetings with topical presentations, sponsored local groups such as the Irving Park Community Food Pantry and the Magic Mushroom summer program for children, coordinated the annual garage sale, and much more. As a volunteer organization, we need the people to make these things happen. In addition to the officers and board of the WWCA, there are many people who provide a little of their time to support the WWCA. We would like to keep the WWCA viable, responsive, and accessible to all of the community. To do that, we all need to pitch in, if we can.

What do you like to do? If you like to take walks, think about delivering the Wire. Concerned about gangs and graffiti? Help represent the WWCA at CAPS meetings. Good with computers? Help update our website. Have the gift of salesmanship? Help solicit ads for the Wire. Enjoy party planning? Help organize the Fourth of July, Winter Social or Fall Festival. Enjoy music and locally-sourced foods? Help man a West Walker table at the Independence Park Farmers Market. See a need that needs to be addressed and need help to make it happen? Let us know. There are many ways to help and a good fit for any volunteer. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Please give us a call to lend a hand.

Have a wonderful summer and we'll see everyone in September. Keep an eye on the website for any special announcements, and we'll keep sending e-mail blasts out for the latest updates.

Mike Webber, President, WWCA

The History of Gardening in Chicago

Please join the Irving Park Garden Club in welcoming author Cathy Jean Maloney on Thursday, June 16th 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Cathy will give a talk about the "History of Gardening in Chicago."

Cathy is the author of [Chicago Gardens](#) which chronicles the history of Gardening in Chicago. Beth Botts, garden writer for the Chicago Tribune had this to say about Cathy's book; "Maloney has combed through seemingly endless documentary sources from Chicago's first 100 years—newspapers, magazines, garden-club minutes—to produce a book full of fascinating tidbits for any Chicago history buff or gardening geek that includes many maps, photos and old catalog illustrations from her own collection."

We will have autographed copies of her book for sale at this meeting. Refreshments will be served. Our meetings are always free and open to all but you need to be a paid member in order to receive the monthly Garden Club Newsletter and to participate in our "Members Only Plant Exchange" in May and our "Members Only Garden Walk" in July. Yearly dues are only \$15.00. Our meetings take place at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner. If you have an interest in gardening or the early history of Chicago, please join us. We'd love to meet you!

Maureen Taylor, President Irving Park Garden Club 773-255-2789

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 98 years of service to the West Walker Community

2010-2011 OFFICERS

President Mike Webber
773.539.8346

Vice President Davor Engel
773.202.1010
dengel@studiode.com

Secretary Carol Barry
773.478.5696

Treasurer Jack Prikos

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Dorie Westmeyer

CAPS COORDINATOR

Jane Nagle

Send crime concerns to **Nicole Price**
at crimealerts@westwalker.org.

WEST WALKER CARRIER STAFF

Carol, Augie, and Gabie Barry

Glenda Begecke

Derek Clark

Connie Engel

Patti Freko

Amanda Hayman

Peg Klimek

Pat & Maura McKee

Mark Pascale

Tricia Ramirez & Mike Hawlitzky

Melanie Reschke

Pat & Marianne Turk

EDITOR

Lee Samsami Stein

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



WWCA General Meeting Minutes

From May 17th, 2011

Present: Mike Webber, Jack Prikos, Carol Barry
Meeting opened at 7:09 pm.

Minutes for April meeting were approved. Current balance was \$4,933.46 with Blue Print printing bill for the last several issues of the wire at \$1535. The current balance in the West Walker account is \$3483.46. *Note: The banner account and WWCA accounts have been merged into this account.*

Reid Johnson and Jean Scott of the 4100 block of Ridgeway would like to decrease the flow of non-resident traffic in the alley running between 4200 N Hamlin and Ridgeway Avenues as it encourages criminal and gang activity, public urination, and poses threats to residents as well as to health and sanitation. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Scott currently have a petition and are in conversation with Alderman Laurino's office for some solutions. Residents are encouraged to call the police every time they witness any crime.

Elections were held with no nominations from the floor. The officers have agreed to run this year, with the exception of Carol Barry as Secretary. Treasurer John

WWCA Neighborhood Garage and Yard Sale Still Shines in the Rain

After many years of almost perfect weather, a little rain fell this year on the Garage Sale. It held off until early afternoon, so many participants sold much of their wares. Over 80 families participated, and everyone got a chance to browse and visit. Many thanks to Bob and Kevin Crowley and Melanie Reschke for their work on the sale. It gets a little better every year due to their efforts.

Minor stepped down mid-year and Jack Prikos agreed to step in as Treasurer back in late winter 2011.

The 2011-2012 WWCA officers are:

President: Mike Webber

Vice President: Davor Engel

Secretary: open

Treasurer: Jack Prikos

Marvin Weinstein requested that the WWCA bylaws be put on the WWCA website and Mike Webber agreed that they will be posted in the near future.

Jack Prikos, owner of Farmer's Market, gave a presentation on the Earth Box. The box sells for \$59.99 and is a small portable raised bed that gives an extremely high yield. In one growing season, up to 16 different types of fruits and vegetables can be grown. Jack did a demonstration on how to set up the box and also how to store it. He encouraged the use of Happy Frog organic soil for the best yield.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48PM

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CAPS Report

Beat #1723 May 18th, 2011

by Jane Nagle, CAPS Coordinator

Specific West Walker Issue Discussed:

There were reports of shots fired and large groups of youths hanging around the intersection of Monticello and Belle Plaine. If you happen to see any suspicious activity, please call 911 and provide as much information as possible.

Statistics by type of crime in the West Walker neighborhood (April 20 - May 18):

- Assault - Aggravated: Handgun - 2
- Battery - Aggravated: Other Dangerous Weapon - 1
- Battery - Domestic Battery Simple - 1
- Burglary (forcible entry) - 2
- Burglary (attempted forcible entry) - 1
- Burglary (unlawful entry) - 2
- Criminal damage to vehicle - 3
- Criminal damage to property - 1
- Criminal Sexual Assault - Non-Aggravated - 1
- Criminal trespass to land - 1

- Criminal trespass to residence - 1
- Motor Vehicle Theft (Automobile) - 2
- Motor Vehicle Theft (Truck Bus Motor Home) - 1
- Other Offense - Telephone Threat - 1
- Other Offense - Other Vehicle Offense - 1
- Other Offense - Violation of Order of Protection - 1
- Theft - Attempted Theft - 1
- Theft (\$500 and under) - 2
- Theft from Auto (\$500 and under) - 2; (over \$500) - 1

While violent crime is down in the 17th District, auto vehicle thefts have dramatically increased. Commander Staples reported that decreasing such thefts is a priority. Please see the March, 2011 West Walker Wire for auto theft prevention tips.

CAPS meetings for our beat are currently held monthly at the 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski, in the Community Room. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month and typically last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, June 15. As always, call 911 to report suspicious activity or individuals in your neighborhood and provide a detailed physical description of the individuals involved in any incident, including clothing, shoes and vehicle descriptions. For incidents which are no longer in progress, remember that rather than calling 911, you may call 311 to have a police officer complete a report for incidents such as theft, criminal damage to property, lost property and other non-emergency situations.

"The nearby Independence Park Farmers Market is also worth a trip. This fast-growing market will satisfy with its array of produce, plants, and baked goods." — THE MICHELIN GUIDE, Chicago Edition 2011

INDEPENDENCE PARK

Farmers Market

Sundays
9AM-1PM:

Irving Park Road (4000 N.)
at Hamlin Ave. (3800 W.)
Chicago, IL

East of Pulaski Road,
the Kennedy Expressway
and CTA Blue Line



www.independence-park.com

- June 12
- June 26
- July 10
- July 24
- Aug 14
- Aug 28
- Sept 11
- Sept 25
- Oct 9

Have a CAPS issue?

You can submit concerns to CAPS online at <https://portal.chicagopolice.org/portal/page/portal/ClearPath>. Then, on the left-hand side, click "Report a concern about an issue affecting your neighborhood."

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West Walker Wire.



39th Ward Report



Chicago is well known for its wonderful summer special events. We always look forward to our 39th Ward activities. The annual Korean Street Festival will be held on August 13-14 in the 3200-3400 blocks of Bryn Mawr. The 17th District Police host their National Night Out on August 2. Farmers Markets will

continue once again at Independence Park. For more detailed information on these and other events over the summer, please sign up for my e-newsletter at www.AldermanLaurino.com

Summer also means that it's time to replace city stickers! All City Vehicle Stickers and Residential Parking Permits expire on June 30. You can purchase your annual sticker in my 39th Ward Public Service Office (4404 W. Lawrence) on Monday, June 20, from 10:00 a.m. to

6:00 p.m. If you received a renewal form in the mail, please bring that along with you. If you did not get a renewal form, bring in the previous year's forms or have the following information available: year, make and model of the vehicle; state license plate number; owner's driver's license number, and old City Sticker number. City Stickers are also now available for purchase online at <http://www.chicityclerk.com>.

In City Council news, we had our first meeting with the new City Council and Mayor Rahm Emanuel. I was pleased and honored to be appointed as the Chairman of the Council's Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety. I'm looking forward to my new role, and hope to use the Committee as a platform for innovative ideas citywide.

As always, please contact my office at 773-736-5594 or Ward39@cityofchicago.org with any concerns or questions.

Sincerely, Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

Help Create a Community Mural

by *Marlena Ascher*

Anyone who loves community murals is welcome to join the team of people who are creating a mural on the railroad viaduct cement walls on the east side of Keeler Avenue, wrapping around to the north side of Irving Park Road. We invite the help of artists and non-artists to create this newest mural on the Northwest Side.

As the project manager, my role is to act as liaison between and among mural volunteers and the Old Irving Park Association's board, which is sponsoring the project and selecting the final design from those submitted. The design selection will be made by June 14. Volunteers from surrounding communities will be welcome with open arms!

Amy Hanks is the project's art director. Her role is to ensure that the artist team has fun working together, that the artistic integrity of the selected design is honored, and that the mural is completed on time and within budget.

In addition to artists (people who can paint within lines drawn by artists qualify for this title), we welcome people to help us prepare the site by washing the mural walls and sidewalks. Our work will begin in June and end by September 1. If you are interested in participating, contact Marlena Ascher at marlenaascher@sbcglobal.net or 773-481-1749.

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WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of May 30th, 2011 appears below.

Michael & Raquel Acosta	Carol & Jennifer Dreyer	Kay & Craig Lasota	Jesus R Romo
Veronica Aguirre	Pat & Bob Eisenhart	Brad & Anna Lassila	Theresa Rowe
Jody Adcox	Jonathan & Jennifer Flory	Cathy Lawler	David Schreiber
Alexandra & Chris Altman	Kristy Finch	Heliodoro Llive	Sarah Schumaker
Jennifer Anderson	Antonia Garcia	Martha Lubbat	Christy Shebuski
Pat Aufmann	Sue Gregoire & Jim Medel	Renate Lux	Sarah Steedman
Jose & Silvia Becerra	Charlene Greif	Laura Mattheis	Fran Stralovitch
Sonya Blacker	Terese Potthast Greif	Margaret McIntyre McDonald	Jackie Stern & Gerald Coyne
Edward Boghosian	D. Habellarte	John Mendez	Tapestry Fellowship
Philip & Roberta Bole	Linda Hedstrom	Liz & Steve Mills	Helen Taylor
Bert & Juanita Bradtke	Connie & Dale Heminover	Margarita Minor	Mary Tracy
Nick & Margaret Calderone	Juan Hermosillo	John Minor	West Cullom Manor
Christopher A. Cameron	Joyce Hollick	Elinda Mora	Condo Association
Raman & Archa Chadha	John Jakob	Angela Motiejunas	Mary Sue Witchger
Lee & Ira Churgin	Reid M. Johnson & Jean V. Scott	Jane Nagle & Richard McDermott	Tom & Nancy Walker
Judy Cicero	Susan Mickie Johnson	Elaine C. Mueller	Joyce Weber
Joe & Taylor Crowley	Aimee & Scott Kish	Denise & Steve Nagy	Michael Webber
Nat Darnieder	Kolasinski Family	Chris Novak	Marvin Weinstein
Lisa Derengowski	Debbie Koller	Dorothy Panzke	Dorie Westmeyer
Kathleen Dieschbourg	Joseph Laiacona	Lynette Pitcock	Jay Whitehouse
Molly & Chris Dimick	Frank & Pat Lasch	Linda Projansky	

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.
 - Free special events, like the Halloween Party and Fall Festival and 4th of July celebration at Independence Park.
 - The annual community garage sale.
 - The Art In My Back Yard artistic series.
 - Area non-profit groups like Independence Park, Irving Park Community Food Pantry, and Independence Library.
 - E-mail updates on neighborhood events and area crime.
- Bring your 2011-2012 dues to our next WWCA meeting on June 21st! Or you can mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012

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: Jack Prikos, 4238 N. Avers Ave., Chicago, IL 60618

News from the Irving Park Community Food Pantry

by Craig Shutt

Come Walk with the Pantry on June 25th!

Help the Irving Park Community Food Pantry raise funds that will help feed those in our community in need all year. You can aid our efforts by donating or walking with us in the 26th Annual Hunger Walk on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at Soldier Field. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and walkers step off at 8:15 a.m.

Last year's walk raised the most money ever, with donations up nearly 50%. Even so, our contributions for the year were down, as many people are stretched thin by the economy and are no longer able to help their neighbors as much. That makes it even more important that the walk is as successful as possible.

Please know that 100% of your contributions are used to procure food to help your neighbors, which we purchase from the Greater Chicago Food Depository at 7¢ per pound. So your donations go a long way toward helping us feed our neighbors!

The event consists of a 5K (3.2-mile) walk along the lakefront. It features entertainment for the entire family, including special guests, music and activities. All walkers receive a goody bag, snacks and a t-shirt. Participants don't even have to walk the route as long as they are present!

You can support the Hunger Walk in three ways:

1. Organize a Hunger Walk Team of at least 10 walkers, with the Irving Park Community Food Pantry designated as the recipient agency. Each walker signs up pledges to sponsor their walk. To learn more, visit www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org or contact Lee Stein at volunteer@irvingparkfoodpantry.org.
2. Join the Irving Park Community Food Pantry Hunger Walk Team. Individuals can join the Pantry team and raise funds. Visit www.chicagosfoodbank.org/hungerwalk, click "Join an Agency Team" and search for "Irving Park Community Food Pantry" to sign up.
3. Donate to a Hunger Walk Team. Sign a walker's pledge sheet or donate by check or online at the Hunger Walk site (listed in #2). Please indicate the money is designated for the "Irving Park Community Food Pantry, Agency #A00113." Matching grants are available for money donated by July 31st, so please send your contribution as soon as possible.



More than 85 neighbors attended the wine-tasting party held to benefit the Irving Park Community Food Pantry on May 22. Wines for the event, held at Las Tablas restaurant, were provided by H2Vino.

We hope you can help make this a fun event that benefits the Pantry throughout the year. If you have any questions, contact us at info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org or at 773-283-6296.

New Partnership

The Pantry has begun a partnership with Whole Foods Market-Sauganash (6020 N. Cicero Ave.). We pick up from the store on Mondays and Wednesdays to supplement our food distributions. We have already received donations of bread and baked goods, dairy products, produce and shelf-stable items. Thanks to Whole Foods team leader Jason Aragon for coordinating the contributions.

School Supplies Needed

As you begin shopping for the new school year, please consider donating supplies for our school-supply distribution in August. Your contributions help ensure our clients' children get the school year off to a good start.

Nutrition Classes Begin

A new round of nutrition and cooking classes for our clients began in May. Instructor Alicia Theofanis from University of Illinois Extension has about 12 clients attending to learn more about creating tasty dishes with the foods we distribute.

Helping New Hope

The Pantry is aiding the New Hope Community Food Pantry (7115 W. Hood Ave.) by making food pickups and deliveries for them. Thank you to Jim Byrne and Rick Lietel for working with New Hope to make this possible.

Visit us on Facebook!

We have more than 175 friends keeping up with news, events and comments about the Pantry.

News and Events from Carlson Community Services



Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, serves the Irving Park

community with a variety of outreach efforts.

Trivia Night Tests Knowledge, Raises Funds for MAP



Team Winning was the winning team at Carlson's Spring Trivia Night. Pictured with their \$150 prize money, the team donated the cash back to the MAP program.

Carlson Community Services' Spring Trivia Night, held the first weekend in May, succeeded in rattling the brains of competitors while raising \$4,300 for the Magic After-School Place. Fifteen teams of eight matched wits for \$150 in prize money and bragging rights. Team "Winning" captured the prize, but generously donated the funds back to Carlson.

Quiz Master Kevin Graham entertained and stumped with categories ranging from TV dads to famous and not-so-famous Chicago restaurants identified by the nearest street corners.

Thanks go to event co-chairs Helen Lira and Connie Engel, raffle prize donors John Burns Construction, The Portage Restaurant, Lee Stein, Stranded Jewelry, Paddy

Mac's, Spa La La and round sponsors Lichter Realty, Verizon Business, Prudential Rubloff, Paddy Mac's and Alderman Margaret Laurino.

The next Trivia Night will be held in the fall. Watch the West Walker Wire for details. The Magic After-school Place provides at-risk students at Belding and Murphy Schools with safe passage from school to the program, homework help, recreation and a mentoring program with high school students. For more information, visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.



Three Brothers Garden volunteers wash radishes at the first harvest of the season. All vegetables grown in the garden are donated to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry.

Harvest for the Hungry!

Have an hour or two to spare on Tuesday evenings? Then join your neighbors for the weekly harvest of vegetables at the **Three Brothers Garden**. The garden, a project co-sponsored by Irving Park Lutheran Church and Carlson Community Services, provides fresh produce to the clients of the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. Last year, 725 lbs. of vegetables were harvested for the food pantry.

Each Tuesday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., volunteers pick vegetables, wash them and bag them for distribution at the food pantry on Wednesday morning. Volunteers also work on maintaining the garden by staking plants, weeding and re-seeding. Working in the garden is a great way to meet new people and relieve stress! Is your book group, scout troop, neighborhood, or employer interested in doing a service project? Harvest as a group! No prior garden experience required. The garden is located behind IPLC at 4107 N. Pulaski Rd.

If you'd like to be added to the volunteer e-mail list, please contact Liz Mills at lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org, or call 773-398-6766. Or just show up on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., weather permitting. To learn more, visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Create a Butterfly Habitat in your Garden

Three Brothers Garden will host a series of gardening and cooking classes this summer. The first in the series is how to create a butterfly friendly habitat in your garden.



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On Saturday, June 25th at 11:00 a.m., Dolores Foster, landscape horticulturist with the Oak Lawn Park District, will offer tips on how to attract butterflies to your garden. Butterflies are beneficial to your garden, as well as being a source of beauty and delight. Classes are free, but a free will donation will be taken to help support the garden. The class will be held in Victory Hall at IPLC and in the garden.

Vote for Three Brothers Garden!

Three Brothers Garden is competing in an online contest for grant funds. Help the garden win \$4,000 by logging on and voting every day until August 1st. Visit www.deloachcommunitygardens.com to vote. It's fast and easy!

News from United Methodist Church

UNMC seeks a Director of Children & Family Ministries for young, growing United Methodist Church in Chicago, IL. Some existing programs are in place but the primary need is for someone with vision and experience to provide Christian Education for our children and those who will come. Experience in Christian Education a must. Part-time: 12 to 15 hours. Start date July 15th. Send resumes to Rev. Vickie Hadaway at irvingparkumc@sbcglobal.net or fax to 773-283-6243.

Summer at St. John's...

Summer Worship in a Garden

During the summer St. John's Episcopal Church folks enjoy worshipping in our garden. Both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship services are outside (weather permitting). Music is provided by a pick-up group which plays gospel, country, jazz, bluegrass, and classic. You are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, sunglasses, and dogs on leashes. St. John's is located at 3857 N. Kostner This year our Gospel on the Green Sundays are July 3, July 24, and August 14. Happy Summer!

Live Music in the Garden

Come out to the St. John's garden (3857 N. Kostner) for a night of music and entertainment on Saturday, June 11 at 7:00 p.m. The featured band is **Duck and Goose**, a local Chicago acoustic folk band. This will be their last show before they go on tour. (Check them out on Facebook!) \$5.00 suggested donation, free food, cash bar. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be in the parish hall. All proceeds will go to the St. John's Youth Group's summer mission trip to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, to continue the work to rebuild houses after Hurricane Katrina.

Fun Times Ahead...

By Lee Samsami Stein

An exciting summer awaits at Irving Park Lutheran Church! There are still spaces available for children aged 3 years to 6th grade in the Magic Mushroom Summer Program, but don't wait: Enroll now!

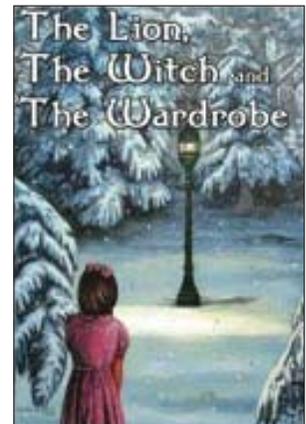
Park View Afternoon Extension

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with Park View Lutheran Church to bring you the Park View Afternoon Extension! This is offered to all Magic Mushroom Students who want to continue their July fun throughout the afternoons. For more information about the Afternoon Extension, contact Mary Perillo of Park View Lutheran at 773-934-2845 or email mperii6481@aol.com.

Magic Mushroom is a wholesome, fun, and exciting program that offers bible study, crafts, discussion, drama, physical education and music to every child. Our program begins on Tuesday, July 5th. For more information on Magic Mushroom, visit iplc.org or call 773-267-1667.

Something for Everyone!

After the amazing success last year, Magic Mushroom, and the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee have invited *American Eagle Productions* to return to the sanctuary of Irving Park Lutheran Church on **Friday, July 15th at 10 a.m. sharp**--for a live production of C.S. Lewis classic, **The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe**. This free-will



donation event is open to the public, and is sure to please audiences of all ages! Concessions will be sold after the production, in the parking lot. Irving Park Lutheran Church is located at 3938 West Belle Plaine (at Harding).

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St. Viator School

Art Zone

St. Viator's school was transformed into a four floor art gallery on Friday night, May 6th, at the

14th Annual Art Zone Show. Students were introduced to the art of Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Marc Chagall, & Piet Mondrian. They also studied cubism and surrealist sculpture. The students created self portraits in the style of HA Schult and Bernard Pras out of items that would be recycled or thrown away.

Wiggles & Giggles

Wiggles & Giggles finished up the second year at St. Viator on May 12th. This bi-monthly, open-play program is offered free of charge to area families with children age newborn to 4 years. We ended the year with a wonderful Spanish lesson and craft time for our little ones with teachers from Multilingual Chicago. We also celebrated the end of the year with an ice cream party!

Summer Basketball Camp

It may not be too late to join the second annual summer basketball program open to students from any school. Bitty Basketball Camp is for boys and girls entering K through 3rd grade and will take place June 13-16. 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. for Kindergarten & 1st Graders, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for 2nd & 3rd Graders. Please contact Lisa Jones at lisa@lungrun.org or 773-771-3178 .

Youth Ministry

St. Viator's Youth Ministry hosts an Open Gym Night for Junior High and High School students on most Sunday evenings. St. Viator's Youth Ministry usually visits the Franciscan Soup Kitchen three Thursdays each month. Help serve dinner to over 100 people. Leave from St. Viator at 4:30 p.m. and return at 7:15 p.m. Contact Andrew Shelton at 773-286-4040, extension 128.

RUMMAGE SALE

Are you Ready to de-clutter and make some cash!? Our Parent Association presents the 1st annual (and back by popular demand) Rummage Sale held Saturday, June 18th, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Rent a booth for \$25; add a table for \$10. Keep whatever money you make!! Come by the many booths and check it out. Contact Clara Guerrero at 773-430-6914 or stviatorsale@yahoo.com.

SUMMERFEST

The second annual Summerfest is Saturday, August 27th as the summer winds down. There will be plenty of mouth-watering food and lots of games for the kids. We hope you can join us!

Check Us Out!

Visit stviatorchicago.org and stviatorparish.org or call the office at 773-545-2173.

CICS-Irving Park School

You Wrote This?!

Authors Chip Gilbertson and Gina Restivo will present a reading from their book "Fly Danny, Fly" in June for our students. They will discuss their book and their experiences as authors.

Green Golly Project

Ravinia and the Green Golly Project will present "Green Golly and Her Golden Flute" in June to our 1st through 3rd graders. This introduction to the beautiful world of classical music inspires children to listen actively and imagine creatively.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to LaPane Bakery for providing baked goods for our Spring Concert on May 17th. A good time was had by all and their tasty treats were a hit!

St. Edward School

Approximately 60 St. Edward school students, ranging from preschoolers to those entering first grade, are meeting Tuesdays and Saturdays for the school's T-Ball League. This parent-volunteer league allows young children to learn the basics of America's pastime and offers St. Edward families an opportunity to connect over the summer months. No scores are kept, but we feel all participating are winners! For more information, call Bryan Naraky, 312-735-7084.

Save the date!

St. Ed's Oktober Fest will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight on Saturday, September 17th. The event will feature kids' activities until 6:00 p.m., with the evening featuring a German band and food.

St. Edward School, now celebrating its 100th year, provides a quality, Catholic education to children from three-year old preschool through eighth grade. St. Edward students enjoy a student-teacher ratio of 18:1,



and the school features an extensive music program as well as art, gym, sports, chess, and Spanish at all grade levels. The School, located at 4343 W. Sunnyside, is accepting applications for students entering 3-year-old preschool through 8th grade for the 2012 school year. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or by visiting www.stedwardschool.com.

News from Independence Branch, Chicago Public Library

by Janet Rogers



(From right) Janet Rogers and Margaret Dunne take a break from work at the library!

Many free family programs for children will be offered in June and early July.

Book Beats

If you love to read, listen to music, and have fun, then join Book Beats from June 13th to August 6th at the Independence Branch of the Chicago Public Library, located at 3548 W. Irving Park Road. This year's summer reading program for children

is presented in partnership with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra among others. Children ages 2-14 who visit the library can register for the reading program and receive a colorful book log to record the books he/she reads or listens to this summer. On each return visit to the library, the child can record the books he/she has read or listened to and receive a colorful sticker. A Book Beats T-shirt will be given to each child, ages 9-14, who reads 10 books and for each child, ages 2-8, who listens to and/or reads 25 books.

On Thursday, June 16th, children ages 5-12 can enjoy exploring different cultures through music, songs and stories at the "Music Around the World" program. On Saturday, June 18th at 11 am, prepare to be amazed by the mystifying feats done by the Great Scott at the "Books Are Full of Magic Words" magic show for all ages. Rustle the cowpokes out on Monday, June 20th at 2 pm for some country rootin' tootin' stories and fun at "Rhythm on the Range." For a rockin' good time be

sure to come to "Rock Around the Clock" on Thursday, June 23 at 6 pm. For information about more programs in July & August, please call (312) 744-0900 or check www.chicagopubliclibrary.org for programs at the Independence Branch.

Do Yoga!

by Carol Valentino-Barry

What do Shaquille O'Neil, Sting, Lady Gaga, Michelle Obama, the Chicago Cubs and Gumby all have in common? Yes, you guessed it, they all do YOGA! The word Yoga comes from the Sanskrit word "Yuj" meaning to yoke or unite. Yoga joins the body and mind through breath and is truly for everyone, from ages 2 to 102. Yoga is adaptable for all body types and includes mindful breathing, simple standing and seated poses, and concludes with guided relaxation.

Yoga meets you where you are and helps you become more flexible. As Americans, it can be tough for us to slow down, be patient and wait for our muscles to cooperate. It is recommended that people commit to 4-6 weeks of a yoga program before evaluating themselves or their progress. Strength, flexibility, and balance will increase, sleep and concentration improve, and body weight will maintain or drop.

Yoga has a strong mind-body connection. A new study shows that folks who do yoga 3x's/week have consistent drops in the stress hormone (cortisol) and big increases of melatonin and gaba--relaxation and sleep agents. (Note, people who walked for exercise saw no change.) So take time to practice yoga. Your body, mind, family and friends will thank you.

For more information on yoga, please contact Carol Valentino-Barry: carol@independenceyoga.com.

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West Walker Board Elected for 2011-2012

At the May WWCA meeting, the following officers were elected to serve in 2011-2012:

President: Mike Webber
Vice President: Davor Engel
Secretary: No Candidate
Treasurer: Jack Prikos

We will be searching for a secretary over the summer. If you are interested or know some who might be, please contact Mike Webber at 773.539.8346.

New members are still needed to join the West Walker Civic Association board of directors. If you are interested in serving, please contact Mike Webber at 773.539.8346.

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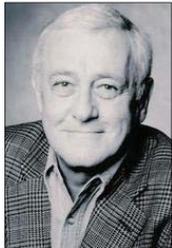
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News from Seanachai Theatre

by Marlena Ascher

An Evening of Entertainment



Seanachai Theatre Company is thrilled to announce that Actor John Mahoney will be a distinguished guest at our benefit event on Monday, June 13th, 7:00-10:00 p.m. Mr. Mahoney is affectionately known as Frasier's father, Martin Crane, in the television show, Frasier. He was born in Manchester, England in 1940 and immigrated to the States when his sister married an American. He won his citizenship by joining the U.S. army. John had been an associate editor of a Chicago medical journal until he was almost 40 when he started acting classes. One thing led to another, and now he is one of the country's most esteemed actors.

Mr. Mahoney will be performing a poetry reading as part of "An Evening of Entertainment," in the Fifth Province Room of the Irish American Heritage Center. Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door (subject to availability.) Proceeds will help fund Seanachai's 2011-12 season. The evening also features dramatic readings with the Seanachai ensemble and well-respected actors Brad Armacost and Steve Pickering, who will star in Eugene O'Neill's Moon for the Misbegotten during our 2011-2012 season. Traditional Irish Music, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar round out this one-of-a-kind fundraising event. The Benefit will also serve as an appreciation and farewell event to Consul General of Ireland, Martin Rouine, member of the Seanachai Board of Directors, who returns to Ireland later this year.

Advance reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 773-878-3727. The Irish American Heritage Center is located at 4626 N. Knox.

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Staff of Hands to Help enjoy the fruits of their labor!

News from Hands to Help

Nothing Trivial about your generosity!

Many thanks to everyone who made the Hands to Help Trivia Night a great success! Thanks to all of you who bought tickets and donated to the cause, we raised \$4,200 to help our neighbors who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless. Thanks to Sears for donating a flat screen T.V., Nissan for the detailing and oil change gift certificate, Sabatino's for the box of wine and a gift certificate, and The Bank of America for donating the space and the bank staff who volunteered

their time to come and clean up! Food was provided by Six Corners Association, Irving Park United Methodist, St. John's Episcopal Church, and St. Viator's Parish.

Where will that money go?

In 2010, Hands to Help assisted 132 individuals or families. From January to April 2011 we have assisted 51 clients. 65% of our clients are individuals, and 35% are families. We have moved 3 individuals/families from being homeless to permanent housing and we have prevented homelessness through retention of housing or new housing for 14 individuals/families, providing a total of \$3,235 in rental assistance. The other 34 individuals/families were assisted with \$383.45 for utilities, \$584.75 for transportation \$71.99 for medical, \$330 for food, and \$290 in other assistance such as new identification.

Who are we serving? Why do we help them?

Hands to Help Clients are 47% female and 53% male, ranging from ages 18 to 66 years old. Of the people we've helped, 29% had no income when we met them; 27% make \$1-500 per month; 35% make \$501-1000; and 2% have income of \$1001-2000. All our clients live in the 60641 or 60618 area. Thank you for making a difference in our neighbor's lives!

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17th Police District 312.744.8346
Beat 1723 CAPS Meeting: third Wednesday of the month,
7 p.m. at 17th District Police Station, 4650 N. Pulaski Road

39th Ward 773.736.5594
Alderman Margaret Laurino
4404 W. Lawrence Ave.
E-mail: ward39@cityofchicago.org
Web: www.aldermanlaurino.com
Constituent night: Mondays, 6-8 p.m.
(Call first. Meet Alderman Laurino to discuss Ward concerns.)

39th Ward Streets and Sanitation 312.744.8163

33rd Ward 773.478.8040
Alderman Richard Mell
3649 N. Kedzie Ave.
E-mail: rmell@cityofchicago.org
Web: www.33rdward.org
33rd Ward Advisory Council: Third Thursday of each month,
Horner Park Fieldhouse, 2741 W. Montrose Ave., 7 p.m.
(Discuss your issues with the advisory council)

33rd Ward Streets and Sanitation 312.744.1451

40th District State Representative 773.267.2880
Deb Mell

20th District State Senator 773.283.7000
Iris Y. Martinez

5th Congressional District 773.267.5926
Mike Quigley

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

Independence Park, Chicago Park District
3945 N. Springfield Ave. 773.478.3538

Graffiti Removal Hotline 312.744.1234
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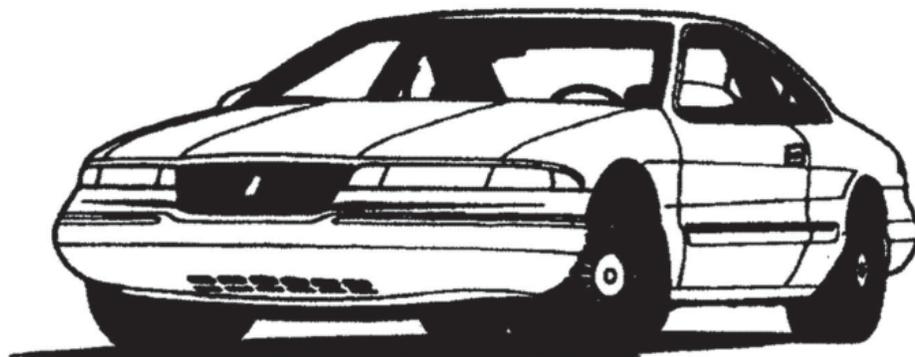
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