



WEST WALKER WIRE

NOVEMBER 2016

www.westwalker.org

Wine, Beer, Food, Raffles, Auctions, Neighbors on Saturday, November 19

On November 19, GIPNA is holding its fourth **Wine & Cheese Party** at the **Independence Tap**, a fundraiser to benefit John B. Murphy School and the Independence Park Farmers Market. Savor excellent wines and cheese, visit with friends and neighbors, and support the community. Beyond the feasting, fun, and fellowship, there will be raffles, a Silent Auction, and the ever popular Neighbors Wine Basket! Last year GIPNA's donation of \$10,000 enabled Murphy to continue their arts and music programs. The event will also support the Independence Park Farmers Market, which costs GIPNA more than \$3000 each summer. Your support will help us prepare for the expense of the 2017 market. The party will be held from 4 to 7 pm at Independence Tap, 3932 W. Irving Park Road. Tickets are \$40 in advance and are for sale online at gipna.org or \$45 at the door. The price includes unlimited wine, appetizers and fun.

Hands to Help Celebrates 11 Years

Hands to Help Ministries celebrates eleven years of serving neighbors on the brink of homelessness and those experiencing homelessness. Thanks to the contributions of hundreds of neighbors, we reached out to over one hundred individuals and families in the Old Irving and Portage Park communities. Are you planning a Christmas celebration? Support Hands to Help's critical services by inviting our carolers to your event. Contact Gayle at hthexcdirector@gmail.com.

In 2017, we will begin our new program reaching out to landlords in and around Old Irving and Potage Park to increase affordable housing options. To volunteer or donate, visit us at www.handstohelpministries.org. Thank you!

WITHIN THE WIRE...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Nov. 15 • 7:00 pm
WWCA General Meeting
Latvian Community Ctr., 4146 N. Elston

Wed., Nov. 16 • 7:30 pm
CAPS Meeting Beats 1722 & 1723
4650 N Pulaski, Community Room

Thur., Nov. 24 • 1 pm
Community Thanksgiving Dinner
St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N. Kostner

Sat., Nov. 26 • 1 - 3 pm
Winter Wonderland
City News, 4018 N. Cicero
Cooperative church caroling
Sing along or just enjoy the music!

Sunday, Dec. 4th • 8 am - 2 pm
St. Edward's Christmas Tree Sale
44447 N. Lowell

Wed., Dec. 7 • 7:30 pm.
Advent Worship & Fellowship
Followed by Open House at Parsonage
Irving Park Lutheran Church
3938 W. Belle Plaine

Sun., Dec. 11th • 2 p.m.
IPFAC Presents:
An Americana Christmas featuring
Anna Fermin's Trigger Gospel
Irving Park Lutheran Church
4100 N. Harding

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

Dear Neighbor,

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, I hope that two things are true: First, the Presidential Election is over. Second, the World as we know it has not come to an end.

Seriously – don't you wish that all the time, talent, energy and money expended over the last year on the election could have been directed to the common good? Schools? Check! Infrastructure? Check! Early learning? Check! And there would probably still be resources left over.

So that's it for my soapbox. Get neighborly and look forward to a quiet winter.

On a more positive note, I'd like to give a big shout out to Roberta Bole. If you haven't heard, a new Independence Branch library has been approved, with a new library to be constructed at 4024 N. Elston. Roberta has been tireless as the President of the Friends of Independence Library, and has worked for years to bring a permanent home to our library. Many people worked to make this happen, but Roberta was always there to lend her support. Thanks again, Roberta.

Just running it up the flagpole, but how does the "West Walker Branch" sound?

Cheers.

Mike Webber
President, pro tem
WWCA

O'Hare Update: Fly Quiet Rotation Test Survey

Fifty percent of the Runway Rotation Test has been completed, and the Chicago Department of Aviation will be compiling data including submitted surveys.

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) needs accurate information from residents who complete the online surveys. The survey will serve as one component to measure if the runway rotation test was a successful aircraft noise abatement program. Once the rotation test is completed on December 25th, the Fly Quiet Program will return to its original format. **Be Heard:** Please take a moment to take this online survey. Follow this link: goo.gl/X3N0v1

ONCC can make an educated recommendation to continue the interim Fly Quiet Runway Rotation plan only if it has all the test data information and surveys.

This article is a reprint from Alderman Laurino's e-newsletter.

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**

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

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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.*

Local Church News

Thanksgiving Dinner St. John's Episcopal

Please join us for Thanksgiving dinner! We would love for you to sit down to a free, home-cooked meal with us on Thursday, November 24 at 1 pm. You can also volunteer to help prepare and serve the meal on Wednesday, November 23 at 6 pm or on Thursday between 9 am and 3 pm. If you are home-bound and would like a meal delivered please let us know. For more information call 773-725-9026. St. John's is located at 3857 N. Kostner.

Irving Park Lutheran Church in the Holidays

Join us for **Hanging of the Greens** on Saturday, Nov. 26th at 10 am to help get the church ready for Advent and Christmas. This is a great activity for families – bring children and grandchildren! There are beautiful, meaningful decorations to arrange and plenty of treats to share.

Advent Worship & Fellowship Join us for a special night on Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 7:30 pm. Begin December with the beautiful melodies of Holden Evening Prayer (this setting has been used for Lenten worship at IPLC in the past). Gather by candlelight in the chapel and sing of the coming of the light of the world. Then head over to the parsonage open house for Christmas cookies! IPLC is located at 3938 W. Belle Plaine

Events at Irving Park United Methodist Church

Building Beloved Community Workshop on Saturday, November 12 from 9:00-3:30. We meet at Irving Park UMC to ride to Barrington. Trainers in cross-cultural cross-racial will inform, encourage, and equip us with skills and vision for building God's beloved community together. Lunch will be provided for everyone, and childcare is available upon request. Call IPUMC at 773-283-6262 to register. The church will cover the registration fee for everyone willing to be a part of this conversation. Please let us know dietary restrictions and childcare needs.

Winter Wonderland at City News on Saturday, November 26 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Cooperative church caroling fun! People from Irving Park United Methodist, Irving Park Baptist and St. Viator's Catholic Church will form a combined group to carol to the community at City News, 4018 N. Cicero! There will be food and fun for all! Sing along or just come!

Email us at irvingparkumc@comcast.net or call 773-283-6262 for more information. Visit our website at irvingparkumc.com. We are located at 3801 N Keeler. We are an open and affirming community that worships on Sundays at 10 am and serves through the week!

REAL ESTATE NEWS



By Dorie Westmeyer
Realtor®, MBA, ADPR

Your Neighborhood Realtor!

Are Your Property Taxes Too High?

Every 3 years the Cook County Assessor reassesses your home. The new assessed value is used to calculate your property taxes. You can appeal your assessed value yourself, or hire an attorney who will charge you only if they reduce your taxes, typically 33% of 1st year of tax savings. There are 3 levels of appeal. If you're not happy with your result, appeal to the next level.

1. **Cook County Assessor.com** – You can appeal when our Jefferson Township is open for appeals. This year it was open July 14 to August 15, 2016.
2. **Cook County Board of Review.com** – You still have time to appeal 2016 taxes. Check their website periodically for the dates Jefferson Township will be open for appeal.
3. **Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB)** – www.ptab.illinois.gov – Once you receive your results from the Board of Review, you can appeal one more level to PTAB.

You can appeal on uniformity with comparable neighbors' homes, overvaluation, or errors in your property description. Appeal results for steps 1-2 take about 8 weeks. Results for step 3 can take up to 5 years.

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.

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CAPS Report

Beats 1722 & 1723 Beat Meeting, October 19, 2016

Present: Beat facilitators Carla Elliott, CAPS Sergeant Peter Kontil, CAPS Officer Mary Jane Parks, Beat Officers

Due to the Cubs playoff game, the CAPS meeting was shorter than usual. Sgt. Kontil reported that the Russell house, a trouble building in the area of Central Park and Sunnyside, has been quieter. There were no new issues reported in West Walker, all of which is in Beat 1723.

As always, 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 begin at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month and typically

last one hour. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Beat 1723 is Wednesday, November 16, 2016. 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

17th District Chicago Police Department

4650 N. Pulaski / 312-742-4410

FACEBOOK PAGE: CAPS-017th District-Albany Park

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Commander Elias Voulgaris,
Elias.voulgaris@chicagopolice.org

CAPS Sgt. Peter Kontil, 312-742-4588,
CAPS.017District@chicagopolice.org

Beat 1722 & 1723 CAPS Meeting (West Walker is Beat 1723) is the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the 17th District Community Room.

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— Tim Bouman

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Dorie Westmeyer
Broker, MBA, ADPR



39th Ward Report



By the time you read this, the Cubs will have won the World Series and the country will have elected a new President! Our big local news is, the Independence Branch of the Chicago Public Library (CPL) will have a new permanent home in West Walker. CPL and the Chicago Housing Authority have joined forces to

build a new 10,000-to 14,000-square-foot Independence branch, along with senior housing, at 4024 N. Elston, the Hollerbach Funeral Home site. A new Independence library would not have happened without community support. No one has been more supportive over the years than West Walker's Roberta Bole, President of Friends of Independence Library. Thank you to Roberta and all of the West Walker residents who have advocated for a new, permanent library. Next steps include a design competition followed by construction. I will keep you updated with news and progress reports.

November 30 is the deadline for the Chicago Property Tax Rebate. If your household income was under \$75,000 in 2015, you may qualify for the rebate. You must apply in person at one of the 26 sites in Chicago, including the Albany Park Library, 3401 W. Foster. Their hours are Mondays and Wednesdays 10-5, Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-7, and Fridays and Saturdays from 9-4. For more information about the program, and the documentation you need to bring when you apply, please visit cityofchicago.org/city/en.html.

Please remember that on Thursday, December 1, Chicago reactivates its Winter Overnight Parking Ban for the most critical arterial streets. Signs for this seasonal restriction are permanently posted. Parking on arterial streets where these signs are posted will result in vehicles being ticketed and towed between the hours of 3:00 a.m. until 7:00 a.m., whether or not there is snow on the ground. This parking restriction will be in effect until April 1.

To receive the latest news and updates from the 39th Ward, register for my e-newsletter. You can sign up on my website, AldermanLaurino.com, and your email will be added to the list. Your information will remain private and will never be shared. As always, please contact my office at 773-736-5594 or e-mail us at Ward39@cityofchicago.org with your concerns or questions.

Sincerely,
Margaret Laurino, Alderman, 39th Ward

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News and Events from Carlson Community Services



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

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



Pink Freud, captained by Roberta and Phil Bole, won Carlson's Trivia Night on October 15th.

Carlson's Trivia Night Scores Big Win for Players and Programs

Thanks to everyone who participated in Carlson Community Services' October Trivia Night to benefit Carlson's programs. Eighteen teams ranging in age from 20 somethings to septuagenarians competed. From players to sponsors to raffle and beverage donors, we are grateful for your support!

A team led by long-time West Walker residents Phil and Roberta Bole won the 8-round competition, leading the contest for much of the night. Good competitors and good sports, their team donated \$120 of their \$200 in prize winnings back to Carlson Community Services.

The evening netted approximately \$8,500 for Carlson's programs -- The Magic After-School Place, Three Brothers Garden and the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series.

Thanks to the following Round Sponsors and Raffle Prize donors who helped make the evening a financial success: Round Sponsors were Dorie Westmeyer, Charles Rutenberg Realty, Wintrust Bank, Mayfair Branch, Alderman John Arena, 45th Ward, Lichter Realty, Carlson Community Services Board & Committees. Raffle and silent auction donors were Old Irving Brewing, WMAQ-TV, Community Tavern, and West Walker neighbors. Special thanks to Lagunitas Brewing Company and Verizon Enterprise for beer and wine donations. A shout goes out to event chair Helen Lira, our many volunteers and to our host, Irving Park Lutheran Church. Another fun night in the neighborhood for a great cause!

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Free Holiday Concert December 11th

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present "An Americana Christmas" featuring Anna Fermin's Trigger Gospel. The Fine Arts Committee's annual holiday concert will take place on Sunday, December 11th at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Anna Fermin and her band will play holiday favorites and original songs of Americana.



Anna Fermin's Trigger Gospel will perform "An Americana Christmas" on December 11th at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

A special holiday reception prepared by the Fine Arts Committee follows the concert. Admission to the concert is free, but donations are welcome.

The mission of Carlson, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is to connect the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. For more information, contact Liz Mills at lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org or visit www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

Margaret Laurino
Alderman
39th Ward

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



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



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 and on December 21st. 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 21st, we hold a special distribution at which clients receive the makings for a full holiday dinner. We also allow clients to select 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 (ages infant to 12). For some, it will be the only gift they receive. We especially need gifts for older children (age 10 to 12), especially boys, as we receive far fewer for that age group. Soccer balls and basketballs are popular options.

We also run out of books for all ages early in the day. We find older boys, a harder group to shop for, 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.) during office hours (call 773/283-6262 to check times). Donations can be left at the bottom of the stairs at the Grace Street entrance. They also can be brought in from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays during Pantry operating hours. Local businesses in the area also help collect donations; we'll post them to our Facebook page.

The deadline for contributing toys is Friday, December 16th. Volunteers are needed to collect toys, organize the toy room, and help with the toy distribution on December 21. For information or to volunteer, contact Sara Yoest at sara.yoest74@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who donated winter coats to our annual distribution in October! We appreciate your help in ensuring our clients stay warm through the winter. Special



George Katsikas, vice president of Berman Mid City Nissan, presented the Pantry with a \$1,000 donation to help restock toiletries as needed after someone broke in and stole all of them the previous week. Executive Director John Psiharis accepted the check along with volunteers Pam True (right) and Norma Strich.

thanks to the parents and students at Disney II Elementary School, especially coordinator Rose Rivers and those who helped her, including Renee Linnemeyer, Nicole Morales, Eileen Lysault, Chris Fey and Bruce Yaeger.

The Cat's Meow Thanks YOU This November with:

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St. Edward School

The first Tuesday of the month is St. Ed's Potbelly Tuesday! Join us on Dec. 6th at 4185 W. Irving Park Road. From 4-8 pm, 25%

of all sales will be donated back to St. Edward School.

Visit us! On Thursday, Nov. 17th, from 9-11 am, St. Edward will have school tours. See our students and teachers in action! Talk to current parents and see why they chose St. Ed's. Tours begin in the main school building at 4343 W. Sunnyside.

Check out the best **All-You-Can-Eat Pasta Dinner** on the Northwest side! Sponsored by our Boy Scout Troop 904, the dinner is on Saturday, Nov. 19th from 4-8 pm in Buckley Hall at 4443 N. Lowell. The money raised is used for the boys to attend camp during the summer.

Sunday, Dec. 4th, 8 am – 2 pm is the Christmas Tree Sale! Pick out a great Christmas tree provided by the Farmers Market Garden Center in the play lot at 44447 N. Lowell. For more information on our school call 773-736-9133, or visit www.stedwardschool.com.

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Murphy and YMCA Offer 'After-Care'

After-Care will be offered by the YMCA inside of Murphy School this year! Help spread the word! The program will run Monday through Friday from dismissal until 6:30 pm. We will offer afternoon snack, homework help, an hour of physical activity, arts and crafts, science and technology, character development and counselor clubs all inside of Murphy Elementary School. If you would like registration information or have further questions please contact YMCA Youth and Family Director, Ali Greenman, at agreenman@ymcachicago.org or 773-326-2627.

a two-hour shift at one of our many stations. So check your calendars now, and sign up online at <http://signup.com/go/MUQRCS> to secure your volunteer slot. It's a great event for St. Viator, and the entire north-west side of Chicago. Winterfest will be December 2nd (5-9 pm), 3rd (11am-9pm) and 4th (9am-4pm). For more information, call St. Viator School at 773-545-2173 or contact the principal at principal@stviatorchicago.org by email.

St. Viator School Prepares for Winterfest 2016

Winterfest is our largest event of the year. It is three days full of ice skating, food, holiday market, Christmas carols, movies, and much more. This event takes EVERYONE in the community in order to make this happen. Please invite your friends and family to join us. We also need volunteers to sign up for at least

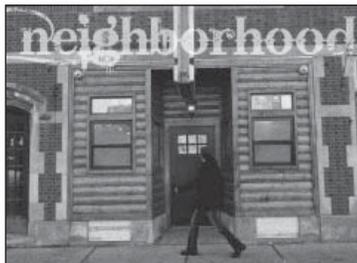


Join us for Ward Night
Tuesday evenings from 5-7PM

Contact the 45th Ward Office
4754 N. Milwaukee Ave. • Chicago, IL 60630
Phone: 773-286-4545 ward45@cityofchicago.org
www.ward45.org

the Cabin at Old Irving

A neighborhood tavern



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Also be sure to Like Us on Facebook to always get the latest on what's happening at The Cabin!

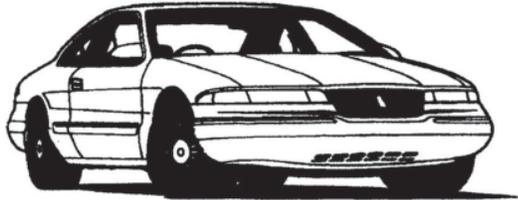
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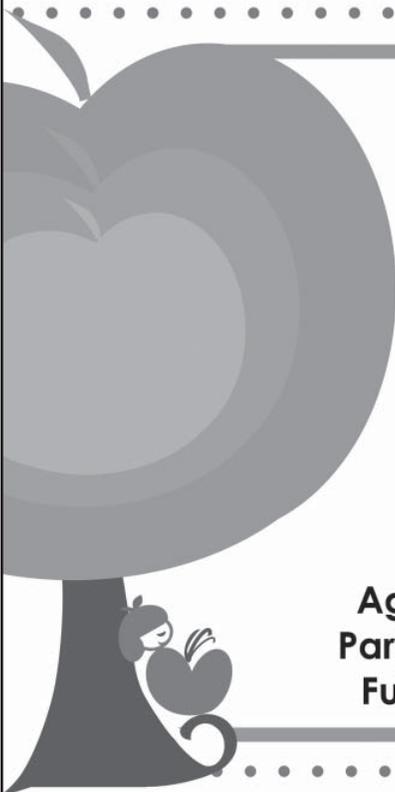
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WWCA Members

Thanks for renewing or becoming members of WWCA! A list of those neighbors who have joined or renewed as of November appears below.

**James & Carole Bruton
Jeannie Radek**

Stay Current with West Walker Blasts!

To submit an announcement or to get on the mailing list, email wwcablasts@gmail.com today!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Let them know you saw them in the West Walker Wire.

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

WEST WALKER WIRE AD RATES

	1 TIME	3 TIMES	6 TIMES	10 TIMES
Business card NA (3.5" wide x 2" high)	\$45 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$90 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$125 <input type="checkbox"/>	
1/4-page ad (3.7" wide x 5" high)	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$80 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$160 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$260 <input type="checkbox"/>
1/2-page ad (7.5" wide x 5" high)	\$60 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$165 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$330 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$520 <input type="checkbox"/>
Full-page ad (8" wide x 10" high)	\$120 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$330 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$660 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,050 <input type="checkbox"/>

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Contact E-Mail: _____

- The Wire is published 10 times a year (September through June).
- ALL AD ARTWORK is due on the 20th of the month prior. High-resolution pdfs, tiffs, and jpgs (black-and-white) are preferred. Microsoft Word files and camera-ready "hard copy" versions also are acceptable.
- WE PREFER that art artwork be submitted as a file attachment and sent in an e-mail to: WWWire@solsticepr.com.

SEND ALL AD COPY AND PAYMENTS (AND ANY AD QUESTIONS) TO:
SHANNAN BUNTING AT WWWire@solsticepr.com
4214 N. RIDGEWAY • CHICAGO, IL 60618

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 e-mail updates on neighborhood events and area crime
- Area non-profit groups like the Irving Park Community Food Pantry, Independence Park, and Independence Library
- Art In My Back Yard artistic series • Annual Community Garage Sale
- Free special events, like the Halloween Party and Fall Festival and 4th of July celebration at Independence Park

Bring your 2016-2017 dues to our next WWCA meeting on November 15th! Or mail in the application below.

WEST WALKER CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yearly Membership Dues: Effective May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017

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



THE FISH GUY Market / WELLFLEET

4423 N. Elston Avenue in Chicago

Market Open Tuesday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wellfleet Open Tuesday - Saturday,
Lunch Seating 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

walk-ins welcome – reservations appreciated – closed Sunday & Monday

773-283-7400 www.fishguy.com bill@fishguy.com

Conveniently located near Elston and Montrose Avenues.
On-Street Parking available as well as front-loading zone for customers.

“Kind service, ambitious presentation and supreme quality of food...”
– *TimeOut Chicago*

Pat Bruno of the Sun Times voted our lobster roll
“among the top 5 sandwiches in Chicago.”

Highly recommended by Chicago Tribune, Chicago Foodies,
Chicago Social, TimeOut Chicago and Midwest Living.

W

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Chicago's Singular Seafood
Dining Experience

I love my new bedroom,
THANKS CONNIE!

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