Tact officers shared useful information at Walk and Talk



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We welcome September and signs of the fall season this Wednesday. It may start out hot, but the temperature should be cooling through the month. Soon it will be time for caramel apples and pumpkin lattes.

The Chicago Police Department's Chicago Lawn (8th) District is the biggest district in the city. I just learned this tidbit from attending "Walk and Talk with Tact" last Friday at 62nd and Hamlin.

After searching online and finding a map of the police districts, I found that the 8th runs from 51st to 65th on Harlem, then all the way over to just east of Western and 87th. The district shares borders with the 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th Districts at various points on the map.

Twenty-third Ald. Silvana Tabares was on hand to introduce the team of tactical officers. Lieutenant Michael Poppish led the discussion with approximately nine other tactical officers. There was also a member of the Belt Railroad Police standing by.

Questions from the community were answered and helpful tips were given when civilians need to report an emergency. One tip is to try and be as specific as possible when making a 911 call. Here are some non-emergency numbers that may help as well: 8th District Police Department (non-emergency): 312 747-8730, Ald. Tabares' 23 Ward Service Office: 773 582-4444.

Once every couple of weeks, I visit the St. Vincent De Paul Society Food Pantry at St. Turibius Church with a small donation. The men, women and Sisters dedicate their time and efforts to help our fellow neighbors.

Well, unfortunately their shelves are almost empty, and the demand for food is greater than ever. So, a food drive will be held in the parking lot with the hopes of replenishing the most needed supplies. The drive will be held on Friday, Sept. 10 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Sept. 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. Suggestions include boxes of pasta, macaroni and cheese, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, etc. Even dish soap and toilet tissue would be greatly appreciated.

If you are a 1970 graduate of St. Laurence High School, a 50 plus 1 reunion party is being planned for the weekend of Sept. 10-12. For more information, call Tom at 708-573-4923.

Happy Birthday to Crystal Garcia on Aug. 30. Birthday wishes also go out to Sergio at the end of our block. Sergio has turned 15 and is a fine young man. We will be attending his birthday party as well. Sergio is either a third or fourth generation Sergio. It seems a lot of the men in the family have taken that name.