

OLD IRVING PARK

NEWS



OCTOBER

VOLUME 32 | ISSUE 9 | 2018

Stephanie Cutter

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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 32 ❁ Issue 9 ❁ October 2018

A publication of the Old Irving Park Association by, for and about people living in the neighborhood. Old Irving Park neighborhood boundaries includes: Addison on the south, Montrose on the north, Pulaski on the east and the Milwaukee District North Line on the west (from Addison to Irving Park) continuing with the freight/Amtrak railroad tracks from Irving Park to Montrose (i.e., east of Knox Ave.). A map can be found on our website.

The Old Irving Park Association (OIPA) is a non-profit, all volunteer community group active since 1983. The *Old Irving Park News* is published ten times a year.

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**ANASTAZJA
SZUKALA**

Meet the Delivery Team!

Q: Why did you start this volunteer gig and how long have you been doing it?

Anastazja (Staja) Szukala

I did it because my mom asked me to, so naturally, I had to say yes. I think I've been doing it for about four or five months. (Time flies by when you're delivering newsletters.)

Bob Jones

Been doing it for 4-5 years. Don't know how I started, one day they showed up at my door, and I thought what the heck, I'll deliver them! Never asked, but my wife may have volunteered me, she likes to volunteer me for stuff.

Gayle Christensen

I started volunteering for OIPA in the 1990's when I joined Anna Sobor and others in the effort that successfully downzoned our neighborhood to maintain its character of single family homes and two flats on larger lots. Shortly after that I was elected Secretary of the OIPA board and later served as Vice President. I went back to work in 2003 and had to downscale my volunteer activities, so I left the board. But not wanting to give it up entirely, I took over my aging neighbor's delivery route, and still on the job!

Q: To what (which) block(s) do you deliver newsletters?

Anastazja (Staja) Szukala:

I deliver newsletter down 3700 block of Lowell. Very nice people.

Bob Jones:

4100 N Keeler/ 4200 W Berteau/ 4100 N Tripp

Gayle Christensen:

I deliver on the 3900 block of Kenneth and the adjacent blocks on Irving.



**GAYLE
CHRISTENSEN**



OIPA VOLUNTEERS | News Delivery Team

Q: How long does it take you to deliver to your route and do you do anything else while making deliveries?

Anastazja (Staja) Szukala:

It takes me 10-12 minutes. Sometimes I walk my dog, Yeah. He makes it 20-22 minutes.

Bob Jones:

15 minutes or so. Don't have a dog and not one of those put stuff in your ear folks. I like the air, breeze, sidewalk, trees, say hi to folks, just look around.

Gayle Christensen:

Well, these days only about 10 minutes. It used to be every household but one on the block were members, but we're down to six plus three advertisers. Many who used to be members tell me that they can find all the information they need online. I try to explain to them that strength is in numbers and that if we ever have to deal collectively with a significant issue affecting OIP, it really helps to say that the organization represents a large number of households.

Q: Do you have any funny stories or observations you've made while delivering newsletters?

Anastazja (Staja) Szukala:

Yes, actually. I was almost finished delivering the newsletter to all the houses when I had one more house left. But I saw that I had two newsletters in my bag. I kind of freaked out and I went back to peek into the mailboxes I had already gone to see if I put a newsletter in there. I could tell some people walking past were pretty weirded out by a thirteen-year-old girl peeking into other people's mailboxes. But when I got

to the last house, I saw that I put all the newsletters in the correct mailboxes. Then I shrugged and assumed that they accidentally put an extra. I got back to my house, and I remembered that I never left one for our home. So, it all worked out in the end. Thank you.

Gayle Christensen:

I know everyone who needs to repair their porch or stairs. I also have the pleasure, for a few more months, to deliver to Sabatino's and hand our newsletter to Enzo or Angelo.

Q: Is there anything you would like newsletter recipients to know that would make your job easier?

Anastazja (Staja) Szukala:

Don't have complicated mailboxes. Also, I accept tips. Just saying.

Bob Jones:

Please keep your area clear of snow and ice.

Gayle Christensen:

Keeping their stairs clear of ice and snow in the winter is most appreciated.

Q: Three words to describe Old Irving Park?

Anastazja (Staja) Szukala:

Peaceful, nice, and quiet.

Bob Jones:

Open, friendly, and convenient.

Gayle Christensen:

Friendly, beautiful...HOME.



Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting

September 10, 2018 — Anna Zolkowski Sobor, director

Attendees: Lynn Ankney, Anna Sobor, Meredith O'Sullivan, Adrienne Chan, and Colleen Kenny. Absent: Bart Goldberg, Howard Silver

The Board meeting commenced at about 7:07 p.m. Our thanks to Meredith for hosting. If Meredith provided any treats for our consumption (beyond beverages) there was no evidence of them at the time of the meeting. Unlike the last time, I will not jump to conclusions and throw her otherwise exemplary children under the bus.

Business Development: Finom, 4200 W Irving Park, opening soon. Waiting for final permit approvals.

Aldermanic Forums: Working with neighboring community groups to plan forums for the 39th and 45th Wards.

Membership: Membership drive time. Renewals coming in. Those who don't renew by deadline will not receive October newsletter.

All Star Member Party: Huge thank you to Colleen and Rich Kenny for hosting a fabulous party at their beautiful home. Thanks to everyone who donated at the All Star level and attended.

OIPA archives: Appeal to have all current/former board members consolidate records and newsletters in one place so we can begin archiving them.

Future General Meetings: October 8: Ghost stories;
November 12: Giving back to your community;
December 9: Holiday party at a neighborhood restaurant.

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OIPA MEETING • October 8

Ghost Stories of Old Irving Park

Share Your Spine-tingling Stories at the October OIPA Member Meeting

October OIPA Member Meeting

7 p.m. | Monday, October 8
Irving Park Baptist Church

Hear the occasional sound of footsteps above when no one was upstairs or the inexplicable relocation of a candle from the fireplace mantel to other corners of the room. Do you have a spine-tingling story or a creepy legend to share? The October 8th meeting will feature a Halloween theme concerning The Ghosts of Old Irving Park, along with relevant house histories.

If you have spooky tale to share, please contact Lynn Ankey at jlankney@prodigy.net. She will add you to the line-up. If you can't attend the meeting, send her your story.

The October meeting will also include the election of Directors for the next two years.



Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting

on September 10, 2018 — Minutes compiled by OIPA President, Lynn Ankney and Vice President, Adrienne Chan, filling in for a vacationing Bart Goldberg

About 35 residents joined us as we kicked off our fall meeting “season”. We began a few minutes late due to people reconnecting with neighbors and folks chatting with newcomers.

General Announcements

It’s September, which is OIPA’s “January!” In other words, please pay your dues! You can complete a paper form (which appears in every newsletter) or pay online: www.olderirvingpark.com/join-us.

Business Updates: **Jerry Petrow**, the new owner of the 4202-04 Irving Park Rd. has found an architect and is working on drawings for his future pizza place. **Finom Coffee House**, located next door at 4200, should be opening in the next couple of weeks. OIPA will continue to attend monthly meetings, led and hosted by **Gidley Management Group** and attended by local businesses, focused on creating an Irving Park Chamber of Commerce.

Aldermanic Candidate Forums: OIPA is partnering with several other NW side civic organizations to hold a candidate forum for the 39th Ward Aldermanic race. We have earmarked Thursday, January 24, 2019, as our working date. Time and place TBD. We have reached out to other civics to inquire about working on a similar effort for the 45th Ward election.

Miscellaneous: Beginning with the October edition of the Old Irving Park News, we will use the “President’s Message” page to profile members of our indispensable newsletter deliverers.

The soon to open **Nick Cave** art gallery (to be named

“The Facility”) plans to adorn their storefront with “Love Thy Neighbor” theme. We passed out nametags for meeting attendees to write their name, and OIPA passed on these colorful tags to the gallery. (See page 34)

We also collected new/gently used winter coats and delivered them to the Irving Park Food Pantry in anticipation for their October distribution.

Oipa Director Candidate Statements

All 5 candidates shared their reasons for either returning to the role (Colleen Kenny, Meredith O’Sullivan, and Anna Sobor) or running for the first time (Scott Legan and Annie Swingen). Spoiler: all 5 residents will be (re)elected, as we have 5 candidates for 5 Director positions. We thank these 5 residents for stepping up to volunteer their time, talents and passion for making a difference in our community.

Alderman John Arena 45th Ward, and 39th Ward Staff Brian Robin and Angel Davila

This portion of the meeting consisted of Q&A from the audience. Topics discussed included:

Water main replacement work that began on September 6 on the 4300 block of Keeler. Crews will make their way south until they complete the project to Irving Park Road. Work should continue for a couple of months, with the restoration of the roads (“curb to curb”) to take place in the spring.

Resurfacing and potholes! Have a pothole? Report it to your aldermanic office and/or 311 now. The “hot



OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

patch” the city can utilize during non-winter months is far more effective than the “cold patch” they are relegated to during the winter. **Fun fact:** the 39th Ward resurfaced 22 blocks of the road last year.

Comment: The yellow paint on my hydrant has disappeared. **Response:** Call the Alderman’s office.

Angel Davila educated meeting attendees about the functions of the city’s key card, which acts as an ID, library card, transportation pass, and reduction for prescriptions all in one.

Question/plea: We have ward boundaries in our neighborhood. How do we get accountability?

Question: How can you work together better when you get a request that relates to something that is in/on a ward boundary? **Answer:** 45th Ward office policy is to take all requests and share with the 39th Ward when appropriate. 311 is organized by Ward, so Wards cannot “see” other Ward’s 311 tickets. **Good news:** There’s a new 311 system slated for Spring of 2019 that promises to be less antiquated and more user-friendly.

Question: When will the the Blue Line escalator(s) be repaired. **Answer:** The Irving Park escalator is scheduled to be fixed by December. The escalator at the Pulaski entrance location is being decommissioned (age and unavailability of parts make repair challenging) and the stairs are being widened to allow for passage in both directions at once. [actual plans to be confirmed]

Questions: Will you commit to working together to the cleaning and maintenance of viaducts? **And,** what is your plan to make measurable improvements to the cleanliness of our viaducts and common areas? We’ve heard a lot of “we’re working on it.” **Answer:** This issue requires the coordination of the city and state agencies. The 45th Ward has recently met with the

stakeholders, including Representative Jaime Andrade, who recently secured \$6 million in state funding to address the viaducts in/around the Irving Park Blue Line station.

Question: What’s happening with the Sears property?

Answer: The property is “in concept,” and the Alderman’s office expects to hold a meeting in October.

Question: What’s happening with The Point development? *At this point, we were running out of meeting time.* The audience was encouraged to join the 6 Corners Association distribution list for updates.

Keeler Gardens – Gina Iliopoulos, Chief Horticultural Specialist

Keeler Gardens, located at 3631 N. Keeler (www.keelergardens.com and www.facebook.com/KeelerGardens) educates on biophilia, and the inclusion of the natural world into any space and every lifestyle, for the betterment of our overall health and well-being. Gina told the audience about Keeler Garden’s recent award of a pollinator grant and shared their desire to welcome anyone and everyone from the neighborhood to experience their garden. Keeler Gardens offer educational programs and volunteer opportunities for school groups, seniors, and anyone interested in improving their urban life.

NEXT MEETING – October 8 at 7 p.m.

Do you have a ghost in your home or a story of the paranormal to share? Join us for our October meeting, when we’ll hold OIPA Director elections, hear about local, spooky ghost stories, and learn about the recent archaeological dig that took place at OIP’s very own Sheriff Gray Farmhouse.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

MEET THE DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



ELECTIONS AT OCTOBER MEMBER MEETING

Colleen Kenny

Past/Present Participation with OIPA: Director, 2016-present. Ad Manager, 2017. Neighborhood All Star Party Host, 2017.

Past/Present Volunteer Activities (non-OIPA):

Pro Bono: Forest Preserve Foundation, Chicago Housing Authority, Off the Street Club

Past/Present Professional Experience:

Senior Vice President, Account Director at Leo Burnett (Advertising and Creative Solutions Agency) and other Marketing Communications Agencies

Goals/Priorities as a member of the OIPA Board:

6 years ago my husband and I saw an old house that most people would have torn down and decided to renovate and make Old Irving Park our home.

The historic nature of Old Irving Park often makes me want to be part of an era less isolated by technology and individualism and more motivated by compassion and community.

Serving on the OIPA board of directors, I love to welcome new members and see together, how great we can make this already magnificent neighborhood.

I also enjoy helping spread the word about our great local business via our robust ad/newsletter program.

I would be honored to serve another term.

Calnen (Annie) Swingen

Past/Present Participation with OIPA: Newsletter subscriber; general enthusiast of the organization

Past/Present Volunteer Activities (non-OIPA):

Beaubien LSC member (2017-present); CPS parent volunteer (2015-present) (fundraising, classroom support); Condo Board President (2010-2012)

Past/Present Professional Experience:

Past – Freelance writer, “Mommy Nearest,” *Chicago Tribune* — (should come out of hiatus)

Goals/Priorities as a member of the OIPA Board:

I would like to work to promote continued economic development in the neighborhood as well as liaise with sister organizations in adjacent neighborhoods who share our interests; support local public and private schools; help ensure that the neighborhood remains a vibrant and diverse area as we continue to evolve.

.....

Anna Zolkowski Sobor

Past/Present Participation with OIPA: I’ve been involved with OIPA for over 20 years, serving as President, Vice President, Secretary, co-chair of the Zoning Committee and co-founder of the original Parents Committee in 1996. As a current board member, create daily content for OIPA’s Facebook page and weekly e-mail blasts.

Past/Present Volunteer Activities (non-OIPA):

Regional executive director, Polish Girls Scouts of Chicago; Vice Chairman, Polish Constitution Day Parade Committee; translator for elected officials, Polish talk radio & TV are among the past highlights. Currently serving as volunteer Commissioner on the Six Corners SSA.



MEET THE DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

Past/Present Professional Experience: Commercial and residential property manager, Chicago and Union Pier, Michigan; Director of Development, Polish American Association; Account executive, The Sive Group (public affairs); Director of Human Resources, The Morton Group including Morton's of Chicago steakhouses.

Goals/Priorities as a member of the OIPA Board:

As a member of the OIPA Board, I hope to continue informing and organizing our community around important issues using social media, email and other platforms. Will work with the newly forming Irving Park Chamber of Commerce to improve the appearance of Irving Park Road itself as well as assist with economic development and marketing. Lastly, pigeons. Continue pressing for a remedy for the dirty sidewalks under all of our viaducts.

Meredith O'Sullivan

Past/Present Participation with OIPA: Current board member

Past/Present Volunteer Activities (non-OIPA): Friends of Skinner North, board member, fundraising chair

Christian Family Co-op, board member; Friends of Downtown, board member, treasurer, president; Junior League of Chicago, member

Past/Present Professional Experience: n/a

Goals/Priorities as a member of the OIPA Board:

I would like to continue working on the member database and newsletter. Some day I hope to merely push a button to get a list of birthdays for the newsletter!

Scott Legan

Past/Present Participation with OIPA: I've been a semi active member of OIPA for the last 2 years. Recently started delivering monthly newsletters with my family.

Past/Present Volunteer Activities (non-OIPA):

Assisted with HS track and field program in Louisiana for 5 years. Worked with Muscular Dystrophy Association as a camp counselor as well as telethon phone bank operator. Former Americorps member working in CPS. While being a teacher, I have worked with Burton Chill to provide inner-city middle school students the opportunity to learn to snowboard.

Past/Present Professional Experience: 6 years active duty Air Force, making the rank of Staff Sgt after 4 years. While in the service ran the night shift of 16 airmen maintaining nuclear cruise missiles. While stationed in Louisiana for the duration of my service, I assisted with 6 months of Hurricane Katrina relief work.

For the last 7 years, I have been a physical education teacher in Chicago. I have worked all around the city from Rogers Park, North Lawndale, Avondale, East Garfield Park, to currently Bridgeport. In my previous role, I was the high school athletic director running a sports program of 16 coaches and as many as 200 student-athletes.

Goals/Priorities as a member of the OIPA Board: With a job that is no longer as time-consuming as it was when I first joined OIPA, I am looking to get more involved in the neighborhood. Being relatively new to the neighborhood, I want to have the opportunity to work with the current leadership in OIPA and be mentored by individuals who have made great strides in the neighborhood. Working alongside with the other members of OIPA, I want to bring a long-term look at what I would like to see 30-40 years from now in the community.

OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

[C] = Court Approved [F] = Foreclosure Sale [S] = Short Sale



Single Family

4407 W. Waveland.....	\$515,800
4409 W. Waveland.....	\$515,800
3915 N. Kilbourn.....	\$549,000
4022 N. Kilbourn.....	\$550,000
3937 N. Tripp.....	\$565,000
4028 N. Kolmar.....	\$650,000
3857 N. Kilbourn.....	\$735,000
3902 N. Kedvale.....	\$830,000
3920 N. Keeler.....	\$1,180,000



Attached Single Family

4219 N. Keystone, 1E.....	\$79,000
4213 N. Kedvale, 3J.....	\$133,000
4126 N. Kedvale, 203.....	\$136,500
4218 N. Keystone, 3A.....	\$160,000
3916 N. Kedvale, 2E.....	\$166,300
3825 N. Milwaukee, C.....	\$327,000
3913 N. Kedvale, A.....	\$390,000
4527 W. Irving Park.....	\$410,000



2-4 Units

4047 W. Waveland.....	\$ 464,000
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Dr. Kirk Kollmann Dr. Cissy Furusho

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around the corner . . .



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OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



October Anniversaries

- 1 Jaime & Mark Murray
- 3 Kellee & Joe Simz
- 4 Kathryn & Burke Leshner
Midge Stocker & Diana Clegg
Prutha & Josh Davis
- 5 Barbara & Steve Cohn
- 6 Rob & Vicki Ross
- 7 Mona & Jorge Garcia
- 9 Carolyn & John Newlin
Charles & Monica Graff
Pete Jurgeleit & Carolyn Morehouse
- 10 Lauren & Felix Lopez
Rebecca & Jonathan Miller
Tonnia & Mike Koehler
- 12 Adrienne & Chris Chan
Claudia & T.J. Hine
Juliet & Dave Pierce
- 14 Carol & Kenneth West
- 15 Alisin DeKock & Richard Liu
Kristin Gross & John Nicewick
- 16 Leslie & Blake Batterson
Michael & Patricia Cier
- 17 Beth & John Ruark
- 18 Meridith & Michael Cannon
- 19 Fred & Dawn Wu
- 20 Phoebe & Chris Craig
- 22 Cynthia & Jose Rivera
Jennifer & Daniel Dahir
Jorge & Illeana Gomez
- 23 Fraya & Christopher Black
- 26 Mary & Mark Sussman
- 27 Jennifer & Eric Small
Susan Gidley & Phil Timberman
- 30 Kiki & Brad Schotanus
- 31 Juan Torres & Nancy Torres-Ibarra

October Birthdays

- 1 Jon Miller
Juan Salinas
Steve Held
- 2 John McKernin
- 3 Mary Czarnowski
- 4 Kate Cain
Rachel O'Mara
- 5 Danielle West
Margo Pecoulas
Paul Pickering
- 6 Kimberlee Gillespie
Martin Geraghty
- 7 Felix Lopez
Joe Gugle
- 8 Kellee Simz
Gregory Ward
Winston Greene
- 9 Leslie Becksted
Megan Beseth
- 10 Andrea Larsen
- 11 Leanne Neurauter
- 12 Maureen Miller
- 14 Frank Gogliotti
- 15 Kurt Fries
- 17 Amber Kim
Katie Brandt
Maile Solis
Peggy Krischer
- 19 Jaclyn Nash
- 20 Christopher Black
- 21 Brian O'Donnell
Daniel Dahir
Dee Barrett
- 22 Chris Faris
Daniel Leavy
- 23 Cyril Koscinski
Fred Wu
- 24 Christopher Cannon
Christina Calvit
J.R. Cadawas
Clisson Rexford
Jonathan Ankey
Ryan Booth
- 25 David Evaskus
Sara Yoest
- 26 Alice Sheets
Cristina Evaskus
Gayle Christensen
- 27 Marc Janser
- 28 Beth Ruark
James Bychowski
- 29 John Kaufmann
Kinsey Wolf
Mary Gail Abrahamson
- 30 Martin Yorath
Tim Alexander
- 31 Bridget Bauman

Is your birthday or anniversary missing from this list? Not sure if you provided your info in your renewal form? If so, please contact Meredith O'Sullivan at meredithosullivan@gmail.com or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.

40th District State Representative

Jaime Andrade

773.267.2880 • staterep40@gmail.com

3007 W. Irving Park Road, Suite A-Front, Chicago, IL 60618



We encourage you to stop by if you need help accessing state services or to share your thoughts and ideas on ways to improve our community and state.

Like us on Facebook



IL 40th District-Jaime Andrade



Raising Eco Awareness in OIP — Claudia Hine

As the Irving Park Garden Club's 2018 season comes to a close, members will meet for a final time on Saturday, October 20, to hear from **Saima Abbasi**, who is on the board of directors of **Go Green Wilmette**. Her topic of discussion is sustainable gardening.

Go Green Wilmette was founded in 2006 with a mission to raise environmental awareness, inspire people to take action, and create a more sustainable community. Its vision is to ensure clean air, clean water, and natural green spaces for the health and well-being of generations to come.

Abbasi chairs Wilmette's Sustainable Yard Tour and its Tree Walk for the organization. She is a volunteer at the Chicago Botanic Gardens as well as a Tree-keeper with Openlands.

Making a positive impact on the environment — right in our own backyards — is what gardening is all about. We are looking forward to learning more about managing storm water, producing healthy organic food, composting waste, and providing critical native habitats for birds and beneficial insects.

Club members will meet at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3827 N. Kostner Ave., at noon. Interested? Join us! Membership is just \$20 cash or check, and you can pay at the door. Although it's our last meeting of the season, you'll still get your money's worth: We're serving lunch, too.

We're the Irving Park Garden Club. We like to dine, drink, and dig. For more information, visit [Facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub](https://www.facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub) or contact me at claudia.hine@yahoo.com.



Part of Go Green Wilmette's Sustainable Yard Tour,

this rain garden attracts birds, thrives with plants that love water, and redirects rain from sewers into the ground. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*

Growing Herbs

In September, we had a great turnout to hear a presentation from **Marcy Lautanen-Raleigh** of **Backyard Patch Herbs** on how to "Be an Herbal Gourmet." Marcy gave us a stir-fry cooking demonstration to show us how adding basic herbs to our dishes can make them more interesting. She also treated us to a cream cheese spread on crackers to complement our wine tasting. Delicious!



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It's Fall — Celebrate Nature!

As fall starts and the temperatures start to cool and the days become shorter, there are still lots of ways you can connect with nature. Autumn brings to mind the harvest of wonderful fruits, vegetables, and other tasty eats that are at their peaks in fall. Here at Keeler Gardens, we are thrilled to report our beehives were recently harvested, and we will soon have our very first jar of Keeler Gardens honey.

We were fortunate enough to be present at harvest time when Sloanstead Farm pulled out the hive frames full of honey. They examined each frame, to determine how much honey was stored. Only frames that were full, with each cell capped with wax, were pulled out of the hives

The honey will be drawn from the frames, filtered, and put in jars, and soon you will be able to sample the bees' hard work. Make sure you are following us on Facebook @KeelerGardens to be the first to know when the honey is available.



Take advantage of one of the programs offered by Keeler Gardens to connect with nature. Supporting honeybees, with hives, nectar, pollen, and water, is just one of the things you can learn about.

The pollinator habitat has established nicely. Stop on your next walk through the neighborhood and enjoy, you may even see a hummingbird! We are available to answer any questions you may have, please stop and ask.

All photos courtesy of Keeler Gardens

Keeler Gardens, located at 3631 N. Keeler Ave. in Old Irving Park, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community organization educating on the physical, mental, and cognitive benefits of connecting with nature. We work to improve the health and sustainability of urban community life through environmental experiences, supporting diversity and youth development, and building a love of nature through service to self and the natural world.



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Lydia Home Success Story

The end of summer reminds us of the essential part education plays in a child's life. For the foster children in our care, finding the right school is an integral part of their healing. The 2018 school year sees the 41 children who live at LYDIA attending 20 different schools! While this can seem overwhelming, we are spurred on by success stories like this:

Allyson* was standing up to be recognized for her academic achievements again. With her new foster family in the audience, she was receiving an award for being on the honor roll for the 3rd straight semester. Along with getting straight A's, she was a member of student leadership at her school. This was an outcome that Allyson could not imagine when she first arrived at LYDIA.

Two years earlier, Allyson was thought to have severe autism. When entering foster care, she was prone to wild and violent outbursts. She lacked social skills and was receiving failing marks in school. Allyson bounced from foster home to foster home with each family saying that she was out of control. By the time she arrived at LYDIA, Allyson had run out of hope.

Allyson thrived at LYDIA. For the first time, she experienced the safety and structure that she never received as a child. She began learning coping skills and how to better interact with others. She also learned to forgive those who hurt her. We saw Allyson's shell of fear and anxiety fall away to reveal a brilliant young, lady with a thirst for knowledge and a heart for family.

Allyson found Hope, Healing, and Home at LYDIA. We're happy to report that Allyson, who recently started tenth grade, is doing really well with her new foster family. And, she is glad her foster family includes two dogs.

Be sure to follow to follow LYDIA on Social Media. If you'd like to set up a tour of Lydia Home, please reach out to us at Development@LydiaHome.org

** Name has been changed to protect the privacy of the individual.*





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- Gina S.

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The Buzz at Belding

— Lisa Owens, 4th Grade Reading/Social Studies Teacher



ANNUAL WALK-A-THON

It's that time of year again! Belding's annual Walk-A-Thon is coming soon. It is a great time to have fun, stay fit, and raise money for our school. The focus of the fundraising is to bring additional visual arts instruction to Belding. Belding has music and full-time dance teachers on staff, but this additional fundraising allows us to hire visual arts vendors to ensure that our students receive a comprehensive arts education. Belding has a century-long commitment to arts for our children! On Thursday, September 27th, students, staff, and family members will walk in 20-minute intervals around the Belding track. If enough money is raised, the students will have the opportunity to "Dress the Dog" by dousing Principal Yutzy, who will be dressed as a hot dog, and Assistant Principal Singleton, dressed as a french fry, with mustard and ketchup! We're willing to make an exception to the no ketchup rule just this once to see this happen! Money raised during this event will fund field trips, art classes for all students, and upgrades to our auditorium.

Belding Parent Group

The Belding Parent Group (BPG) is a not-for-profit organization made of up parent volunteers who work together to make great things happen for Belding School. Through school-wide fundraising events such as the upcoming Walk-a-thon, adult social events like Beers and Bids for Belding, and numerous smaller-scale fundraisers and volunteer opportunities throughout the school year, the BPG has raised thousands of dollars and helped strengthen the school community. Working closely with Principal Yutzy and the Belding community to determine the school's needs and wants. The BPG has raised money to fund anything from art classes for all students to major A/V improvements for the school auditorium, to teacher stipends they can use for field trips or classroom improvement.

Are you curious to see what Belding Elementary has to offer your child?

Each month Principal Heather Yutzy offers school tours for prospective parents. This is an excellent opportunity to see Belding teachers and students in action and to learn more about our school. Upcoming tour dates include September 18, October 23, November 20, December 18, and January 22. Tours begin at 8:00 a.m. in the school office.

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As a part of the curriculum, all students have Spanish, gym, art and music. Touting a robust athletic program for both boys and girls as well as an extensive extracurricular lineup, St. Edward School offers each child so much more than just a seat in a classroom.

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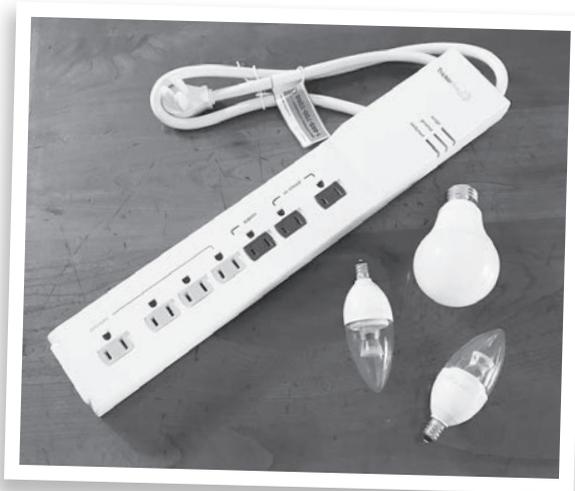




OIPA Program Leads to Energy Savings — Claudia Hine

At OIPA's May general meeting, speaker **Amy Bobel, Outreach Coordinator** gave a presentation on the **Peoples Gas/North Shore Gas Energy Efficiency Program and the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program**. She explained how customers can get free installation of energy- and water-saving products as well as weatherization, HVAC, and water heater rebates — all in an effort to lower energy bills.

Our very astute secretary, Bart Goldberg, questioned the motivation of ComEd and People's Gas to lower our bills, but Amy explained the program is funded by the utilities' customers in compliance with Illinois law. Looking at my latest ComEd bill, I see a tax of \$.16 for the Energy Savings Program, and on the People's Gas bill, a tax of \$.34 for the Natural Gas Savings Program. In other words, we're already paying for it, we might as well take advantage of it.



We were one of several families that evening to sign up for an appointment. The program is very popular, so we had to wait until September for our turn, but the process was quick and easy, and I just wanted to share our experience with you.

After going through the house floor by floor, our technician, Harry, brought us two types of LED light bulbs for the fixtures that didn't have them already (and that we were willing to change). That amounted to more than 30 free LED bulbs. Harry had a ladder with him so he could actually change the bulbs for us.

For our computers and television, we received five free advanced power strips. These are seven outlet strips with two plugs that are always on (e.g., for your modem or cable box), one control plug (for your computer or television), and four switched plugs (for your printer and other peripheral equipment) that will automatically turn off when you turn off the computer. Because standby power is wasting electricity when appliances are switched off but still plugged in, these advanced power strips save money by reducing standby power consumption.

We did not take advantage of some other free products in this program, such as new water-saving showerheads (we didn't want) and hot water pipe insulation (we didn't need), but they are offered. Because we already have programmable thermostats,

Left: A few of the free light bulbs and power strips available from the ComEd/People's Gas Energy Efficiency Program.

Photo by T. J. Hine.



TIPS FROM YOUR NEIGHBOR

we didn't need the rebate for the smart thermostat, but that is also available.

If you wish to sign up for your free energy assessment, call 855-433-2700 to schedule an appointment.

Additional Ways To Save

ComEd also has another program that can save you money. The Peak Time Savings program takes place between June 1 and September 30. ComEd will notify you (via phone, text, or e-mail) on a particular day when you can receive a credit on your bill by reducing energy consumption during a certain time period. For example, on August 28, we earned a credit of \$14.70 for reducing electric use between 3 and 7 p.m.

Remember, if you've got an old working refrigerator or freezer in the basement, ComEd will pick it up and haul it away, then send you a check for \$50. Another great deal.

Thank you, OIPA, for bringing the Energy Efficiency Program to our attention. We're so glad we took advantage of it.

For more info on the Home Energy Assessment visit www.comed.com/WaysToSave/ForYourHome

Owners of single-family homes, two-flats, condos and townhomes are eligible. Renters in these building types are also eligible, with permission from their landlord.



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St. Edward Scoop – October 2018

Spirit Week Kicks Off

Spirit week kicks off Monday, October 1. We celebrate our school pride with spirit day. On Thursday, October 4, we have Pack the Gym night as our girls' basketball teams take on Queen of All Saints. On Friday, we gear up for our big Homecoming game with a Pep Rally. The parade and football game versus Immaculate Conception. The Homecoming Parade begins in the church parking lot at 9:15 a.m., and processes to Gompers Park. The JV game starts at 10:30 a.m. and Varsity at 12noon.

St. Ed's Community Days at Potbelly's

Potbelly's, located at 4185 W. Irving Park, will once again host monthly Community Days! From 3–7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 20% of all sales will be donated back to the school.



Photo provided by St. Edward Parish

John Keane Memorial Scholarship Dance

The John Keane Memorial Scholarship dance will be held on Saturday, October 6 from 6:30–9:30 p.m. in Unity Hall, 4350 W. Sunnyside. Entry is \$5 per person or \$20 for a family, with all the profits going toward scholarships for our graduating 8th graders. Pizza and concessions will be available for purchase.

Visit Us on Welcome Wednesday.

Join us for a tour and coffee on Wednesday, October 10, at Welcome Wednesday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with a campus tour at 9 a.m. Tours are open to all prospective parents with children entering school or older students that might want to transfer. Parents will be available to answer questions and tour classrooms while school is in session. Questions or to RSVP please email rsvp@stedwardschool.com. If you are interested in scheduling a shadow day, please call the school office 773.736.9133.

King of Hearts Raffle

St. Edward Parish has started a weekly progressive raffle, the King of Hearts. One ticket is selected weekly, and a card is picked from the mounting board. If the King of Hearts is chosen, and the number of the selected card is the King of Hearts, the winner splits the pot with the Parish. If the King of Hearts is not selected, the money rolls over to the next week. Tickets are six for \$5 and are available at St. Edward Rectory at 4350 W. Sunnyside and Old Irving Brewery, 4419 W. Montrose. The first drawing is Saturday, September 29th.

We are a 2017 recipient of the National Blue Ribbon and are located at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue. We welcome students in grades PK3 – 8th grade. For more information, please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com or call us at 773-736-9133.

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Stay tuned for upcoming events at stviatorchicago.org or on our Facebook page.

Cross Country Runs Again

Now in its third year, St. Viator's Co-ed Cross Country Program has pulled way ahead of the pack. Approx. 35 students in grades 5-8 joined the team this year. In the first meet, the DePaul College Prep RAM Invitational, the Viator Eagles competed against 25 other private and public schools from all over Chicagoland. With 100-235 students in each race, it's a crowded field. Congratulations to 6th grader Jack Reid who placed 15th in the 5th/6th-grade boys' division!

"Cross-country is about each child pushing him/herself to do the best job that he/she can. Over the course of the season, our kids will see their times come down while they continue having fun," said parent/volunteer coach **Ken Devlin**, father of Luke and Michael, about the first meet. "There were a lot of smiles out there throughout the day today, and that's a great thing to see."

More Athletic Activity

Elsewhere in St. Viator's athletic program, girls and boys basketball are getting in gear, and the first all-school intramural tourney takes place the weekend of Nov. 10.



5th grader Adrian Christiansen powers through a highly competitive race at Horner Park.

Photo by Sara Yoest

All Upcoming Events

Events are held at the St. Viator Rec Center, and are open to the community:

Wiggles & Giggles Playgroup – FREE! This fun playgroup is for children in the community (ages newborn-4) and their parents/caregivers on alternate Thursday mornings. Open gym with balls, blocks, hula-hoops and so much more!

Halloween Dance – Oct. 26, 6-8:30 p.m., \$15 ticket (kids 3 and under are free). Includes dinner, dance party, face painting, games and costume contest.

"Stairway to Insanity" Haunted House – \$10 ticket, open from 7-10 p.m. on Oct. 12-13, Oct. 19-20 and Oct. 26-27.

Join our growing community!

St. Viator Elementary School and Parish invites you to learn more by attending our events or taking a tour of the school. For more information, please call 773-545-2173 or email Marge Tiritilli at mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org.

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Galatians 5:22-23

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Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Pianist Wael Farouk

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to begin its 25th season with a solo recital by pianist **Wael Farouk**. The concert is on Sunday, October 7th at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church. Dr. Farouk will perform piano works of the Romantic era.

Praised as a “formidable and magnificent pianist” by the New York Concert Review, Dr. Farouk has had an extensive performing career. He commands a vast repertoire of more than 70 concertos and 60 solo programs including the complete piano works of J.S. Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Brahms, and Rachmaninoff. Dr. Farouk directs the keyboard studies program at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI and is on the piano faculty at Roosevelt University. In 2017, Dr. Farouk impressed Fine Arts patrons with his performance as part of the Carthage Trio.

Other concerts in the series include blues artist Bear Williams and his band performing a Christmas show on December 9th; Mary Jo Neher, horn and Joe Burgio, organ on February 17 and John Ling and his mariachi band on March 24.

All concerts are at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concerts are free of charge, but donations are gladly welcomed. A reception with the artists will be held after each concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. Dates and programs are subject to change.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is a program of Carlson Community Services, a non-profit serving the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture, and service. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org or contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766.



Pianist Wael Farouk will perform a solo recital on October 7th in the first program of the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's 25th Season. The concert is at 2:00 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave.

Three Brothers Garden News

Three Brothers Garden recently welcomed volunteers from RSVP, AARP's senior volunteer organization. Led by RSVP project director and Carlson board member Jen O'Grady, the volunteers harvested nearly 60 lbs. of tomatoes, green beans, cucumbers, and peppers. They also planted two garden beds with radishes and lettuces, which will be ready for harvest soon.

We're excited that Old Irving resident and Lane Tech junior Ian McDonald has chosen Three

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Carlson Community Services



AARP's volunteer group, RSVP visited Three Brothers Garden in August to help harvest vegetables for the Irving Park Food Pantry. Garden intern Eleanor Ermentrout poses with the RSVP volunteers and project manager Jen O'Grady.

Photo by Liz Mills

Brothers Garden for his Eagle Scout project. Along with troop members and adult volunteers, Ian will be repairing, and e-constructing cedar raised beds that were built almost 10 years ago. We can't wait to plant our revitalized beds next season!

Through late August, we've harvested over 300 lbs. of vegetables for the Irving Park Food Pantry! Our harvests will continue throughout October, and we'd love your help! Join us any Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 4107 N. Pulaski, behind Irving Park Lutheran Church.

The garden is a partnership between IPLC and Carlson Community Services. For more information, contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766 or visit carlsoncommunityservices.org.

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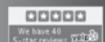
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Pantry Seeks Coats!



The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is distributing winter coats to its clients this month (one per household) and is accepting donations throughout the month. Please check your closets for any gently used coats that you can do without and bring them to the Pantry. All sizes of coats, especially those for men, are needed.

Coat Donation Drop-off Sites

Irving Park United Methodist Church, leave coats at the bottom of the stairs at the Grace Street, during church operating hours or on Wednesday mornings during Pantry operating hours (8:30 to noon) and on Tuesday, October 9th (6 to 7:30 p.m.).

Additional drop-off points include:

Disney II Magnet Elementary School, 3815 N. Kedvale

Old Irving Brewing, 4419 W. Montrose Ave.

Linnemeyer (front porch) 3822 N. Tripp Ave.

Pictured above: Volunteers (l-r) Katrina Smith-Jones, Renee Linnemeyer and Rose Rivers organized and distributed coats during the first week of the 2017 Pantry's coat program. The Pantry will be giving out winter coats to clients all this month and is looking for donations. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

Special Thanks

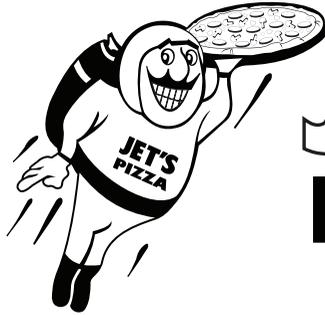
Thank you to the neighborhood volunteers (**Betsy Minor and granddaughter, Sarah Lee and kids, Audra and Drew Nelson and kids, Andrea Picard and kids, and Christine Lee and kids**) who organized and distributed bags of school supplies to our clients' children in kindergarten through 8th grade. They gave out more than 225 bags. Special thanks to **Renee Linnemeyer** and **Old Irving Brewery** for providing drop-off points. We appreciate everyone who made donations to help students in our community start the school year strong!

Thank you to everyone who shops at Amazon and uses the Amazon Smile program to designate donations to the Pantry! The Pantry gets 0.5% of each purchase, which adds up. We just received a check for the quarter ending in June for \$39! Please keep us in mind as you shop at the site, especially with Christmas coming (it is!).

GIPNA Farmer Markets Booth

Volunteers from the Pantry will be staffing a booth at the last GIPNA Farmers Markets of the year on October 14th and 28th. They will answer questions and sell merch (for a small donation). You also can sign up to receive our Breadcrumbs e-mail newsletter. We appreciate all your support in ensuring we live up to our motto of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

*Article submitted by Craig Shutt. John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry
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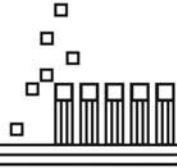
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Vote in the 2019 Participatory Budgeting Cycle



45th Ward residents aged 14 and older can vote online or in person for the 2019 participatory budgeting cycle beginning on Monday, October 1. Participatory budgeting is a democratic system that empowers people in determining how their tax dollars are spent.

For those wishing to vote online, simply fill out an online registration form by visiting bit.ly/PBVote2019 beginning October 1. My staff will respond with the voting site link and a special access code that will allow you to vote. Please do not share your code with anyone else; your code is unique and may be used only once. Please note that this is not an automated system; rather, office employees will be verifying the information. This may result in a delay from the time you submit the registration form to when you receive the one-time code.

Additionally, there will be ample opportunity for 45th Ward residents to vote in the 2019 participatory budgeting cycle. Those wishing to vote early in-person can do so at my office during office hours beginning October 1 at 9 am or at one of the following early voting events:

- **9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 14**
at the Independence Park Farmers Market,
3945 N. Springfield
- **9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 14**
at the Jefferson Park Sunday Market,
4822 N. Long
- **10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Tuesday, October 16**
at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence. Ward residents will also have the opportunity to receive a free flu shot at this event

The final voting event will take place from:

- **10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 20**
at the Jefferson Park Branch Library,
5363 W. Lawrence

Review Before You Vote

Before casting your vote, you can review what items will be on the ballot by visiting pb45.org/2019-ballot-items.

Thank you for your participation in creating a transparent and democratic process to determine how to spend your tax dollars in your community.

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-
- 7 **Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents: Wael Farouk, piano** | 2 p.m.
Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave.
-
- 8 **OIPA Member Meeting** | 7 p.m. | Irving Park Baptist Church
-
- 20 **Irving Park Garden Club | Sustainable Gardening** | Noon | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3827 N. Kostner Ave. | Free for members; \$20 to join

November

-
- 12 **OIPA Member Meeting** | 7 p.m. | Irving Park Baptist Church

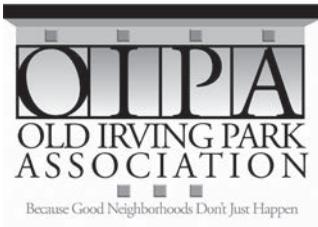
December

-
- 0 **OIPA Member Meeting** | 7 p.m. | Location: TBD

Be a Connector — Spread the News!

Please consider passing this newsletter on to a neighbor as a gentle reminder to renew his/her household membership or, better yet, to someone on your block who is either a new resident or not familiar with OIPA.





2018-2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

This is a:

- New Membership
- Renewal
- Gift Membership

Joining or renewing your membership is easy with our online membership form at www.olderirvingpark.com/join-us If you don't have access to our online membership form, please complete the form below.

We like to celebrate our members in our newsletter. Birthday and anniversary information is optional. If you wish to be included on the birthday and anniversary page in the newsletter, **you must provide the information annually** to be included (adults members and spouses/partners only).

NAME (FIRST/LAST) BIRTHDAY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

SPOUSE/PARTNER NAME (FIRST/LAST) BIRTHDAY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ANNIVERSARY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL E-MAIL 2

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS expire August 31 and are due by September 1.

Membership dues received after May 1 will be applied to the following year membership.

MEMBERSHIP DUES (per household)

Membership Benefits: Monthly meetings, hand delivered paper newsletter, member/spouse birthday and anniversary published in newsletter, ice-cream social, holiday dinner

- \$25/year Standard - \$15/year Standard Seniors (age 65+)
 - \$75 Good Neighbor: Standard membership plus — One child and/or pet's name and birthday in newsletter and an OIPA Tote Bag
 - \$150 Neighborhood All-star: Standard membership plus — One child and/or pet's name and birthday in newsletter, an OIPA Tote Bag, and admission for two to an exclusive OIPA party.
- See page 4 for details.**
- Add \$17/year for OIPA NEWSLETTER deliveries out of boundaries. (Boundaries: South of Montrose, North of Addison, West of Pulaski & East of Milwaukee District North railroad tracks adjacent to Kilbourn/Kolmar)

GIFT MEMBERSHIP: Simply complete the form above or the online form with your neighbor's name(s) and address. You may not know their birthday/anniversary info. That's okay – we'll follow up with them. **If purchasing online:** Please indicate this is a gift subscription in the final box titled, "Special Instructions."

SEND FORM & PAYMENT TO: Old Irving Park Association, c/o Meredith O'Sullivan, OIPA Director / Membership, 4061 W. Warwick Ave., Chicago, IL 60641

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE: Old Irving Park Association **OR** join/renew online: olderirvingpark.com/join-us

From the Editor: SUBMISSION TO THE NEWSLETTER POLICY

Note: Ten newsletters are produced annually (Newsletters are not published in the months of January and July). A heartfelt thanks to everyone who continue to submit articles and photos for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you throughout the year.

**Submission
deadline:
2nd Tuesday
of the month.**

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, articles (400 words maximum without photos, 300 with photos) for publication. Please send content as a Word document or in an email. Links to websites or Facebook are NOT acceptable. Send your contributions to: Kathleen Kearns at k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com. Please include **"OIPA submission"** in the subject line of the email. Also include the category of the item you are submitting — advertisement, article or event for community calendar, etc.

Photos should be accompanied with a caption(s) and photo credit. If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wetransfer.com>. You can send several files at a time using [wetransfer](https://wetransfer.com).

Deadline for advertising AND editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. Materials SUBMITTED AFTER this date will be held over to the next month's issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Information printed in the newsletter may be reproduced with Old Irving Park Association cited as the source. Opinions in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.

**AD SPACE Purchase and upload your ad at:
www.oldirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad**

AD SIZES: Full Page: 6.25" X 7.5"
Half Page: 6.25" X 3.75"
Quarter Page: 3" X 3.75"

ACCEPTABLE AD FILES: High Resolution (minimum 300 dpi) grayscale; jpg, PDF, or eps.
Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.

Call for Contributions to the OIPA News



While we receive most of our content from organizations, we welcome individual article submissions!

A few ideas:

- Give a shout-out to a kind neighbor.
- Did you recently visit a new business or restaurant? Then share your great experience.
- Write a fun story about our neighborhood or a fond memory.
- Share your knowledge on a topic.

Deadline for editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. to k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com. Please include "OIPA submission" in the subject line of the email. See page 40 for full details on submission requirements.

It's Time for Spring Tree Care.

Did you know that an attractive landscape with healthy trees and shrubs can account for as much as 20% of a home's property value?

Whether you are protecting your investment, improving your property value, or planting a tree for someone special, **The Care of Trees** can help ensure long and healthy lives for your trees and shrubs. Call us today for a *free* spring consultation!




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www.thecareoftrees.com

Our Business is People and Their Love For Trees.[®]

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Insect and Disease Management • Lightning Protection • Mulching
Tree Planting and Tree Replacement • Tree and Stump Removal



Because Good Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen

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FB: [oldirvingparkassoc](https://www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc)

OLD IRVING PARK NEWS

Old Irving Park Association

3749 N. Keeler Avenue

Chicago, IL 60641