

OLD IRVING PARK

NEWS



APRIL

VOLUME 33 | ISSUE 3 | 2019

URBAN WELLNESS

making wellness a down-to-earth practice



WHO WE ARE

Urban Wellness is a group of mental health practitioners who focus on helping kids + adults thrive in their personal, relational, and professional lives. Our practical style and connecting presence (as well as our inviting office decor) is why clients love us!



WHAT WE DO

We offer counseling (individual, couples + family) and psychological testing for kids + adults. We offer talk therapy, online counseling, dance movement therapy, art therapy, EMDR, hypnotherapy, couples intensives, groups for kids + adults, and more. Our goal is to provide support to our communities through various therapy avenues.



WHO WE SEE

Our therapists are specialists, so you can be sure you're getting the support you need. Some of our specialties include: anxiety + OCD, depression, trauma, grief, ADHD, health issues, parenting support, couples therapy, infertility + postpartum support. Visit our website for a therapist filter tool to see who's a best fit for you (or give us a call!).



OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our philosophy is that you don't have to go it alone. That you can do the hard things and that we're holding space with you. That wellness can be a down-to-earth practice.

Urban Wellness is committed to social justice + equity. We are an LGBT affirming practice.

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Old Irving Park: 4212 W. Irving Park Rd, Chicago 60641



OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 33 Issue 3 April 2019

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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Cover: Photo by Monika Grabkowska on Unsplash

OIPA | Meet Your Volunteer Delivery Team



Phuong and family. Photo provided by Phuong Johnston

Phuong Johnston

Why did you start this volunteer gig and how long have you been doing it? To help out OIPA/ the community.

What block do you deliver newsletters? Block of Keystone

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

Depending on the amount to be delivered but typically 15 minutes; boys divy up the ends of the delivery (e.g. one does the north end and the other the south)

Do you have any funny stories or observations you've made while delivering newsletters? Nothing comes to mind, pretty straight forward most people are not around during delivery

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

Three words to describe Old Irving Park?
Fun, Historical, and Happiness



Photo provided by Sabrina Cimo

Adrian Christiansen

Why did you start this volunteer gig and how long have you been doing it? I took over the route from our neighbors after they moved. I've been doing this, along with my brother, for about two years now.

To which blocks do you deliver newsletters? I deliver on Grace, from Smoque to Disney II, and Kedvale from Disney II to St. Viator.

How long does it take you to deliver to your route and do you do anything else while making deliveries? It takes me about 20 minutes to deliver. I usually listen to music or talk with my brothers.

Do you have any funny stories or observations you've made while delivering newsletters? There was this one time I panicked. It was really windy and the delivery sheet blew out of my hands. A woman must have seen the whole thing. She got out of her car and asked if I was looking for the paper by the bush.

Is there anything you would like newsletter recipients to know that would make your job easier? It's nice when residents keep their walkway shoveled in the winter when there is a lot of snow

Three words to describe Old Irving Park?
Fun, busy and beautiful.

Holy Week and Easter

at St. John's Episcopal Church



Walk the way with Jesus with these special services:

Quiet your Soul
this Lent

Taizé Service

Wednesday, April 3
7:30 P.M.

*Simple music, readings,
and quiet prayer*

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, April 10
5:30 P.M.

All events in Sanctuary

Palm Sunday Parade April 14

8:00 A.M. *Begins at the Byron Street door*

10:00 A.M. *Begins in the garden with a
procession through the neighborhood*

Children's Holy Week Wednesday, April 17

5:30 P.M. *Interactive worship especially
for children; Supper included*

Maundy Thursday April 18, 7:30 P.M.



Good Friday April 19, 12:00 and 7:30 P.M.

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 20, 7:30 P.M.

Easter Sunday April 21, 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 A.M.

*Peanut-free Easter Egg Hunt in
the garden following each service!
Please bring an empty basket.*





Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting

March 18, 2019– Bart Goldberg, Secretary

Attendees: Lynn Ankney, Anna Sobor, Adrienne Chan, Scott Legan, Meredith O’Sullivan and Bart Goldberg

The Board meeting commenced at about 7:06 PM.

Treasurer’s Reports: President Ankney, presented her Treasurer’s Report for February and it was unanimously approved by the Board. The Board also voted to start publishing our Financial Report only twice a year in our Newsletter (instead of essentially in every issue) for the purposes of saving space.

Newsletter: The Board has decided to personally deliver the prior newsletter to new members that sign up in a month soon after the last issue was delivered. We are also going to continue adding articles in our Newsletter concerning local businesses. Annie Swingen (from our Board) wrote about FINOM in this issue and we hope that she will write about Urban Wellness next month.

OIPA Archives: Thanks to the efforts of Gayle Christensen, who took over the task that we had started, our archiving of old OIPA documents has been completed. Anna Sobor has been working on completing the organization of the old newsletters by date as well, to compile hopefully two complete sets. A set of newsletters will subsequently be delivered to both Schurz and the Independence Park Library, and the archived materials will be delivered to one of those two sites for safekeeping. A better process for compiling future documents was also discussed. President Ankney has created a Google Drive for the Board, so that individual members can file documents there, and then they will be periodically (probably annually) printed, compiled and delivered to the physical storage

location for the archives. The elder members of the Board pretended to be fine with this, particularly after they were assured that this has nothing to do with those Google mapping cars that seem descend into our neighborhood from outer space, and are soon to be ominously driverless.

Membership: Meredith reported that our membership has again crossed the half of a millennium mark at 503, which was nearly a 30 member increase from the prior month. Further excellent news was the additional fact that we have already had 47 people join at premium All-Star levels.

Advertising and Website: The advertising revenue is up, and the website is functioning as intended for the public. An issue with performance for the Administrator is being resolved.

Friends of Independence Park CPL (Chicago Public Library): Anna Sobor and Meredith O’Sullivan attended their initial formation meeting last week. This is a group that we are really going to want to support, and Anna Sobor will certainly be an active participant. After all, she created and then has been administering the New Independence Library Facebook page since shortly after the fire (not the one involving Mrs. O’Leary’s cow).

New Aldermen/Alderwomen: President Ankney has again been involved with other neighborhood groups that are putting on the 39th Ward Forum for that runoff election. She reports that the groups have worked together so well that they are intending to continue meeting after the election three times a year and hopefully once a year with the new alderman. The Board



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

is also attempting to schedule an introductory meeting with Jim Gardiner, the new alderman in the 45th, and will subsequently do so in the 39th as well. Besides offering our congratulations to the winners, the subject matter of these conversations is also being considered.

Additional Meetings: Other meetings that were attended by our board members that were also discussed included the 6 Corners Roundtable, and the Landmark Commission Hearing regarding 3916 N. Tripp Ave. Attendance at a meeting with Commander Pontecore and future CAPS meetings were also discussed.

Miscellaneous Matters: We agreed to be a sponsor of the 2019 County Fair being put on by 6 Corners Association, and Annie Swingen will be the point person there. We will issue letters of support for the special use liquor license for the new owners of McNamara's so long as the hours are reasonable, and for capital improvements

needed at Schurz High School. Adrienne Chan also agreed to spearhead the Greenspace Adoption Program for our local flower beds on Irving Park Road.

Future Meetings: Our next meeting is known as "This Old Irving Park House." The primary speaker will be Dan Zolkowski to talk about all varieties of "old home stuff", such as avoiding freezing pipes, and permitting. We will also have Amy Bobel from Peoples Gas and ComEd to discuss their energy efficiency program, Ward Miller from Preservation Chicago, and our own Laura Marie Sanchez to discuss the IPHS Century Plaque Program. Don't forget that our meeting will be on April 8, 2019 at St. John's Episcopal Church which is located at 3857 N. Kostner Ave (the corner of Kostner and Byron), and it will be at 7:30 p.m. See you there!

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

OIPA General Member Meeting

Monday, April 8, 2019

7:30 p.m. (Please note new start time)

NEW LOCATION

St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N. Kostner

April's theme:
"This Old Irving Park House"

Featured speakers include:

- **Dan Zolkowski** – Old house stuff (plaster, boilers, etc.) and permitting required for renovations and additions
- **Amy Bobel, Peoples Gas and ComEd Efficiency Program** will return to discuss their free programs and products
- **Laura Marie Sanchez, Old Irving Park Historical Society**, will inform attendees about the IPHS Century Plaque Program
- **Ward Miller, Preservation Chicago** will tell residents about the process of landmarking one's own home

OIPA will provide light refreshments. Meeting attendees are welcome to BYOB or bring sweet treats to share.



Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting

March 11, 2019 – Bart Goldberg, Secretary

THEODORE BACMEISTER AWARDS EDITION!

Bacmeister Award's Night: The house at St. John's Episcopal was simply alive with 400 watt voltage EEElectricity! It was Bacmeister Night and everyone who is anyone in Old Irving Park made the scene. Rarer than an Oscar and far more important to the locals in the know, the night had finally arrived. People milled around the room, rubbing shoulders, looking sharp, trying to avoid the paparazzi (Alex Hernandez from *Block Club* was there) while at the same time trying to catch their eye. Some were enjoying the wine, beer and treats that had been provided, at least to the extent they could while still fitting into some of their unyielding outfits. However, the fashions (possibly in honor of the recipients) seemed to favor a carefully calculated casual (note that I am really not that interested in the fashion angle, but it was made clear to me that if I did not pay appropriate homage to it that my future press pass may well be revoked). Famous attendees included our outgoing Alderman John Arena, who may have been thrilled to be there, or may have been wondering why his staff had sent him on a night where he could not possibly shine the brightest. There were at least 75 people in attendance and many people stood; some because seats were a bit scarce and some because they said that they were simply too wired to sit still. After all, in a few moments they would be giving out the TEDDY'S!

Host/Announcements: President Ankey commenced our event at about 7:35 with both grace and aplomb. In this year of the woman, it seemed altogether fitting for her to continue in her normal role. (Besides

I really don't wish to further publicize the shameful shenanigans concerning my prior invitation to host, and then being disinvited when some people looked into a paper that I had written in high school). The President performed an abbreviated monologue, noting that there were too many new visitors to introduce them and then running through such pedestrian events as future CAPs meetings and the landmarking issue at 3916 N. Tripp (blah, blah, blah). Then she segued into the first issue that this audience had any interest in, that being the future plans for a well-known local dining establishment

Future Plans at McNamaras: A pair of accomplished restaurateurs then took the stage: **Robert and Marcus Sulejman**. Some of their prior works include Hops and Barleys on Milwaukee Ave, and they are about to screen Foundation Tavern and Grill which will be located two blocks west of Cicero Ave on Irving Park Road. They are also opening The Reservoir in Uptown. They were here to announce that they had purchased the building that had previously housed McNamaras, and to discuss their future plans for the space. If we gave out Teddy's for things as technical as editing they may well have received one, for they are doing some creative repurposing. The bar portion of McNamaras (which is on the corner) will still be called McNamaras, but it will primarily be a bar offering a limited menu of bar type fare. The dining room will be a new restaurant with a separate entrance onto Irving Park. They then teased us with a stunning coming attraction trailer. They said that they were in negotiations with

Continued on page 8



St. Edward School is a nationally-acclaimed elementary school offering classes from three-year-old preschool through eighth grade. Testing amongst the top 15% in the nation, St. Edward School was presented with the prestigious and coveted National Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education.

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OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on March 11, 2019

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Joel Piedra and his step-son (also in attendance) to open the restaurant. You may be wondering “Who are they? Did they make the movie “Diner.” Well, cue the orchestra because Joel is none other than the longtime chef at Sabatino’s. Presumably we would be in for some excellent Italian food like we had enjoyed for decades, but they were not willing to give up any more of the plot line. If this production gets made, I am buying that ticket!

History of the Theodore Bacmeister Awards: The always regal **Claudia Hine** was given a terribly difficult assignment, to educate us on the history of the Bacmeister. At this point the audience is about to bust a seam with anticipation, which is very strange given that everyone there knows who is going to win the Teddy’s. Then poor Claudia is brought in to discuss history. It was like the old speeches from the accounting firm at the Oscars (before people cared about them because PWC screwed up and gave it to “La La Land” instead of “Moonlight”). The average OIper was about as interested on Monday night in a lesson in history as a Hollywood audience would be in a lecture on ethical college admission practices.

Claudia Hine shares the history of Bacmeister with OIPA members.
Photo by T. J. Hine



Claudia informed us that Theodore was born in 1878, and that he was a practicing physician who had once lived at 4041 N. Keeler (which no longer exists). His hobby was photography and thanks to his efforts we have visuals (lantern slides) that go way back into essentially otherwise prehistoric times, which photos we now house at Schurz High School. The award that bears his name is given only rarely and it is given for excellence in public service in the Old Irving Park neighborhood. And now...

Sabatino’s Owners Win The First Teddy: When President Ankney announced that **Angelo and Enzo Pagni** were each recipients for their lifetime of achievement at Sabatino’s, the house broke into a raucous ovation. The brothers came to the stage

Continued on page 10



Angelo and Enzo Pagni happily accept their “first” Teddy award. *Photo by T. J. Hine*



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OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on March 11, 2019

Continued from page 8

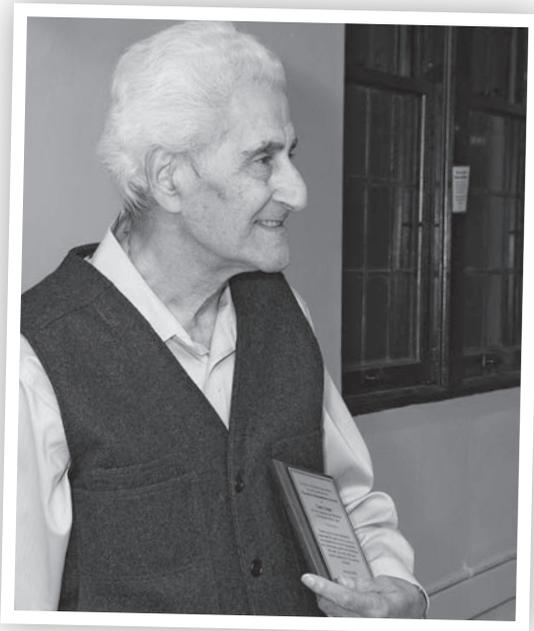
and thanked us profusely. But every single one of us knew which way the thanks should be flowing. After all, for nearly 50 years they had run one of the greatest restaurants in Chicago right here in OIP, and for most of us (including myself) we enjoyed many a great time there. Great food and a slightly fancy (they always wore tuxedos), but very friendly, old-school atmosphere. I know I am really going to miss the Manhattans, and that Chateaubriand that my wife and I would have on special occasions. Old Irving is really

going to miss these guys, and we wish them well. (For those curious about their fashion, they were sporting what seemed to be matching dark Farah slacks and blue shirts of an unknown designer).

Pert Cleaners Owners Win The Second Teddy: While I did not bring a decibel meter, I believe that the ovation was just as loud when **Tony Lupo** took the stage. As he always was when you visited his store, he was simply delightful. He opened Pert in 1952 and took care of us for 66 years. He was thanking us, but again we got all of the benefit and after 66 years I think we should be adult enough to allow the man to retire. His son Frank, who also got an award, was not able to attend because he is reported to be on a protracted motorcycle trip (possibly on Route 66). I hope that all of our winners enjoy their retirements and we wish them well. (As to Tony's fashion, he was sporting a fancy vest on top of his button down shirt, and he wanted us to know that it was not an unclaimed article from the Cleaners).

Main Speaker: Kelli Wefenstette, Six Corners Association:

After the excitement from the Bacmeisters, President Ankney took a break to allow people to decompress or even leave if they desired. But very few people did leave, which is a testament to their civility, curiosity, and their desire to hear our next speaker: Kelli Wefenstette. It would be fair to say that she was shocked to see the size of the audience. Kelli is the Executive Director, and she has spoken to us previously. She provided us with what would be reams of information if I tried to report it all. That is because she is passionate about the Six Corners Assoc, and it



Tony Lupo, delightfully accepts his award as the room gives him a standing ovation. *Photo by T. J. Hine.*



OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

serves such a wide range of important functions. So I am just going to hit upon some of the highlights, and I would suggest that you visit their website which is top-notch and provides great detail.

- They have recently increased their boundaries and now span from Montrose to Addison, and from the viaduct to Larrabee. About 150 businesses are presently members.
- One of their functions is as a Neighborhood Business Development Center, where they serve as a satellite office for the City. The amount of services that they can provide to a start-up business is really surprising. It is not just permitting issues, but also business planning, funding, marketing, human resources and licensing. Additionally they are involved in promoting the area and specific potential locations to businesses interested in locating here.
- A second major function is that they administer SSA28. A special services area is a geographical area where all businesses are taxed to fund the SSA, and then services are provided to the entire area. This SSA ranges from Six Corners for two blocks in all directions. The bulk of the revenue goes towards public way aesthetics such as snow removal, landscaping, and trash and graffiti removal. They also administer SBIF grants from the local TIF fund, which can range from about \$10,000 to \$150,000 to be used for capital improvements for start-ups.
- Their third major function is community engagement. They put on over forty special events a year, and they make every effort to make them quite unique. Of particular note is the annual County Fair. I think we are the only neighborhood that has one of those! It is filled with clever curiosities such as a cake walk,

pizza pie eating contest, as well as many other blue ribbon contests. Last year it was attended by about 3,000 people and this year it will be the weekend of September 7-8.

Close of Meeting: The meeting was brought to a halt at 8:30 p.m. so that people could leave to attend the various after parties. I understand that several of them were again legendary. I cannot report first hand because I had to go home to take care of my dog.

Future Meeting: Our next meeting will be on April 8, 2019 at St. John's Episcopal. Remember the meetings are now at 7:30 PM. The subject matter will be "This Old Irving House." See you then!

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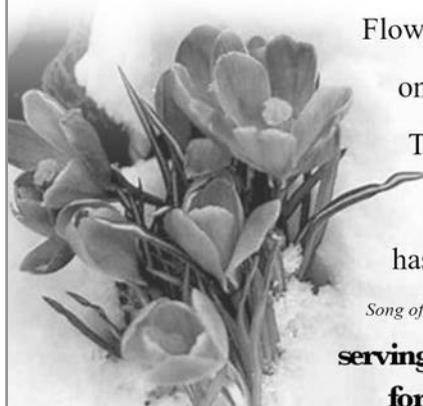
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"...winter is past;
Flowers appear
on the earth;
The time of
singing
has come,..."

Song of Songs 2:11 & 12

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OIPA Treasurer's Report

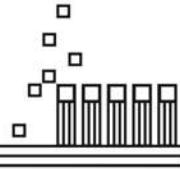
Income & Expense
Month-end
February 28, 2019

Submitted by Lynn Ankney

	FEBRUARY	YTD
BEGINNING BALANCES	\$ 65,406.62	
RECEIPTS		
Newsletter Advertising	\$3,115.24	\$10,512.34
Web Advertising		299.74
Dues	692.39	10,336.46
Interest	3.10	27.06
Banner Program		600.00
Parents Committee -		
Ice Cream Social -		
Century House Program		25.00
Donations		3,165.20
Historical Committee -		
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$3,810.73	\$24,965.80
DISBURSEMENTS		
Newsletter-Print	\$1,169.00	\$6,187.00
Newsletter-Design	670.50	4,840.50
Postage and Envelopes		376.38
Hall Rental	50.00	350.00
Web Site	174.99	548.99
Banner Program		220.00
Donations		2,500.00
Professional Services		630.00
Directors' and Officers' Insurance		
Mural Projects 1	50.00	150.00
Misc Board Expenses	18.73	415.21
Parents' Committee -		
Holiday Party		1,600.00
Federal and State Annual Reports		25.00
Membership		136.95
All-Star		1,259.91
Wintrust Bank Charge	(15.00)	-
Ice Cream Social -		
Planters -		
Kolmar Park -		
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$2,218.22	\$19,239.94
ENDING BALANCES	\$ 66,999.13	
RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Kolmar Park	\$215.26	
Parents Committee	348.64	
Historical Committee	13,731.27	
	\$14,295.17	
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	\$52,703.96	

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April Anniversaries

- 8 Elizabeth & Robert Fox
- 14 Jessica & Billy Navin
- 15 Robert & Kathryn Kleisch
- 16 Hollie & Steve Himmelman
- 19 Meredith & Tim O'Sullivan
Valerie & Patrick Ginn
- 23 Jose & Sally Frau
- 24 Angie & Martin Yorath
- 27 Sheila & Shaun Quinn
- 28 Robert Laskowski
& Diana Jackson

April Birthdays

- 2 Nilda Soler
Sydney Hart
- 4 Bindu Alexander
Frank Serpone
- 5 Jaime Murray
Sheryl Keith
- 5 Ellie Lynch
- 6 Rochelle Jones
- 7 Kitty Tataryn
Lindsay Hunter
- 8 Tony Mallerdino
- 9 Dan O'Donohue
- 11 James Barrett
- 15 Cynthia Rivera
Debbie LaPenta
Mary Kuhn
- 16 Marjorie Monaghan
Rich Lucki

- 17 Paul Moran
- 18 James Natoli
Keith Handley
Peter O'Mara
- 19 Julie Tye
Meridith Cannon
- 21 Elizabeth Fundora
- 22 Kristen Lynch
Marc Sussman
- 23 Helena Cannon
Elizabeth Fox
Karen Damato
- 26 Mike Blaha
Tiago McDonough Mooney
T.J. Hine
- 28 Sandra Broderick

Pet Birthdays

- 16 Happy birthday The
Ankney Girls, a flock of
5 hens
- 26 Smokey "Dog Bone"

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 meredith-osullivan@gmail.com or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.

Sabatino's

*On behalf of the Sabatino's family,
thank you for your decades of
patronage and for keeping Sabatino's
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*Old Irving Park will forever
be in our hearts.*

Angelo and Enzo Pagni

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OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

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



Single Family

4511 W. Byron \$507,500
 3640 N. Kenneth \$538,000



Attached Single Family

4211 N. Kedvale, 2G \$125,000
 4236 N. Kedvale, 6 \$146,000
 4108 N. Keystone, 2E \$212,900
 4239 N. Keystone, 2N [F] \$275,773
 4203 N. Kedvale, 4S \$335,000
 4042 N. Pulaski, 2E \$420,000



2-4 Units

none

NEIGHBORHOOD TAVERN

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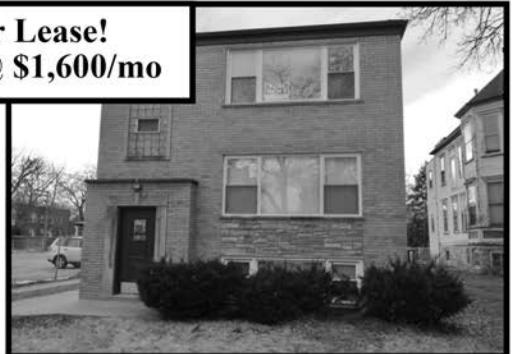


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LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS



Finom's menu is designed as "longform small plates," intended to be enjoyed leisurely alongside a cup of coffee, the style of food people experienced in European cafés in the beginning of the century.

Phenomenal Finom! — Annie Swingen

Old Irving Park's newest coffee/tea/bookshop and restaurant, Finom (Hungarian: delicious, pronounced "FEE-nome" or "FEE-nom"), is a blindingly bright ray of sunshine in this seemingly endless winter. Co-owners **Chef Rafael Esparza** and general manager **Daniel Speer** seemed to sense the community's need for a new place to sit back and talk nonsense with the closing of two beloved local businesses, Sabatino's and PERT Cleaners.

Located in the historic Whistle Stop Inn on the corner of Irving Park Road and Keeler Avenue, Finom sought out our neighborhood to plant its roots. "I knew just the spot", said Speer. "We wanted to open up [a shop] in a settled 'hood," said Esparza, "a place where we can build a community...and see kids grow up...This was an intentional move".

Patrons, though you feel more like a guest, can select from a wide variety of caffeinated house-designed beverages and/or expertly-made pastries from Oak Park's Spilt Milk Bakery. If you are looking for something more substantial, mega-experienced chefs, Esparza and Speer dreamed up a dédî (great-

grandma]-inspired menu that reimagines Hungarian cuisine. Not in the mood for Gulyás? Speak your peace and Esparza is more than happy to get creative in the kitchen. It's that kind of place.

Aside from the undeniably satisfying menu, what makes Finom unique is its authentic, unassuming atmosphere. Maybe it's the wood-paneled walls or Esparza's dad's vintage TV that now serves as decoration, but it's comfortable. "We didn't want to do



Co-owners: Daniel Speer and Rafael Esparza
All photos courtesy of Finom Coffee. Photographer Matt Meschede.



LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS



A cozy corner at the front of Finom Coffee features antique furniture.

much [to the space]," said Esparza, "the aesthetic has to develop with time."

And develop it has. Head to the rear of the shop and peruse their selection of used books donated by the owners, their friends and customers. From board-books, to Harry Truman's biography, there is something to flip through while you sip your Turkish Delight latte or drop a \$1 and take it home with you.

Visit finomcoffee.com for upcoming events (Think: Movies, Pop-up collaborations, Book Clubs, etc.) and follow them on Instagram (@FinomCofee) and Facebook (Finom Coffee) for updates and general hilarity. Someday you might even see shots from a wedding with Finom as its venue, at least that's Esparza's dream.

Finom Coffee | 4200 West Irving Park Road

Monday–Friday: 7am–7pm | Saturday–Sunday: 8am–5pm

312.620.5010 | info@finomcoffee.com

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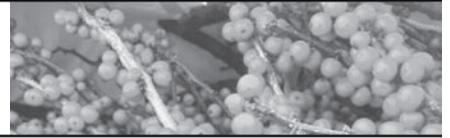
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Front Yard Makeovers — Claudia Hine

The Irving Park Garden Club will meet Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m., to hear a presentation on “Front Gardens: Putting Your Best Foot Forward.” Our speaker will be Shirley Remes, former field editor for Better Homes & Gardens publications.



Shirley Remes, former field editor at Better Homes & Gardens, will speak at the Irving Park Garden Club’s April meeting.

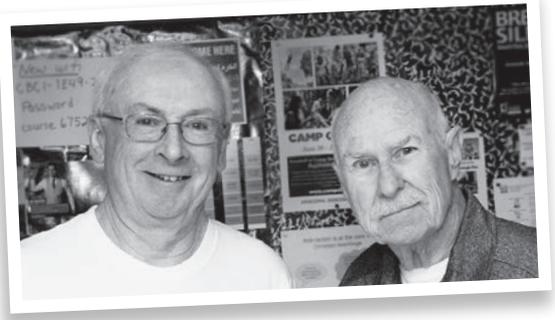
All too often we put all our beautiful plants in the back yard where no one can see them. Shirley will share tips from gardeners who make bold use of their front yards.

This presentation takes place at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 3827 N. Kostner Ave. (use Byron St. entrance). Our programs are free for members. Want to join us? We welcome newcomers. Annual dues are just \$20/family, payable by cash or check at the door.

Our 2019 calendar also includes presentations on water gardening and putting your garden to bed in the fall. We’ll hold a plant exchange, nursery field trip, midsummer night stroll, hands-on painting class, and our popular garden walk.

Thank You, OIPA

The Irving Park Garden Club send its thanks to the Old Irving Park Association for collaborating with us in providing flowers from Farmers Market Garden Center to fill IPGC’s planters along Irving Park Rd. At the garden club’s March meeting, all 15 of our square concrete planters were “adopted” by members who will fill them in May.



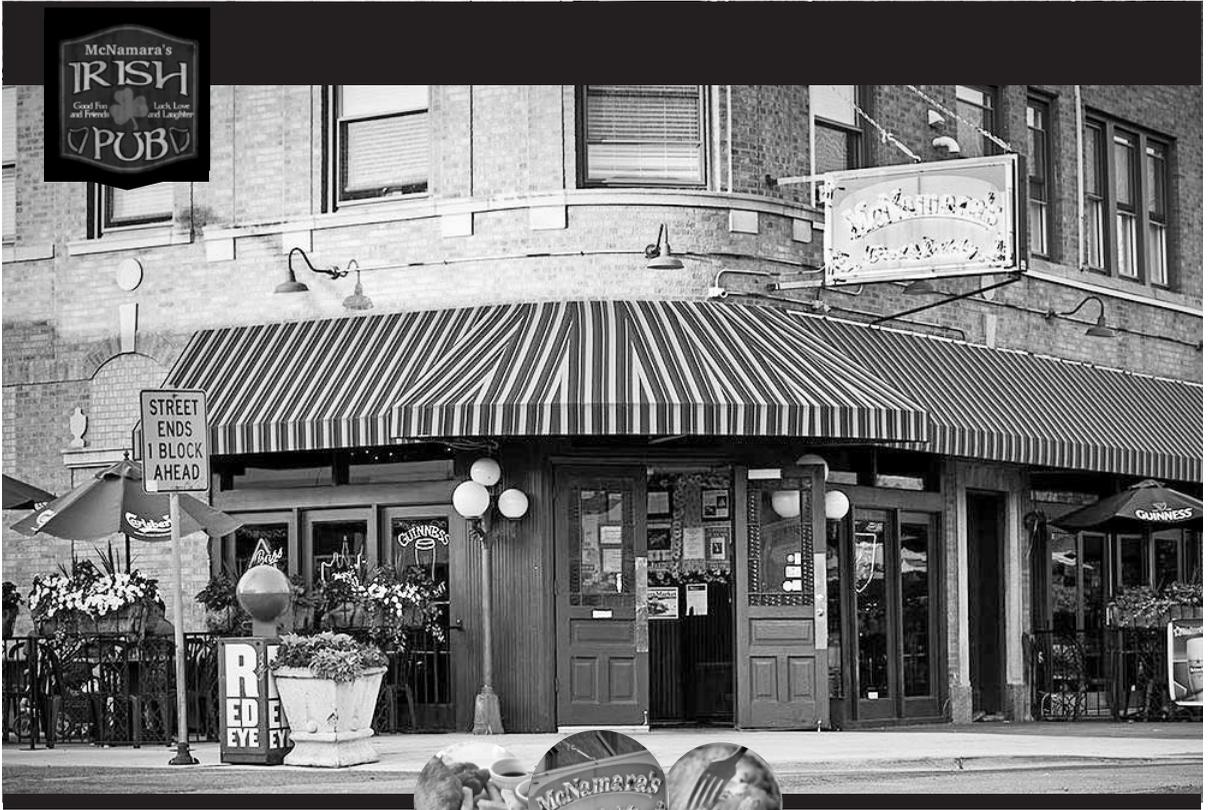
Hosta speakers: In March, Mike Kraus (left) and Lou Horton from the Northern Illinois Hosta Society gave the garden club an enlightening presentation on the many varieties of hostas. Photo by T. J. Hine.

Hostas By Horton

The garden club kicked off its 2019 season in March with a talk on hostas by **Lou Horton**, past president of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society. Lou gave a richly illustrated presentation that covered a wide range of hosta-related topics to a crowd of gardeners eager to put winter behind them.

Members also took advantage of **Dave Is Sharp** tool-sharpening service, which came out to get our pruners, loppers, and shovels ready for work. The club also treated new and renewing members to a free pair of garden gloves, so everyone is ready to go!

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.



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Gardeners: Resist the Urge! — Maureen Taylor

After a long, cold, snowy winter like we've just had in Chicago, we gardeners are more than eager to get out and get to work clearing and cleaning, but I urge you to hold off a bit...for now anyway.

Winter and early spring in the garden is basically a series of freeze and thaw cycles. These cycles create tiny air spaces called "pores" in the soil which are essential for healthy plants. Soils are made up of four main parts: mineral solids, air, water, and organic matter. Soil is a living organism and as such needs oxygen to exist. Without adequate oxygen, the soil becomes waterlogged, and the roots of plants will rot.

If you dig or even walk on your beds too early when the soil is wet, you will do a considerable amount of damage to your land by eliminating these air spaces. If you must walk in your garden, it is recommended that you lay down a plank of wood and step on that instead.

You should also resist the urge to clean up your beds too early. Even though we are all anxious to see what is starting to grow, it is better to wait a bit. Hopefully, you left the leaves on your flower beds last fall. These leaves help regulate the temperature of the soil.

Removing this organic cover too early will expose tender shoots to our unpredictable spring weather. The old leaves will decompose on their own and give essential nutrients back into the soil.

As consistently warmer weather arrives, you can start to remove the leaves to expose the crowns of the plants, but do not put the leaves in the trash can. Leave this material around the roots of the plants instead.

If you can live with the look of the decomposing leaves for a few extra weeks until the plants fully leaf out, your garden will thank you for it by being more productive!

Maureen Taylor is a Master Gardener and Landscape Designer, and the owner of Taylor Made Landscape Design 773 255 2789, www.TaylorMld.com

Photo by Eco Warrior Princess on Unsplash





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Create You...a Celebration of Black History

— Eileen Schnepff, Communications Liaison

February was Black History Month, and Disney II celebrated the occasion at both of our campuses. Our 7th–12th grade Lawndale building held an assembly for all students that included a fashion show featuring African American design and traditional fabrics, a dance presentation, and poetry reading. At our PreK-6th Kedvale building, our Black History Art Studio Students and the Chicago Children's Choir hosted a Black History Celebration. The audience, comprised of students and parents, had an opportunities to sing and dance along with the performers and were witness to a beautiful performance by Disney II students in the Chicago Children's Choir.

Create You...a Disney II Titan

Disney II Magnet High School will be accepting 10th & 11th grade transfer students for the 2019-20 school year. The transfer student application opens on May 1, 2019. If your student is interested, please email jcardenas28@CPS.edu or call 773-534-5010 with questions. Also, visit our website disneyiimagnet.org to register for a tour of the school.

Learn More

To learn more about Disney II Magnet School, a K-12 choice for your child, visit our website disneyiimagnet.org or follow us on Twitter and Facebook @DisneyIIMagnet.



Disney II's Chicago Children's Choir students. Photo provided by Disney II Magnet School

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



IL 40th District- Jaime Andrade



The Buzz at Belding

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

Belding's Got Talent!

One of our favorite Belding events was back and better than ever. Students in kindergarten through eighth grade showcased an array of extraordinary talents on Friday, March 22nd at the Belding "Got Talent." After an intense round of auditions, 20 acts were chosen to perform and entertain. Final performances included gymnastic routines, band performances, comedy, singing, dancing, and even a unique stunts routine! The evening was capped off by a surprise teacher flash mob of the Evolution of Dance! We've always known that Belding's Got Talent, and it was great to see it!



Photos courtesy of Belding School

Leadership at Belding

Belding 8th-grade students attended Student Leadership Day at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. Students were asked to examine the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, focusing on the one they believed to be most important. Guest speaker David Hogg, an activist, and survivor of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida, spoke to the group. He challenged students to take action and believe their age is not a barrier to change. Belding students brainstormed issues they wanted to see become a reality in their world. After some discussion, the Belding student leaders had an issue to focus on, a plan, and a strong belief in the power of their young voices. Stay tuned for their vision for a better world to begin.

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

Each month Principal Heather Yutzky 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 April 23, May 21, May 28, June 4, and June 11. Tours begin at 8:00 a.m. in the school office.

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I wear, my smile is
the most important.

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The Inside Scoop at Scammon — Renee Klimkiewicz, Curriculum Coordinator

Celebrating The 100th Day of School



On February 20, 2019, Scammon teachers and students welcomed the 100th day of school. Preschool to second-grade classrooms celebrated with collections of 100 items and decorated t-shirts to acknowledge this exciting milestone. What an exceptional day!

Scammon: Pasta and Family Fun

Scammon Community United (SCU) organized a fantastic pasta night for families. There were over 245 family members in attendance and the night was full of food and family fun! We want to thank all the parents, students, and faculty that supported this event.

Also, a special thanks to La Villa who graciously provided pasta for the event. Such an incredible night!

APRIL FAMILY EVENTS

Scammon's Got Talent

On Friday, April 11 students in grades four through eight will showcase their talents in Scammon's Annual Talent Show. Organized by our creative performing arts teachers Ms. Peace and Mr. Snyder, students are prepared to illustrate their talents and impress the audience. If you would like to be serenaded by our singing, entertained by our dancing, and moved by our students' talents please join us for a fun night.

Kindergarten Enrollment

April 29, 2019, begins enrollment for Scammon's kindergarten program. As a Level 1+ CPS neighborhood school, we are excited to accept applications for our three classrooms. Please reach out to us at (773)534-3475 for more information or to schedule a school tour.

Interested in learning more about Scammon Elementary?

Visit us at: scammon.cps.edu

Or follow us on: **Instagram** @scammon_school | **Twitter** @ScammonSchool | **Facebook** Scammon School



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St. Edward Parish Welcomes New Pastor

St. Edward Parish is thrilled to announce the appointment of Father Dominic Clemente as our new pastor, effective July 1, 2019. For the past three years, Father Dom has served as our Associate Pastor. Father Dom is a 2008 graduate of St. Patrick High School and is local to the northwest side. Congratulations, Father Dom!

Spring Recital

Music is a long time tradition at St. Edward. On Wednesday, April 3 at 7p.m., our Woodwind, Brass and Percussion students will perform in their spring recital in our gym, 4447 N. Lowell.

Living Stations of the Cross

One of the most moving celebrations during Easter is our Living Stations of the Cross. On Friday, April 12 at 1:45p.m., our students will re-enact Christ's crucifixion. Members of the community are invited to join us in St. Edward Church, 4350 W. Sunnyside.

Registration is open

for the 2019-2020 school year. Registration forms are available online at stedwardschool.com/admissions/forms.

Visit Our School on Welcome Wednesday

On Wednesday, April 10, we will host Welcome Wednesday. Join us for coffee and a tour. Registration begins at 8:30a.m., with a campus tour at 9a.m. Tours are open to all prospective parents with children entering school or older students that might want to transfer. We will have parents 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.

Annual Pancake Breakfast

On Sunday, April 14, Boy Scout Troop 904 holds its annual Pancake Breakfast from 8a.m. – 1p.m., 4447 N. Lowell. Tickets are available at the door. Join us for Palm Sunday Mass at 8am, 9:30a.m., or 11a.m. and then partake in the all-you-can-eat pancakes.



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.



Focus on Early Childhood Learning at St. Edward



OPEN HOUSE

WELCOME WEDNESDAY

May 8, 2019

8:30 am Registration

9:00 am Campus Tour

&

EVENING

OPEN HOUSE

May 23, 2019

from 6:30 pm to 8 pm

St. Edward is a Catholic elementary school offering Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade. Providing excellence in education, we offer outstanding Academics, Art, Music, Technology, Physical Education, and Extra-curricular Activities to all grades.

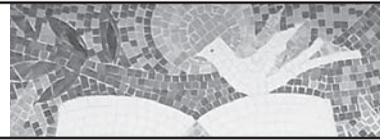
Our goal is to nurture and teach the whole child and to encourage qualities needed for life-long learning.

Explore all that St. Edward has to offer!

Our campus is easily accessible with close proximity to the Kennedy and Edens expressways, walking distance from the Blue Line, Metra station, and the Montrose and Cicero Avenue bus lines.

More information: visit us at www.stedwardschool.com
or send an email to office@stedwardschool.com

St. Edward School - 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue - Chicago, IL 60630 - Phone: 773.736.9133



Viator Vibrations — Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

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



March Madness at St. Viator! Congratulations to the St. Viator 8th grade girls basketball team for advancing to the championship game in the Chicago Catholic Youth League tournament, for the second year in a row! They didn't come home with the 1st place trophy, but they played a great game against the St. Ben's Maroon team! This year, ALL EIGHT of our basketball teams (boys and girls, 5th-8th grades) made it to the playoffs and advanced at least one game. St. Viator was asked by the league to host 10 playoff days this year, for a total of 44 games. It was so exciting to watch our teams in the playoffs on their home court, and hosting other schools was a great opportunity to show off our incredible gym, great sportsmanship, and school spirit.

Upcoming Events *All Events are Open to the Community*

Sunday Art Show and Academic Fair Open House **April 7, 11:30a.m. to 2p.m.**

We celebrate our students' artistic and academic achievements. Our halls will be a fine art gallery, and our rooms will have examples of our students' most exceptional academic work. Faculty and staff will be present. This is a fun event where prospective families can mingle with current families while exploring the school at their leisure. Light refreshments will be served. If you would like a personal tour on this day, please RSVP to Marge at mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org.

Wiggles & Giggles Playgroup, April 11 & May 2 (year-end party!), 9-10:30a.m. This fun & FREE playgroup is for children ages newborn - 4 and their parents/caregivers.

Primary Gym - April 6 & 20, 8:30-10a.m. Children, ages 3 - 3rd grade, and parents can participate in basketball, baseball, scooters, floor hockey, parachutes and more. \$20 per family for the year.

Recreation Events are held in the St. Viator Rec Center, 3644 N Kedvale and are open to the community

Annual Reading Night

Our annual Reading Night was held on March 28th, and this year's theme was Roald Dahl. The evening featured everyone's favorite Roald Dahl stories, "The Roald Dahl Game Show", edible paper, slime, dream catcher jars, raffles, a book exchange, and themed snacks in the Chocolate Bar.



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Schurz Bulldogs Elijah Clay and Nakeyl Shelton advance to the 3-point contest at the State Finals in Peoria.

Bulldog Bash #7

Thank you to all of our Schurz Bulldog alumni for making The Bulldog Bash #7 at La Villa a night to remember! It was a night of fun, friendship, and generosity. THANK YOU, alumni, for funding five \$1,000 scholarships to be awarded on Senior Awards Night in June; giving a \$1,000 donation to the Gallagher Fund for various athletic needs; and an additional \$2,000 donation to support the Students in Transitional Living Situations (STLS) students. Also, thank you Friends of Schurz for organizing the "Feed The Bulldog" teacher wish-list display and to the donors that sponsored them. Lastly, heartfelt thanks to **Pat Annis**, beloved wife of Bulldog alum **Carl "Bud" Annis** ('76) and extraordinary Schurz band director for 25 years! Her generous gift in Bud's memory ensures that his legacy of teaching, living life with passion, and the joy of music lives on! Love Purple, Live Gold.

To keep up on the latest happenings at Carl Schurz HS visit us at www.schurzhs.org , or follow us on Twitter and Facebook @CarlSchurzHS. Questions or concerns? Kudos and compliments? Contact Dee Barrett at dibarrett@cps.edu.

Bulldog Summer Band Camp

Don't miss this opportunity! Schurz High School Music Director Tim Anderson invites elementary school students with at least one year of band experience to join the Bulldog Summer Band! There will be two, three (3) week sessions offered between June 24th and August 1st, Monday–Thursday. Registration information is coming soon!



On Target 100 archers from Lane Tech, Prosser, Steinmetz, Joliet West, and Schurz competed in the Bulldog Bullseye tournament on March 2. Congratulations to Schurz sophomore **Emmanuel Uria** (pictured above) for his 1st place finish at the Bulldog Bullseye tournament for the second year in a row!



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Irving Park Real Estate

THE IRVING PARK SUNFLOWER PROJECT IS BACK!

Last year, Stephanie delivered over 1,500 packets of sunflower seeds to homes all over Irving Park.

Visit www.stephaniecutter.com/sunflowers by May 15th to order a FREE packet of sunflower seeds and Stephanie will drop seeds off at your home!

You can also stop by our sunflower seed supplier Farmer's Market Garden Center (4110 N Elston Ave) between April 11th and May 15th to pick up your free sunflower seeds!



Share photos of your sunflowers' progress on Facebook & Instagram using #IrvingSunflowers to be entered into a prize drawing!

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#HappyHomesIrvingPark



Pantry Plans Neighborhood Walk for May 18th

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is organizing its second annual walk through the Old Irving Park neighborhood, in the vicinity of the Pantry. The goal is to raise funds for the Pantry, generate awareness about food insecurity in our neighborhood, and for the Pantry's efforts towards alleviating this insecurity in our community. There is no donation needed to walk, but we are hoping walkers will ask their friends for pledges so we continue to ensure we can provide our clients three days' worth of emergency food from all food groups on an ongoing basis.

The walk will take place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 18, and we can begin to assemble for the walk at 8:30 a.m. A route of about 1.7 miles through the neighborhood has been mapped out and approved by the city. It should take about 30 to 40 minutes to complete the route.

We encourage school and church groups to walk together. Students can earn 2 hours of service time for participating. For more information, contact Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis at info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org. More details will be posted on our Facebook page.

Easter Basket Project

The Pantry is giving out Easter baskets to clients' children up to 8 years old during the first three weeks of April (before Easter on April 21st). We are looking for items to fill these baskets (We also need baskets.) as well as pre-filled baskets. We use medium-sized baskets with grass and fun items typical of those sold at the dollar store:

- Plastic eggs filled with jelly beans or change.
- Snacks such as juice pouches, crackers, breakfast bars, and microwave popcorn.
- Wrapped candy.
- Bubbles, Nerf balls, Yo-Yos, pinwheels, etc.
- Easter pencils, erasers, toys.
- Small stuffed animals.
- Stickers, crayons, markers.
- Little books and activity pads.
- Baskets (Please donate plastic or fabric baskets that stack easily.)

If you would like to help hand out baskets during our regular distributions (Wednesdays from nine to noon and Tuesday night April 8, 6 to 7:30 p.m.), email craigshutt@gmail.com. Thank you to everyone in Old Irving Park for your support and donations, which allow us to continue to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

*Article submitted by Craig Shutt. John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry
3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago IL 60641 | e-mail: info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org, Web: www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.*



Street Cleaning to Start in Spring



Beginning in April, the Department of Streets and Sanitation will begin their residential street cleaning schedule. Street cleaning runs April through November, weather permitting.

The city hangs bright orange temporary parking restrictions the day before sweeping service is scheduled to begin. Those who fail to move their vehicle between the restricted hours, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., will be eligible to receive a \$60 ticket.

The street sweeping schedule is available to view online at sweeparound.us. This website also allows users to sign up for text or email alerts to ensure that a street cleaning isn't inadvertently missed. Those who signed up for alerts in the past are required to resubscribe, as alert subscriptions do not carry over.



Let us lead you down *your* garden path.
Be ready for warmer weather with our signature Spring Clean Up service

Anne Roberts Gardens has been helping create gorgeous gardens in Old Irving Park for over 20 years – and we are getting ready to dig in again this year. Whether you're dreaming of **landscape design**, a **stone or paver patio and walkways**, a **rain garden**, **native pollinator garden**, **vegetable garden** or even **storm water management**, let Anne and her team get to work – so you can enjoy your dream garden.

Get in touch today – mention this ad to receive your initial design at no cost. See all of the possibilities at AnneRobertsGardens.com, or call **773.777.7064**.

4414 N. Kenneth Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60630



CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

April

11 OIPA Member Meeting | 7:30 p.m. | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner

Irving Park United Methodist Church Holy Week | 3801 N Keeler | irvingparkumc.com

14 Palm Sunday Action for Affordable Housing: 12:30 p.m. | Emmet Street lot in Logan Square (near the Blue Line station)

19 Good Friday Services | 7 p.m.

21 Easter Sunday | 11 a.m.

25 Irving Park Garden Club | 7 p.m. | Front Gardens: Putting Your Best Foot Forward with Shirley Remes | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave. Free for members; \$20 to join

May

4 GIPNA 12th Annual Pre-Mother's Day Fine Craft Fair | Noon – 4 p.m. Over 30 artisans, Independence Park Field House, 3945 North Springfield Avenue Free parking in the lots north and south of the fieldhouse.

OIPA NEWS
May 2019
SUBMISSION
DEADLINE
Advertising &
Editorial
BOTH DUE
April 9
 (SECOND TUESDAY OF
 THE MONTH)
 BY 5 p.m.

EST. 1991

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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. We cannot use photos that are embedded in a Word document, you must provide images as separate files. Links to websites or Facebook are NOT acceptable as content submission.

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.

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

Deadline for advertising AND editorial submissions is

the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. Materials SUBMITTED AFTER the deadline 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.ouldirvingpark.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.

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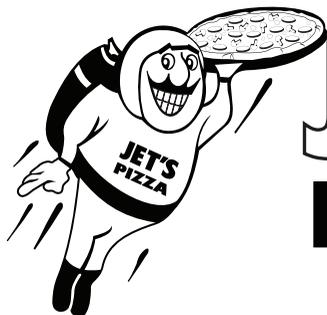
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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS

Old Irving Park Association

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