

OLD IRVING PARK

NEWS



FEBRUARY

VOLUME 33 | ISSUE 1 | 2019

JAIME



ANDRADE

Illinois State Representative • 40th District

Staterep40@gmail.com • (773) 267-2880

District Office 3007 W. Irving Park Rd, Suite A-Front Office



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IL 40th District- Jaime Andrade



OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 33 ❄️ Issue 1 ❄️ February 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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OIPA News—Right to Your Door



Jack Gibson

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

My neighbor had been delivering the newsletters before me. I substituted for her a few times and eventually took over for her about five years ago when I was 6 years old.

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

3700 N Kildare and 4200 W Grace

How long does it take you to deliver to your route and do you do anything else while making deliveries (walk your dog, listen to podcasts, etc.)?

It takes about ten minutes, I usually walk with my Dad and sometimes we go to Starbucks afterward.

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

When I was younger, I used to ride on my scooter and pretend to be the mailman while delivering the newsletters.

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

Not really.

Three words to describe Old Irving Park

Fun, friends, home



Meet Your Volunteer Delivery Team | OIPA



Pete Jurgeleit

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

I first volunteered to deliver OIPA newsletters to the Villa neighborhood almost eleven years ago. Then, as now, OIPA newsletters are distributed to only those OIPA members who live in Old Irving Park and mailed to all other members who live outside the boundaries. To cover the cost of the mailing the newsletters, OIPA charged OIPA members who did not live in Old Irving Park and additional \$15 (\$12?) each year. Despite their close proximity to Old Irving Park, residents of the Villa neighborhood, where my wife and I have lived since 2001, we needed to pay the additional \$15 per year to become OIPA members. OIPA, however, was willing to waive the \$15 for Villa residents if someone in the Villa was willing to volunteer and hand-deliver the OIPA newsletters to members who lived in the Villa. So, since the spring of 2008, I have been hand-delivering OIPA newsletters to OIPA members living in the Villa neighborhood, enabling such members (my household included) to take advantage of the membership rate otherwise available only to residents of Old Irving Park.

To what(whichever) block(s) do you deliver newsletters?

I deliver OIPA newsletters to the 3600 and 3700 blocks of N. Pulaski Rd. (east side only), N. Harding Ave., N. Springfield Ave., N. Avers Ave. and N. Hamlin Ave., as well as the 3800 and 3900 blocks of W. Addison St. (north side only) and W. Waveland Ave.

How long does it take you to deliver to your route and do you do anything else while making deliveries (walk your dog, listen to podcasts, etc.)?

It usually takes me about 20 minutes to deliver my route, depending on my mode of transportation (walk or bike), any assistance from my kids and whether I run into neighbors while delivering. Sometimes I listen to music or WBEZ on my iPhone, or use the opportunity to call my mother in Maine.

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

Unfortunately, I don't have any particularly funny stories from my days delivering newsletters, but every time I do my route I feel fortunate. Since well before I started delivering, I have known almost all OIPA members living in the Villa, and have socialized with most of them repeatedly over the years. I am grateful that so many of my friends, including OIPA members, live within such close walking distance.

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

Just like the mailman, I appreciate sidewalks, walkways and front steps that are cleared of snow and ice in the wintertime. Icy stairs can be treacherous!

Three words to describe Old Irving Park (and the Villas).

Relaxed, friendly, accessible.



Summarized Minutes of the Meeting

on November 19, 2018 – Bart Goldberg, Secretary

Attendees: Lynn Ankney, Anna Sobor, Meredith O'Sullivan, Adrienne Chan, Colleen Kenny, Annie Swingen, Scott Legan, and Bart Goldberg.

The Board meeting commenced at about 7:09 p.m.. Our thanks to Annie for hosting and to her son Ellis for graciously sharing his Halloween candy with all of us (I could have never done that at the age of eight, or really even now if I had worked so hard to extort it from the neighbors).

Treasurer's Reports: President Ankney, in her new additional role as Treasurer reported that the banking resolutions that had been prepared by the Secretary had been lodged and accepted with the relevant banks. She then discussed our financials, but sheepishly informed us that her initial reports were not available due to their being eaten by her chickens. This is why Howard Silver never had a chicken.

Advertising: Colleen reported on the status of advertising revenues from our newsletter and President Ankney updated us on our website sponsors. Several of the Board members volunteered to contact some of our prior advertisers that have not renewed to see if they were interested in advertising in the future. We want them to know that we love them!

Commercial Development and Zoning: Board members who had attended reported on the community meeting that had occurred on the November 14th concerning possible future development at the former site of Sears. We also agreed to attend a forthcoming meeting at the office

of Alderman Arena to obtain further information regarding possible development on the block of Irving Park Road that includes the site of Sabatinos (a neighborhood institution whose passing is being mourned by many). A zoning attorney also attended our meeting to present possible plans for the development of homes at 3916 and 3918 N. Tripp Avenue. No action was taken on this except to inform the Alderman's office of the fact that the meeting had taken place.

OIPA Archival Policy: There was further discussion about setting a date for the members of the Board to meet to review old OIPA documents with an eye to discarding the redundant ones, and properly storing what should be kept.

Aldermanic Candidate Forums: We discussed providing limited assistance to other neighborhood organizations that are putting on candidate forums for the upcoming aldermanic elections. The two wards that include our boundaries are the 39th and 45th. The forum for the 39th ward has been set for January 24, 2019 at the Irish American Heritage Center, and info for the 45th Ward is forthcoming. (As a neighborhood group we certainly take no positions regarding political elections, but we agreed that if we did take such positions we would certainly want to get involved in the 14th Ward to promote the re-election of Ed Burke to another 50 year term— **just joking**).



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Summarized Minutes of the “Helping” Meeting

on November 12, 2018 – Bart Goldberg, Secretary

Attendance:

President Ankney commenced the meeting at 7:05 p.m. For this meeting we were celebrating the volunteer organizations working in our neighbor. Specifically we had invited five of them to visit our meeting so that we can learn more about what they do, and to provide information for people that might want to volunteer. We invited the YMCA, Lydia Home, the Irving Park Food Pantry, Carlson Community Services, and Hands to Help Ministries (H to H was unable to attend due to an illness). Towards the end of the meeting we gave each NFP a check for \$500 for our annual gift. About thirty OIPers attended the meeting, including a relatively new attendee, **Jonathan Levy**, who brought his seventh grade daughter **Ellen** who was looking for a good place to do some volunteer work. Good for her! We also had a surprise visit from **Congressman Quigley**. Many of you will be relieved to know that in honor of our theme I am going to try to write these Minutes without a single lame effort at humor. After all, as it is appropriately expressed by the great Elvis Costello at the close of most of his shows: What’s so Funny About Peace, Love and Understanding?

Main Speakers:

Ron Anderson – Old Irving Park YMCA: Ron has met with us before, but this is the first time since he became the Executive Director of this venerable non-profit that has been in the community since 1925. I think we are all aware of all of the excellent programs that they offer to sharpen your body and mind, and that they have wonderful exercise facilities. We know that they provide excellent after-school care for

children. We are aware that they provide affordable housing to over two hundred men. We may even be aware that Da Bears used to train there during the 1960’s (If it is good enough for Ditka...). Some of you may even be aware that the Y is an international institution that was founded in London and is headquartered in Switzerland. And of course we know that the fees are very reasonable. But did you know that the YMCA promises to never turn anyone away from their services due to an inability to pay! Thanks to that, an additional 350 families were able to utilize the “Y” this year. That is why they seek volunteers and financial donations during their Annual Campaign.

Jonn Blazey – Lydia Hope Healing and Home: John is the Director of Development at this amazing non-profit institution. It was first founded on the NW side of Chicago in 1916 and has been at its present location on Irving Park Road for 98 years. It started as an orphanage and the Specialized Residential Program is still a very large part of its mission. That program provides food and shelter, counseling, education, and medical assistance to children that have been the victims of the most severe abuse. Jonn says that there are fewer and fewer places in Chicago that still exist to cater to children that have experienced serious trauma. Approximately 40 children live there at any one time, and they range in age from 6 years on up. They usually stay there for about six months to two years. Giving these children some comfort and hopefully a chance at recovery and success in life is vitally important, but Lydia also has other programs as well. They work to provide traditional

Continued on page 8



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OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the “Helping” Meeting on November 12, 2018

Continued from page 6

foster care placements to children that have suffered from abuse and neglect, and they also have an Intact Family Services program to help existing families that have been reported to DCFS with counseling and services, with the idea of strengthening the family so that removal or out-of-home placement will not be necessary. While over half of the annual budget for Lydia is received from government grants and fees, there is a huge need for continuing outside support. Financial support is of course welcomed, and they also have many opportunities for people wishing to volunteer.

John Psiharis and Craig Shutt – Irving Park Community Food Pantry: John is the Executive Director of this absolutely essential NFP. It was formed in the mid-1970's by Leila Duncan who personally purchased and delivered groceries to those in need in our community. She was a member of the Irving Park United Methodist Church, where it is still housed, and it was created by a coalition of local churches. They are now the third largest food pantry in the area and provide a three day supply of food each month to approximately 1,400 people per month. They serve people living in the 60641 zip code and those living in 60618 when west of Kedzie. It is essentially an all-volunteer organization and presently boasts about 80 volunteers. However, there is plenty of opportunity for additional volunteers, and donations are always appreciated. Besides food drives, the IPCFP also collects other types of items for some of their special distribution programs, including winter coats and children's toys (both going on now), and school supplies. Somewhat unusually, they also collect and distribute pet supplies. Monetary contributions to the pantry also have an unusually large bang for the buck as they are then used to purchase food for distribution

from the Greater Chicago Food Depository for only four cents per pound. Just a \$10 contribution could buy 250 pounds of nutritious food for those in need. Think of that!

Liz Mills – Carlson Community Services: Liz is the Executive Director and was good enough to visit us again to update us on this unusual and effective local charity. This is a great example of recent local philanthropy. The NFP was established in 2004 when the last of three brothers by the name of Carlson passed away leaving a substantial bequest to the Irving Park Lutheran Church. Carlson Community Services is operated independently of the church, and it has three primary programs to implement their desire to give back to this community. The first is an after school program for about 60 children called the Magic After-School Place. Many of the children there are from low income homes and for those children the cost is very low (\$35 per week). They also put on the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series with Arthur Bingaman as the Artistic Director, which has included a lot of first rate classical performances, but also includes many other genres including the performance of blues musician Bear Williams in a Christmas Show on December 9, 2018. Last but not least, the Three Brothers Garden is a community food garden that produces organic food to benefit the Food Pantry. Carlson has a wealth of volunteer opportunities, especially in the garden and with the after school program and donations are also welcome.

Surprise Guest – Congressman Mike Quigley: Fresh off of his landslide re-election (140,000 votes) our Congressman was good enough to visit us. This was at least his third visit in the last couple of years (thanks



OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

to Anna Sobor] and it is always very interesting to hear about what is really going on in Washington. He has now served for about ten years and his sway in Congress has been steadily growing. He was already serving on the powerful Appropriations Committee, and now with the return of a democratic majority he expects to be the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government. That committee includes oversight over the administration of the Supreme Court. A few of things that I found interesting from his short visit were:

1. He expects that Congress will once again give itself the power to pass earmarks (think "pork" buried in a larger bill). While I am not a fan of earmarks, I can understand their utility when trying to pass major legislation. The Republicans had banned them in 2011, and the Democrats have wanted them restored, but now the President does as well. Pretty strange.
2. He expects a major infrastructure bill to get passed. He again mentioned that our CTA has more riders in a month than Amtrak in a year. Federal funds were recently involved in getting the Red Line done, and improving the Blue Line is now on his radar.
3. He spoke of the need to sell the current and physically decrepit FBI building so it can be moved to more efficient locations. He noted that this is a no-brainer as the current location is such valuable real estate that it can be sold to pay for the improved facilities at a new location. However, he pointed out that our President has attempted to block this, and he implied it was not coincidental that it was because it is located next to a Trump Hotel property and that he may not want a competing business at that location.
4. Most importantly, he spoke about his important role on the Intelligence Committee and in particular the Russian Investigation. He noted that there had been about 40 witnesses that the Republican Congress had not allowed to be called, and that other witnesses had refused to answer. He made it clear that the investigation would now be going forward without such roadblocks. However, he also made it clear that that every effort would be made to do it in a calm and constitutional manner. That was great to hear, as no matter which side you should lean toward, the last thing we need now is hyperbole or show-boating that will only lead to more polarization in this country.

OIPA
General Member Meeting
Monday, February 11, 2019
7:30 p.m.
NEW LOCATION
St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N. Kostner

OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



February Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Pokey Goldberg | 17 | Maria Montadas |
| 2 | ERIS Brewery-CiderHouse | 17 | Michael Abbott |
| 2 | Emmanuel Sarris | 18 | Amy Meadows |
| 3 | Heather Legan | 18 | Dave Cloud |
| 4 | Tom Keith | 18 | Rey Chan |
| 5 | Randall Patke | 19 | Kevin Cisner |
| 6 | Jopey Sevigny | 20 | Denise Giszczynski |
| 6 | Sara Freeman | 20 | Lee Swingen |
| 7 | Josh Boggioni | 20 | Liam Kick |
| 7 | Catherine Kozisek | 21 | David Sheets |
| 7 | Rodney Zech | 22 | Jennika Thomas |
| 8 | Missy Goldberg | 23 | Charity Piet Miska |
| 12 | Molly Melick | 25 | Alejandra Torres |
| 14 | Irene Flaherty | 25 | Luis Posados |
| 14 | Dave Pierce | 26 | Stephanie Betts |
| 15 | Michael Brick | 27 | Shirley Buss |
| 16 | Richard Hoffman | 29 | Beth Young |

February Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 2 | Megan & Eric Stalder |
| 9 | Roseanne & Ronald Cherepski |
| 11 | Carol & Robert Szalacha |
| 12 | Danielle & Randy West |
| 14 | Kate & Mike Roche |
| 17 | Cyril & Mary Koscinski |
| 27 | Laura Baginski & Patrick Wasser |

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.

OIPA MEMBERS

Holiday Dinner

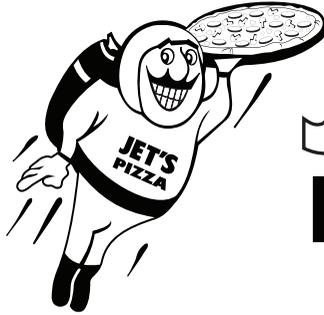
December 9, 2018

Hope all who attended had a great time.

We would also like to thank the many generous OIPA members and friends who donated gifts for the Irving Park Community Food Pantry toy drive.



Pictured at right: OIPA President Lynn Ankney and Board Member Meredith O'Sullivan greet guests as they arrive. Abundance of toys donated by OIPA members.



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OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

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



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4066 W. Warwick.....	\$400,000
4350 N. Lowell	\$499,000
4117 N. Pulaski.....	\$475,000
4036 N. Kostner	\$532,500
3720 N. Milwaukee.....	\$537,500
3714 N. Kildare.....	\$543,500
3712 N Kostner	\$552,000
3923 N. Tripp.....	\$950,000



Attached Single Family

4342 N. Kedvale, 3B	\$127,000
4105 N. Keeler, 1E.....	\$128,000
4240 N. Keystone, 3E.....	\$180,000
4037 N. Pulaski, 3C.....	\$270,000



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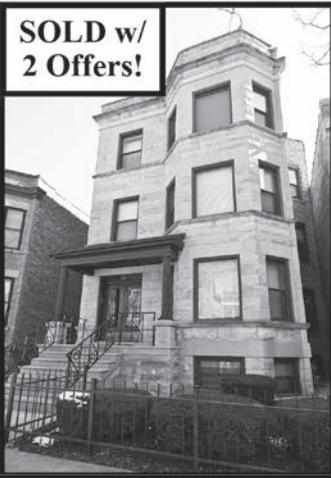
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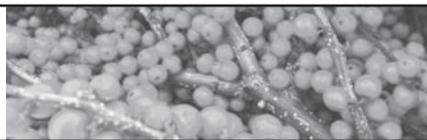
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Brightening a Bleak Winter's Day — Claudia Hine

Sixteen lucky members of the Irving Park Garden Club were recipients of a donation of winterberry branches by Des Plaines-based **Lurvey Landscape Supply** to **Keeler Gardens**, 3631 N. Keeler Ave.

Winterberry is a holly shrub with bright red berries that looks great in containers and will be enjoyed by many neighborhood birds.

As Lurvey needed to clear out its seasonal stock, garden club members were only too eager to take advantage of that offer for use in their containers at home or to dress up the club's planters along Irving Park Rd. OIPA board member Anna Sobor took some of the winterberry to brighten OIPA's large containers along Irving as well.

Although the garden club is on its winter break, our first meeting of the season is just a few weeks away.

Join us on March 16 at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner, for a presentation on hostas by Lou Horton. Annual membership is just \$20/family.

Knife & Tool Sharpening

Gardening not your thing? No problem. You can stop by to have your knives or tools sharpened as Dave Is Sharp also will be on hand to get us ready for gardening season. His van will be parked outside of the church entrance, and we invite nonmembers to take advantage of this service, too. Prices vary.

Wishing you an early spring. Hope to see you in March.

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.



Top of page: Branches filled with bright red berries look great in containers and are a treat for birds. Above: Winterberry dresses up the planter in front of Finom at Irving Park Rd. and Keeler Ave. *Photo s by Gina Iliopoulos.*



Garden club members Ed Caplan and T. J. Hine fill a pickup truck with boxes of winterberry donated by Lurvey Landscape Supply. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*



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The Buzz at Belding— Lisa Owens, 4th Grade Reading/Social Studies Teacher

Family Reading Night

It was a cozy evening in November as Belding families came to school for a fun reading event. Students wearing comfy pajamas were treated to various staff and fellow students reading and even performing some favorite books. From old favorites like *Oh Say Can You Say* by Dr. Suess and beloved characters like Pete the Cat, to new favorites like *The Book With No Pictures*, students young and old were treated to the joy of listening and having a book read to them. With hot cocoa and the chance to make a beautiful bookmark, it was a lovely evening appreciating reading.

Winter Wellness Fest

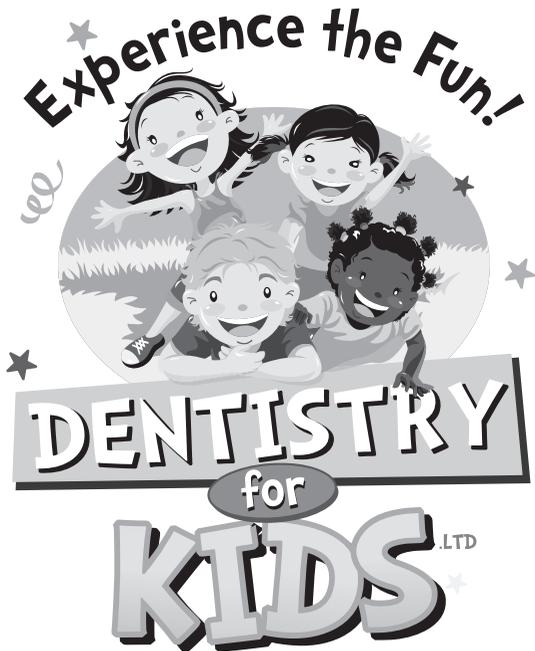
Belding hosted its third annual Winter Wellness Fest on in January. The goal of the event was to engage students and families around the importance of eating well, movement, safety, and mental health. It was exciting to bring our school community together for a night of learning and fun. There were five health-related workshops and five physical activity classes. Also, there was a vendor fair with various community organizations sharing information about their programming/services. We were excited to start the new year off by providing an experience that encouraged our students and families to LIVE WELL!

Are you curious to see what Belding Elementary has to offer your child? Each month Principal Heather Yutzy offers school tours for prospective parents. School Tours are an excellent opportunity to see Belding teachers and students in action and to learn more about our school. Upcoming tour dates include January 22, February 19, March 19, April 23, May 21, May 28, June 4, and June 11. Tours begin at 8:00 a.m. in the school office.



Family Reading Night Fun

Photo provided by Lisa Owens



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The Inside Scoop at Scammon — Renee Klimkiewicz, Curriculum Coordinator

A Goodman Theater Honor

We are excited to announce that Scammon Elementary was one of five Chicago Public Schools awarded a three-year grant to the rights of Disney Musicals in Schools. The Goodman Theater will partner with us by providing two teaching artists to train and work with students and staff. This opportunity will expand our ever-growing Performing Arts program by engaging third through fifth grade students in a production of “The Lion King.” Students will perform for our local school community, and they will present a one act on the Goodman Theater stage. We enthusiastically await the performance date in May 2019!

Bee Prepared

In December, we hosted our first Spelling Bee. The competition began in November with classroom challenges to nominate one champion per class from grades fourth through eighth. On December 19th, fourteen students proudly walked the stage to showcase the power of their spelling skills. The competition was fierce and the final spell-off was between a fourth grade student, Bryan Llangari, and sixth grade student, Calvin Bernal. In the end, Mr. Bernal claimed the first place title. We commend all our participants for their endurance and commitment.

A Performing Arts Success

Winter wonders indeed! Scammon students captivated parents, families and fellow students during the Winter Assemblies. The audience delighted in the melodic voices and adorable moves of our preschool through third grade students. Performances were made by our very own Scammon Dance Team, Choir and Ukulele Band. It was two incredible days of performances. Special thanks must be given to our talented music teachers, Ms. Peace and Mr. Snyder. Another special thanks to Mrs. Torres and Mrs. Rubio for enriching the school with the spirit of the holidays!

Science is Everywhere

Thirty middle school students were selected to contend against one another in the Scammon Science Fair. It was a day to highlight the power of science as all classrooms toured the exhibits. In the end, only seven students were selected to advance to Chicago Public Schools Regionals. Scammon would like to congratulate Jaelynn Carranza, Tiara Cirino, Jocelin Ortiz, Gabriela Prieto, Dayanara Campoverde, Lennise Quintero and Manasa Maskey for their great work.

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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From The Principal's Desk — Happy New Year to All!

I am happy to have this opportunity to introduce myself and speak to you about all of the great things happening at Schurz.

I am going on my 2nd year as principal at Schurz, but my career here began in 2010 as assistant principal. I have been with CPS since 2002 as a teacher, instructional coach, and resident principal at Lafayette Elementary School in Humboldt Park. I'm the proud father of two energetic boys who attend Belding Elementary School and am a life-long Northsider. Schurz is my neighborhood high school, and it's where I'll be sending my oldest in just under two years.

I would like to encourage everyone to be on the lookout for the community events we have lined up for the spring and attend whenever you can, especially our monthly family movie nights! I always say that you can't have a neighborhood high school without a neighborhood, so I thank the Old Irving Park community for its continued support of our school. I plan to attend an OIPA meeting soon and look forward to meeting all of you!

Finally, feel free to say hi if you spot me at one of the many fantastic establishments in the neighborhood!

Anthony Rodriguez

Upcoming Events

**Friday, January 25 | Family Movie Night
DOUBLE FEATURE!** *hosted by the Schurz Boys
Varsity Basketball Team*

4-5: 15 p.m. – "Hoops Clinic & Shoot Out"
(open to elementary age students)

5:30 p.m. – Screening of "Air Bud" (rated G)
and "Uncle Drew" (rated PG-13)

*Movie Nights are the last Friday of every month—
unless otherwise noted.*

Stay Update

To keep up on the latest happenings at Carl Schurz High School 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

Tree & Plant Health Care Should Be Practiced Year Round

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Stephanie Cutter

Irving Park Real Estate



Downsizing Seminar

Moving from a home you have lived in for decades can be a long and overwhelming process. Join us to learn some tips, meet some great resources, and hear from others who have been through it!

Speakers include:

- Dawson Relocation
- Everything But The House
- Stephanie Cutter
- Local Residents who have recently downsized.

March 23rd, 2019
1:00-3:00pm

St. Viator Elementary School
Recreation Center Lounge
(2nd Floor)
3644 N Kedvale Ave

Go to stephaniecutter.com/downsizing
for more information and to register for the event



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High School Bound

Our 8th graders are starting to hear from high schools, and the results are fantastic! We look forward to the decisions they have from the many acceptances being received.

Registration is open!

We invite any family interested in Pre-K 3 – 8th grade for 2019-2020 to register. Come see how we give your child so much more than just a seat in a classroom.

We invite all prospective families to our Welcome Wednesday Tour on February 13. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. in the main school building, 4343 W. Sunnyside. Registration for the next school year will also be accepted.

Above photo provided by St. Edward School

Chili Cook-Off and Home Brew Fest

St. Edward parish is active. On Saturday, February 9, from 6:30–9:30 p.m., please join us for our Chili Cook-Off and Home Brew Fest in Unity Hall, 4350 W. Sunnyside. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 years and under. Your ticket gives you a sample of each chili and a ballot. After you have voted, enjoy a bowl of chili or a hot dog. Winners will be announced in the adult and junior chef category. Open gym will be available for kids. Come check it out!

Super Bowl Party

While the Bears may not be in the playoffs, the Super Bowl is still a great time to support St. Edward Youth Program. On Sunday, February 3 from 3-10pm, we will host a Super Bowl party. For \$20, it's all you can eat beef, sausage, hot dogs and pasta with a cash bar. The event is in Buckley Hall, 4447 N. Lowell. Thank you for supporting our youth sports programs!

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.



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.

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.

4343 W. Sunnyside Ave. Chicago Illinois 60630 | 773.736.9133
stedwardschool.com | facebook.com/stedwardschoolchicago



Viator Vibrations — Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

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

Spring Soiree at Klairmont Collections

Please join us on Saturday, March 2nd at Klairmont Collections for the Spring Soiree, our annual fundraiser and auction, there will be dining and dancing amongst the venue's 300 rare and collectible automobiles. Cocktail attire, or show off your favorite fashions from the 50s and 60s. It is sure to be a spectacular evening! If you would like to promote your business to a local audience, there are several sponsorship opportunities available, and we are also seeking donations for our silent auction. For tickets or more information about sponsorship and donation opportunities, please contact mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org or 773-545-2173.

were selected, and each student was responsible for reading at least four of them. Our reading specialist, Mrs. Wasielewski, the parent coaches and the audience had a great time cheering on the students as they competed for the championship trophy based on their reading comprehension and memory skills.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2019-2020 school year. Please contact the school office for more information.

Open House

Feb 13, 9–10:30 a.m. Tour the school while classes are in session to see all that St. Viator has to offer. Or call the office to set up a tour date/time.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week kicked-off on January 26 with an open house and mass. There is a focus on service during Catholic Schools Week, with each grade level participating in a different service project. As part of Catholic Schools Week, several new members were inducted into the St. Viator chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, which is for students in grades 6-8 who demonstrate outstanding achievement in academics, leadership and service. Congratulations to our new NJHS members!

Upcoming Events

All events at the gym (St. Viator Rec Center, 3644 N Kedvale) are open to the community.

Wiggles & Giggles Playgroup | Feb 7 and 21, 9–10:30 a.m. This fun and FREE playgroup is for children ages newborn to 4 and their parents/caregivers. Open gym with balls, blocks, hula-hoops and so much more!

Primary Gym | Feb 2 and 16, 8:30–10 a.m. A relaxed yet active environment where children and parents can participate in basketball, baseball, scooters, floor hockey, and parachutes. Open to children ages 3 – 3rd grade. \$20 per family for the year.

Battle of the Books

St. Viator's "Battle of the Books" program, now its third year, had thirty-three students in grades 3–6 participating in a Jeopardy-style team-based reading competition over the course of January. Sixteen books

For more information, call 773-545-2173

stviatorchicago.org
Facebook – St. Viator Elementary School and Parish

SEEN & NOTED IN OLD IRVING



SEEN AND NOTED AT Irving Park Community Food Pantry

Photos by Craig Shutt

RIGHT: Coordinators Debby Fries (front row second from left) and Sara Yoest (in Pantry t-shirt) prepare volunteers to help clients in the toy room during the Pantry's holiday program in December.



SPOTTED: (Above) Fr. Dominiz Clemente (right) and three of his staff members, (l-r) Barbara Carabio, Caitlin Summon and Ken Karbowski delivered several carloads of food to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry in December.



SPOTTED (Left): Marci Berner, the owner of Tatas Tacos on Irving Park Road, offering her donation and those she'd solicited from customers. Executive Director John Psiharis and Office Manager Sandra Schwarzbeck accepted the donations for the Pantry.



SPOTTED AT THE MAYORAL CANDIDATES FORUM:
OIP residents Jeff London, Gerta Sorenson and Anna Sobor.
Photo provided by Anna Sobor.



SPOTTED: OIP residents Claudia and T. J. Hine and Anna Sobor enjoying samplings of delicious soup at the 2018 Soup & Bread for Carlson event. Plan to attend the 2019 Soup & Bread on February 10. See page 26 for details. *Photo by Liz Mills*



Warm Up with Carlson's Soup & Bread

Carlson Community Services' annual winter soup social will be held on Sunday, February 10 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Modeled after a popular event at The Hideout Bar, Soup & Bread for Carlson will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church gym, 4057 N. Harding Ave. Up to 10 satisfying soups from local restaurants and neighborhood cooks will be served, plus bread. At newsletter deadline, participating restaurants include **Hearth & Crust**, **Tre Kronor**, and **Bourgeois Pig Café**.

Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and teens, \$5 for kids 3-12. Kids under 3 eat free! New this year, for just \$5 more you can choose a one-of-a-kind, handmade bowl, donated by potter **Sheila Gidley** and **Terra InCognito Studio**. In addition to unlimited servings of soup and bread, we'll have music, a raffle, kids craft room and more!

All proceeds benefit Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit connecting the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture, and service. Carlson's programs include the Magic After-School Place, Three Brothers Community Garden, and the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series.

Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Horn and Organ Recital

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a free concert featuring Mary Jo Neher, horn and Joseph Burgio, organ on Sunday, February 17 at 2:00 p.m. In a

unique pairing of horn and organ, Neher and Burgio's program will include the Corelli Sonata in G Minor, Saint Saens' Adagio and Andante as well as music for solo organ and unaccompanied horn.

Mary Jo Neher is a second generation Alaskan born and raised. Since moving to Chicago in 1999, she has been an active freelance and chamber musician. She is a regular member of the Millar Brass Ensemble and has toured with The Phantom of the Opera and the North American Tour of Star Wars in Concert. She has performed for Fine Arts audiences as part of Uber Horn Quartet and the Polykrome Brass Ensemble.

Joseph Burgio is a native of Rochester, NY. He earned a Master of Arts degree in Pastoral Music, awarded jointly by Colgate-Rochester Divinity School and the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester. He is a free-lance organist and music tutor and instructor at Harold Washington College.

The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Admission to the concert is free of charge, although donations are gladly welcomed. A reception with the artists follows the concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee. The concerts are relaxed and casual, lasting about one hour. Perfect for families.

The final concert of the 2018/2019 season will be held on Sunday, March 24 at 2:00 p.m. and will feature John Ling and his mariachi orchestra.

Carlson Community Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that helps at-risk kids succeed with The Magic After-School Place (MAP), provides vegetables to people in need and beautifies our neighborhood with Three Brothers Garden and makes fine arts affordable and accessible through the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org

Support Lydia Home at *First Look for Charity*

As we enter 2019, we are humbled by the support the community has shown our children this past holiday season. Twenty different times during the month of December, groups of volunteers served home cooked meals to the children in our residential program. Others shopped for gifts so that our children could have a special Christmas. Another group of volunteers cleaned and organized our building to help create a better home for our kids. We are grateful for our wonderful community of volunteers and donors who continue to give their time, treasures, and talents to serving children in foster care. We LOVE this neighborhood!

Looking forward into the new year, we are excited about the opportunity to be a part of **First Look for Charity**, a gala held on February 8, the night before the Chicago Auto Show that benefits several charities, including LYDIA Home. Join us for a black-tie evening full of gourmet hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, live music, and a special vehicle giveaway. It will be a night to remember for all attendees as well as an amazing opportunity to help children in foster care. 90% of your ticket purchase will go towards the needs of children at LYDIA Home.

Let's make 2019 a year of continued Hope, Healing, and Home for kids in care. Here's how you can help:

- **Purchase tickets to First Look for Charity** – Exclusive event before the Chicago Auto Show that will help kids at LYDIA

- **Volunteer** – Come serve a meal or mentor a child
- **Donate** – We always appreciate general donations that go towards food, clothing, and therapeutic resources for our kids
- **Come take a tour!** – Call or text me or shoot me an email!

Thank you for your support,

Jonn Blazey, Director of Development, LYDIA Home
jblazey@lydiahome.org | 773.653.2248
www.LYDIAHome.org

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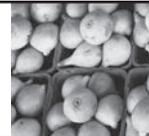


*"But God, being rich in mercy, because of
His great love with which He loved us,*

Ephesians 2:4



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Pantry Holiday Program a Success!

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry would like to thank everyone—volunteers, contributors, community organizations and businesses—who helped make our holiday program on December 19 a big success!

We provided a holiday meal to more than 250 families (about 950 people in the 60641 and western half of 60618 ZIP codes) along with toys, books and stocking stuffers for their kids. In all, more than 250 toys were given to 116 families along with countless stocking stuffers, books and hats/gloves and blankets.

Due to the community's generosity, after the Pantry's distribution was complete, we were able to donate 57 toys to the Magic After-School program run by Carlson Community Services, three bags of toys to the Jesse Sherwood Elementary School in Englewood (288 students, 99% low income) and two bags of toys plus stocking stuffers to Lydia Home.

In all, donations allowed us to distribute more than 700 toys, games, books, and articles of clothing to people in our neighborhood this holiday season! Special thanks to Sara Yoest and Debby Fries for their hard work in collecting toys and running the toy room.

Many Thanks

Thank you to St. Edward High School (4343 W Sunnyside Ave) for running a food drive for the Pantry in December that brought in several carloads of food. They gave points for donations, with extra points for those items we are in particular need of for our holiday program.

Thanks also to the group from VSA Partners who volunteered at the Pantry for our final regular distribution of the year on December 14. They performed a variety of duties and kept things moving during our last regular distribution of the year, which was one of our busiest of the year with more than 140 families served.

We appreciate everyone in the OIP neighborhood who supports our efforts and helps us to meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."

Cindy Paredes, branch manager at TCF Bank at Jewel Six Corners, and her associate, Jose Arguello, dropped off a donation for the Irving Park Community Food Pantry during the group's holiday program in December and then stayed to help clients select toys for their children. The donation was accepted by Executive Director John Psiharis and Board Member/Toy Room Co-Coordinator Sara Yoest. *Photo by Craig Shutt*



*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.*



Voting Information for the Upcoming Municipal Election

The February 26 municipal election is around the corner. Beginning February 11 through February 25, you may vote early at any early voting location. The 16th District Police Station, 5151 N. Milwaukee, is the early voting location in the 45th Ward. Other early voting locations near Old Irving Park include Kilbourn Park, 3501 N. Kilbourn, and NEIU El Centro, 3390 N. Avondale. A list of all voting locations and hours throughout the city are available on the Chicago Board of Election's website at bit.ly/ChiEarlyVoting.

Those interested in voting by mail may request a ballot on the Chicago Board of Election's website at bit.ly/ChiVoteByMail. The deadline to apply for a vote by mail ballot is 5 pm on February 21. Make sure to follow all the enclosed instructions and vote in secret. A mail ballot must be postmarked (or, in the absence of a postmark, certified by the voter) on or before Election Day, February 26, to be counted. Also, the Board of Elections must receive the ballot by March 12 for the ballot to be counted. You may return the vote by ballot through the U.S. Postal Service, by personal delivery to the Election Board (either by the voter or an immediate relative), or through a state-licensed motor carrier (such as FedEx, UPS, or DHL). Once a mail ballot has been returned to the Board of Elections, it cannot be retrieved or withdrawn. The same voter cannot vote in person at a polling place on Election Day unless they bring the mail ballot (or a portion of it) to the election judges or completes an affidavit stating the mail ballot was never received by the voter or that it was received and lost.

On February 26, you are required to vote at your designated polling place. You can find your polling place by entering your address on the voter's information

page on the Chicago Board of Election's, bit.ly/ChiVoterInfo. Polls close at 7 pm on Election Day.

You may register to vote at ANY early voting location or at your polling place on February 6. You will need two forms of identification, which must show a current address, to register to vote. A list of acceptable forms of ID is available to view on the Chicago Board of Election's website at bit.ly/ChiVoterRegistration.

See you at the polls.



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CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

For complete event details, go to the organization's feature page.

OIPA NEWS
March 2019
SUBMISSION
DEADLINE

Advertising &
Editorial
BOTH DUE
Feb. 12
(SECOND TUESDAY OF
THE MONTH)
BY 5 p.m.

February

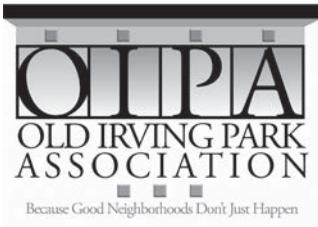
-
- 11 **OIPA Member Meeting | 7:30 p.m.** | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner
-
- 11 **Kilbourn Park Greenhouse Program | 7 p.m.** | Guatemala & Climate Change Impacts with Veronica Giron. Kilbourn's Greenhouse, 3501 N Kilbourn, Chicago IL. For tickets visit Friends of Kilbourn Park Organic Garden Eventbrite Page.
-
- 17 **Horn and Organ Recital hosted by Irving Park Fine Arts Committee | 2 p.m.** at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave.

March

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



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2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

This is a:

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- 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)

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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 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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY WITH HANDS TO HELP

Hands To Help, a small neighborhood organization that helps those who are struggling with homelessness.

Our mission is to assist neighbors on the northwest side of Chicago who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness to obtain and maintain housing.

The organization is comprised of an all-volunteer board, a paid part time Service Manager and Outreach Worker.

Hands to Help Ministries is always looking for additional board members and volunteers.

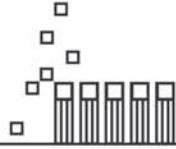
We are looking for people with skills in the following areas:

- Financial (payroll, funding requests, monthly reporting, budgeting, data input)
- Social work (education, statistics, evaluations, health, HMIS or All Chicago knowledge)
- Event Planning
- Fundraising
- Grant / Report Writing
- Community Relations
- Organizational Development
- Human Resources

If you are interested or know someone who may be contact Roberta Bole 773-505-2595 or Deann Sherlock at 773-430-3120 to be connected with the group.

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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS

Old Irving Park Association

3749 N. Keeler Avenue

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