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NEWS



JULY

VOLUME 34 | ISSUE 6 | 2020



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# OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 34 ❁ Issue 6 ❁ July 2020

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.

**oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com**  
**www.oldirvingpark.com**  
**FB: oldirvingparkassoc**

### Delivery Staff

Mary Lou Agronomoff  
Devin, Owen & Asha Alexander  
Lynn Ankney  
Julian Arias  
Bridget Bauman  
Sandra Broderick  
Barbara Chadwick  
Gayle Christensen  
Adrian & Oliver Christiansen  
Barbara Cohn  
Mary Czarnowski  
David Evaskus  
Irene Flaherty  
Bart Goldberg  
Sharon Graham  
Julia Henriques  
Phuong Johnston  
Jan & Bob Jones  
Peter Jurgeleit  
Jen Knox  
Scott Legan  
Hannah Lehman  
Katherine Liebich  
Nancy Mayer  
Sheri McGuire  
Mark McKelvey  
Kris Nielsen  
Linda Nishi  
Brian Pearson  
Dave Pierce  
Maria Ricotta  
Mary Pat Serpone  
Malia Stevens  
Stephen Stockley  
Ellis Swingen  
Christine Vertucci  
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### Street Banners

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Claudia Hine

### Parents Committee

Lynn Ankney  
Renée Linnemeyer

### Zoning

Bart Goldberg

### Delivery Coordinators

Meredith O'Sullivan (Chair)  
meredithosullivan@gmail.com  
773-551-4533

Barbara Chadwick (N. of Irving)  
Bart Goldberg (S. of Irving)  
Anna Zolkowski Sobor (Mailings)

### Editor / Design & Production

Kearns Design Group  
k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com

### Advertising

Colleen Kenny, oipaadvertising@gmail.com

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### Vice President

Annie Swingen

### Treasurer

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### A note about the advertisement featured in this issue.

*As the Phases to open Chicago occur, check with the individual advertiser by calling or visiting their website for information on their status*

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Cover: Photo by Kaitlyn Keely



**2020  
OIPA  
SUMMER**

**Sing-a-Long  
CHALLENGE**

---

**Calling all vocalists  
and shower singers!**

OIPA has a challenge for you! Get together with your family or neighbors (virtually or practicing social distancing) and create a video clip of you singing some or all of the song below (adapted by OIPA Board Member, Merry Marwig). Share or send your video clip to [oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com](mailto:oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com). We will be posting the video clips on Facebook throughout July. There might even be prizes. Get up everybody and sing!

## To the tune of "We Are Family" by Sister Sledge

We are OIP  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP  
Get up everybody and sing

We are OIP  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP  
Get up everybody and sing

Wishing we could be together  
As we walk on by  
(And) from the sidewalks in this nice Summer weather,  
We're waving "hi"

(All) all of the people around us they say  
Can they be that close  
Just let me state for the record  
We know that 6 ft goes!

We are OIP (Hey, y'all)  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP  
Get up everybody and sing (sing it to me)

We are OIP  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP  
Get up everybody and sing

We are OIP (hey, sing it to me)  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP (oh, I can hear you now)  
Get up everybody and sing

We are OIP  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP (get up, get up y'all)  
Get up everybody and sing

We are OIP (I got all my neighbors with me)  
I got all my neighbors with me  
We are OIP  
Get up everybody and sing (Get up and sing it to me)

We are OIP

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## Summarized Minutes of the Meeting on June 1, 2020

— Bart Goldberg, OIPA Secretary

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

**Commencement:** President Chan commenced the meeting at 7:40 PM. It was once again a Zoom meeting, but since there were not nine of us this month we did not get the cool tic tac toe configuration on our video screens. As a result, I was denied my fantasies of being Paul Lynde on the Hollywood Squares. On the positive side, at least there was no squabbling amongst all of the female board members as to which one of them got to be Marcia Brady (from the Brady Bunch) this month. Anna Sobor agreed to be Charro so that she would not get assigned to be Alice. As you would expect, she was a very energetic Charro.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Lynn Ankney presented her Treasurer’s Reports for May. For the month our receipts were about \$2,000 below our expenses. This was true even though we continued to receive substantial

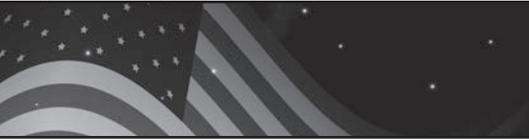
membership dues, but on the income side our advertising revenue was down largely due to timing issues. On the expense side, we had two substantial expenses that don’t reoccur very often, those being payment of the \$1,000 contribution we had made to the Food Pantry, and our annual cost for Directors and Officers insurance coverage for the Board. Since our meetings have previously veered very close to fisticuffs, such insurance is very important for the older and more physically vulnerable members of our Board (such as myself, well, actually, only for me). The financial report was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Membership Update:** Meredith O’Sullivan reported that we are continuing to see unusual growth in our membership for this time of the year. We had about 80 people join our organization during the months of April and May. This is undoubtedly due in part to the popularity of the “I Love OIP” signs that we distributed in the spring, and it may be because people are placing

## The Board Goes Zoom

*Photo by Meredith O’Sullivan*





# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

a greater importance on community during these stressful times (after all absence does make the heart grow fonder). Either way, we will take it!

**Newsletter and Website:** We discussed the schedule for further “Message From the Board” articles, and other content such as future candidate statements for the election of new board members this fall. We also decided to run a new notice every month in our Newsletter to remind people of how to utilize the City’s 311 website for community government needs. As to our Website, one of our Board members has suggested that we consider making some revisions to the site to make it easier to read, and in particular there was a suggestion that the present font is too skinny and too pale. I had two visceral reactions to this. The first was that I had never before thought about a font, and this made me wonder why. The second was that I was offended by this particular criticism. After all, my wife (who was a part-time Supermodel at the time) was often told by well-meaning individuals that she was too skinny and too pale. She still cringes at the mention of my Jewish mother and her admonitions to “Eat”! It was very hurtful to her. We will consider the website further at the next meeting. Also on the technology report Merry Marwig reported that our Board is getting closer to transferring from a Yahoo group to Google. I know that has to be a good thing.

**Outdoor Activities:** President Chan informed us that it was again time to consider the “Adopt a Greenspace” program for the year. This has been a very popular initiative that she has spearheaded for the last few years. Most of the planters will be sponsored by our returning champions and other volunteers, but we are looking for some additional help. There are two from last year that are still unclaimed, and we are also looking for new keepers for the three that we had to have professionally maintained last year. We also discussed the structure of the upcoming Garden Walk,

that will have unfortunately already have occurred when you read these Minutes. Lastly, Scott Legan informed us that no one has claimed a prize for the Restaurant Bingo we were running, and it is our hope that people will keep trying.

**Zoning and Development:** Burt’s Place is now moving forward with application for the zoning change that we had previously approved. Final City Council approval for The Point will hopefully have happened by the time this is published, and the Developer hopes to begin construction in October of this year. Lastly, we had read in Nadig Newspapers about the proposed development at the former People’s Gas site on Irving Park Road. We resolved to reach out to both the developer and our Alderman to obtain further information so that we can potentially vet the project in its formative stage. We have been assured that there will be a community meeting in the foreseeable future. We will keep you posted.

**Future Meetings and Ice Cream Truck:** The next Board meeting will be on July 1, 2020, and the next public meeting has yet to be scheduled due to health concerns with the virus. However, we will be sharing exciting news soon about a replacement (see below) for our annual Ice Cream Social. When I say “replacement” I am being uncharacteristically modest, as this will be way better! Instead of a serving vanilla ice cream in a church basement, we are hiring a real ice cream truck (with bells and everything) that will be serving all OIPA members with genuine ice cream truck type treats. **On Sunday, July 26, the truck will park for about an hour each at Belding and at Disney, and the ice cream will be free.** Limit, one per person.

• 3–4 p.m., Disney 2 Magnet School, 3815 N. Kedvale  
• 4:10–5 p.m., Belding Elementary, 4257 N. Tripp Ave.  
I wonder if Howard Silver will come back for this? I know that I am very, very excited. Until then Stay Safe and Stay Sane.

This meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

# OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



## July Birthdays

1	Mark Kelly	13	Donald Rood	24	Ben Lyon
2	Glenn Mathews	13	Eileen Cole	24	Brian Monaghan
3	Alexandra Gantner	14	Steve Stockley	24	Christine Lopez
3	Colbie Toth	15	Janet Middleton	24	Fraya Black
4	James O'Neill	15	John Ozog	24	Fred Alsen
4	Jeremiah Kaye	15	Nina Elliot	24	Monica Martinez
5	Barbara Chadwick	16	Janine Klich	25	Cathey Curley
5	Caleb Johnston	16	Lindsey Southwick	25	George Gantner
6	William Mason	17	Bruce Bailey	25	Jesus Nunez
7	Catherine Chan	18	Annie Lawrenz	26	Charlotte Palmieri
7	Dan Andrews	18	Susan Patke	26	Chuck Rigali
7	Rita Larson	19	Gregory Jensen	26	Ellie Walczak
9	Jeff Krogmann	19	Kristin Gross	27	Larry Ehrhart
9	Nancy Rimkus	20	Linda Townsend	27	Marianna Czajko
10	Betty Ryan	20	Russell Adams	29	Terry McGuire
11	Donald Jensen	20	Scott Legan	30	Eric Stalder
12	James Higham	22	Cynthia Andrews	30	Lindsay Horeis
12	Lauren Palmieri	23	Josh Weitzman	31	Henry Strozewski
12	Roger LeFebvre	24	Ari Troncoso	31	Kevin Newman

## July Anniversaries

2	Thomas & Dee McDonough	19	Kristen & Jim Lynch
5	Howard Silver & Judy Maas	20	Nicholas Hanhardt & Lia Orellano
8	Jessica & Russell Adams	20	Vivian & Bruce Bailey
8	Lori & Greg Altieri	21	Bindu & Timothy Alexander
11	David & Chris Evaskus	23	Alan & Rachel Allmen
12	George & Alexandra Gantner	24	Marnie & Roman Zabicki
12	Lynn & Jonathan Ankney	25	Amy & Jason Isadore
13	Denise & Steve Sonberg	27	Kelly & Dan Jacobs
15	Deborah Gidley & Mike Abbott	28	Michael & Lauren Innocenzi
17	Megan & Bryan Anderson	28	Robert & Kathy Liebich
17	Wendy & Fred Lundgren	30	Michael King & Andrea Montgomery

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](mailto:meredithosullivan@gmail.com) or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.

Foundation presents  
**Jazz Night**  
with  
**Steve  
Thomas**



**Wednesdays  
7:00 – 10:00**

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- Serve as the point of entry for residents, business owners and visitors that need easy access to information regarding City programs, services and events.
- Record and efficiently document all requests for non-emergency City services within the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) System and forward them to the proper governmental and non-governmental agencies.
- Assist City departments, governmental and non-governmental agencies deliver improved customer service and manage resources more efficiently.
- Monitor and provide consistent, essential performance management reports and analysis of City services delivery.
- Direct requests for non-emergency police reports to the Alternate Response Section (ARS).
- Serve as the back-up facility for 911.

### When to Call 311 vs. 911

Call 911 while the incident you are reporting is in progress and the on-site presence of a police officer is necessary to help resolve the matter (e.g., burglary in progress, incident involving injuries, quieting loud neighbors, etc.). You should contact 311 if the incident

you are reporting has occurred and the offender is gone from the scene.

Use 311 to find information, request non-emergency services, or report non-emergency issues. You can call 311 to find out what Police District and beat you live in, as well as the date, time and location of your next beat meeting. Contacting 311 gives you easy access to non-emergency police services, from filing police reports to talking to police personnel in your district.

**For more information and to download the app or use the services visit <https://311.chicago.gov>**

Source: [www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/311ProjectInformation](http://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/311ProjectInformation); <https://311.chicago.gov>





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# OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

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# Solace in the Garden

— Claudia Hine

In late June, the Irving Park Garden Club staged its annual garden walk. This year's event featured 11 gardens within our northeast boundaries of Irving Park, Pulaski, Montrose, and the Kennedy Expressway.

The gracious residents who invited us into their private spaces are **Lynn and Jonathan Ankney; Barry and Karen Bebart; Stephanie Cutter and Jordan Mummer; Kathy and Tom Dillon; April Gines and Maggie Z; Nora Henschel; Jan and Bob Jones; Mickey and Warren Piette; Betty Ryan; Carol and Bob Szalacha; and Karen Wehrle and Scott Tomlin.**

Following the difficult few months our city has faced so far this year, club members were happy to find peace and beauty in the lovely yards of all the participants. Due to social distancing guidelines and

limits on the number of attendees allowed to enter a garden at any one time, this year's walk did not have the usual party atmosphere we've come to expect. Still, we were delighted to have had the opportunity to bring something good to our community to enjoy.

For a gardener, there is nothing more calming than to set down the cell phone, ignore social media, turn off the TV, and dig in the dirt. Seeing perennials bloom and vegetables grow is solace for the soul and brings a sense of tranquility and accomplishment that's hard to beat.

**Above image:** IPGC's annual garden walk gave attendees the opportunity to go inside the beautiful yards of 11 Old Irving Park residents. *Photos by Claudia Hine.*



## What's Next

Our July Midsummer Night Stroll, scheduled for July 16, is still pending. It's a wine and cheese social that usually draws a crowd. Whether we can hold one of our most popular events of the season will depend on what phase the city is in by mid-month.



## Another Resource

New IPGC member **Megy Karydes** has started an Old Irving Park Gardeners Facebook page that you might enjoy. It's a place to share gardening needs, woes, victories, tips, and to chat about gardening. Be sure to check it out. A companion website and Instagram account are also in the works.

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 [claudiahine@icloud.com](mailto:claudiahine@icloud.com).

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## Pivoting to Find a Silver Lining — Alice Muncaster

When my shop at Broadway Antique Market closed mid-March because of the pandemic, I had to choose (like everyone has) between dismay and finding a silver lining.

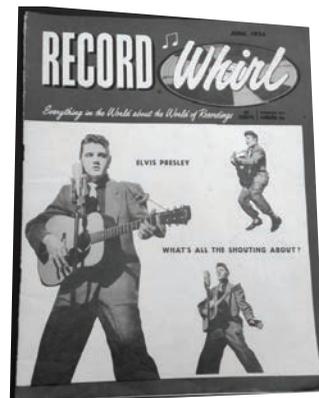
It's been important to me to continue the business my late husband launched in 1991, America's Scrapbook. It focuses on popular culture, historical documents, antique advertising, posters, and (my favorite), vintage Chicago. But the shop, and the interface with customers who appreciate this vintage niche, was suddenly on hold.

Strategy: major pivot. Amid global sadness and worry, I thought I would offer a distraction, if you will, by moving my business into social media high gear, and also offer the "making history cool again" items in my inventory available online via eBay.

It's been (and continues to be) both "therapy" and motivating. What I've learned is that we truly ARE all together in this. People from around the world have purchased items that span so many shared interests—and in the process have shared a bit about themselves with me.



A collector in Florida shared his concerns about Covid-19 while expressing his delight in finding a long-sought-after piece of sheet music from the 1890s. Another in France said his purchase of a 1953 magazine with Marilyn Monroe on the cover made him smile. A professor at a prestigious California university was excited about a century-old postcard that recalled another epidemic—eerily similar to what we are experiencing today—for their medical school's historic library collection.



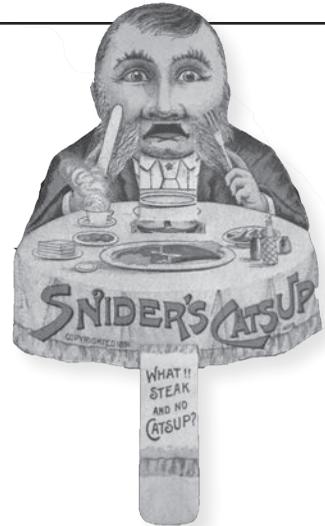


## TALES FROM AN OIP NEIGHBOR

A man in Ohio purchased advertising from a factory that was a major employer in his hometown before it folded in the 1930s. He confided his worry for his sons—essential workers, facing the public every day. All of these people needed to reach out to someone else who would listen. And I guess I needed that, too.

No one is alone as we navigate this unsettling point in modern history. I've learned that we can be there for each other in a lot of different ways. And that's my silver lining.

Alice Muncaster, Ken Kapson Antiques, LLC/America's Scrapbook  
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*All images provided by Alice Muncaster*



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We are long time Irving park residents and friends, raising our families and making friends here.

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# News from St. John's Episcopal Church

*Here is what is going on at your neighborhood church!*

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**Need a facemask?** We have a group of parishioners sewing masks. Please email [info@stjohnschicago.com](mailto:info@stjohnschicago.com) if you need a free handmade mask. Or support our parishioner Kate's sewing business, Masks on Mars, by purchasing one from her on Etsy at [etsy.com/shop/MasksOnMars](https://www.etsy.com/shop/MasksOnMars).

If you want to help out, you are welcome to make donations to our **Little Free Food Pantry** (in the shed between the church and the garage, come through the driveway from Byron). Especially needed are easily opened and heated, one-serving, non-perishable foods. Please take what you need!



**Hands to Help** is still open to help folks who are homeless or in danger of homelessness. The hours are Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.



Our **garden is open** for prayer, play, and picnics during daylight hours. Please stay physically distant.

**Worship is online!** Join us on Zoom or Facebook Live. Links to our online services, bulletins, and music are posted each week on our website [www.stjohnschicago.com](http://www.stjohnschicago.com).

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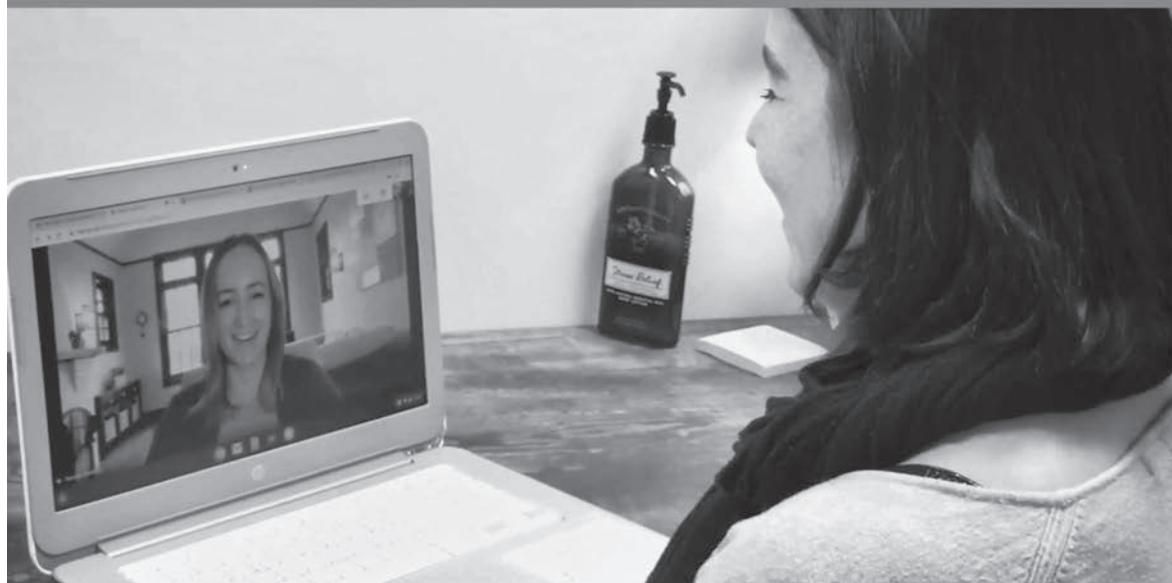
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# Celebrating Our



**Jonathan Andino**  
8th Grade,  
St. Robert Bellarmine  
Will attend Loyola Academy



**Jack Burke**  
St. Edward's School  
Will attend Loyola Academy



**Alina Andino**  
University of Iowa  
BA - Psychology  
BA - Communications  
Minor - Gender Women  
Sexuality

**Griffin Camell**  
Willamette University, BA  
Political Science



**Collin Brady**  
St Robert Bellarmine School.  
Will attend Notre Dame High  
School

**Emma Camell**  
NYU, MFA Music Technology



# 2020 Graduates



**Molly Ellingsen**  
University of Illinois -  
Champaign-Urbana

**Djamila Kassou**  
8th grade Belding Elementary



**Zoe Essex**  
St Edward  
Will attend DePaul College Prep  
Winner of American Legion  
Award, Bulleri Scholarship,  
Presidential Merit Scholarship,  
Presidential Award for  
Academic Excellence Award

**Sarah Kostelny**  
MA, Elementary Education  
National College of Education at  
National Louis University



**Lucia Fries**  
Disney 2 Magnet  
Will attend DePaul College Prep

**Grace Kozisek**  
Carthage College  
BA Chemistry, Chinese



# Celebrating Our



**Cade Linnemeyer**

Disney II Magnet HS  
Will attend Aquinas College in  
Grand Rapids, MI

**Declan O'Malley**

St. Viator  
Will attend St. Patrick's High  
School



**Fiorenza McDonogh Mooney**

CICS- Irving Park  
The International  
Baccalaureate Program at  
Amundsen High School.

**Sam O'Mara**

Skinner North Classical School  
Will attend Jones College Prep



**Henry Nicewick**

8th grade Edison Regional  
Gifted Center  
Will attend Walter Payton  
College Prep High School

**Sinead O'Sullivan**

Taft Academic Center  
Will attend Jones College Prep



# 2020 Graduates



**Traolach O'Sullivan**  
Jones College Prep  
Will attend Columbia University  
(NYC) and Sciences Po (Reims,  
France).

**Kathryn Starmann**  
Pilgrim Lutheran School



**Nicole Rose**  
St. Viator

**Collin Tye**  
Senior,  
Disney II Magnet High School  
Will attend Michigan State  
University



**Grace Silverstein**  
Graduating from Whitney Young  
High School  
Attending DePaul in the fall



## Sending Love — Heather Debby

When quarantine began, lifelong Old Irving Park resident **Sinead O'Sullivan** and her friend **Phoebe Koehler**, a resident of Lincoln Park, wanted to do something to make a difference. O'Sullivan, a recent Taft Academic Center graduate, had spent time during middle school volunteering at Norwood Crossing, a senior living community not far from her school. Thinking of the older adults living at Norwood Crossing and other senior communities, the girls realized that the Shelter In Place order's extreme isolation would affect senior citizens profoundly, and

they wanted to do something to help. Together Sinead and Phoebe founded "One Card at a Time."

The mission of One Card at a Time is to "brighten the day of as many senior citizens as we can." Phoebe and Sinead worked to involve as many Chicago students as possible in their mission, emailing hundreds of individual teachers around Chicago and asking them to amplify this opportunity to their students. To date, One Card at a Time has received over 100 physical cards and 100 virtual cards from Kindergarteners to 8th graders living all over the city of Chicago. All of these special greetings are on their way to Norwood Crossing to help brighten the day of senior citizens who have been especially affected and isolated by Covid-19.

The pandemic disrupted their 8th-grade year, but the girls found calm and purpose in bringing their energy to One Card at a Time. Sinead shares that she has experienced a lot of joy in helping and making a difference. Both girls hope to continue working on One Card at a Time over the summer but share that it will be more challenging to collect cards since they have received most of the cards by working with elementary schools and teachers. They are hoping that the residents of Old Irving Park will be able to help them continue their mission.

If you would like to help Phoebe and Sinead brighten the day of senior citizens in Chicago, it truly only takes one card. Please visit their website: [onecardatime.com](http://onecardatime.com)

✉ ONE CARD AT A TIME

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ONE CARD AT A TIME distributes cards made by the youth in Chicago to local elderly facilities to combat the loneliness that many residents of these shelters feel during these difficult times. Our mission is to brighten the day of as many senior citizens as we can during the coronavirus one card at a time.

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# June in Bloom

— by Gina Iliopoulos & Ed Caplan



What a lovely June we had at Keeler Gardens, the blooms were so extraordinary this spring we had to share them with the community. Fortunately, we have a wonderful floral designer just down the street that was excited to work with us on a pop-up bouquet market. **Angie Yorath**, as most of us know her, is the magic behind **AngiLily Floral Studio**. Angie had successfully run a pop-up previously, and we knew she would be an excellent partner to help us share all of our blooms.

With Angie's direction, we planned the event, got the word out to the community, and sold out almost three dozen bouquets, all in one weekend. We carefully searched Keeler Gardens in the cool, early morning hours for appropriate flowers and cut bunches of golden Alexander, woodland phlox, iris, and hellebore, to name a few. We filled Angie's studio and blended our flowers with some of hers, into stunning, one-of-a-kind bouquets. The pop-up sale was a great success. Angie can create a custom design for you with our Keeler

Gardens blooms at any time. Visit the AngiLily Floral Studio website, [angilily.com](http://angilily.com), or contact Angie at 773-771-0697.

We had such a positive response to our market we are thrilled to be planning these pop-ups as long as Keeler Gardens has flowers. Our gardens offer extensive blooms throughout the growing season, many of which benefit from deadheading, so cutting flowers is actually good for the plants and the gardens. We hope to have phlox, anise hyssop, elderberry, asters, solidago, and more. Be on the look-out for announcements on upcoming events. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, @keelergardens.

*Keeler Gardens is 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization improving the health and sustainability of urban community life through environmental experiences, supporting diversity and youth development, and building a love of nature.*

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## OIPA MEMBERS, WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS!

- Do you have any fun meeting topics or desired guest speaker requests?
- What will pull you away from home on a Monday night?
- A couple of topics to consider are: cool stuff you found during a renovation, bullet journaling in the digital age, and urban farming, composting and chicken keeping.

If you are interested in a topic, chances are others will be too.

**Send ideas to [oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com](mailto:oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com).**

A black and white photograph of a person's hands held together in a prayer position (Anjali Mudra). The person is wearing a dark t-shirt with the words 'WILDLIGHT YOGA' printed on it in a light, chalk-like font. The person is also wearing a beaded bracelet on their right wrist and a ring on their left hand. The background is dark and out of focus.

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## OIP Helps Neighbors Via Pantry

Volunteers at the Irving Park Food Pantry have been providing food to more than twice as many households as usual (200 vs. 75) since the shelter-in-place orders took effect, showing the impact the coronavirus protocols on our neighbors in the 60641 and western half of 60618 ZIP Codes.

Fortunately, Old Irving Park neighbors, organizations, and businesses have stepped up to help us meet this outsized need. We have received donations of all shapes and sizes, including PPE, food, and other supplies.

Many, many neighbors have made monetary donations through PayPal, including some entire stimulus checks! Many have gone unpublicized, such as the effort by **Angelisa Harris**, who in April challenged her OIPA Parents group with a \$500 matching donation. Ten families each donated \$50, which she then matched and added another \$250, bringing her total to \$750, plus spurring another \$500.

We owe special thanks to **Marco Acevedo**, vice president of the **Chicago Police Knights Baseball Club**, that comprises members of the Bureau of Detectives and Youth Investigations in CAPS - 017th District Albany Park. An OIP resident, Marco, contacted OIPA, who got him in touch with the Pantry. In May, they began volunteering at the Pantry in rotating groups, along with **Chicago Police Women's Soccer Club**. They also arranged for Radio Flyer to donate three of its famous wagons to the Pantry to help clients take their groceries to their cars.

Other OIP-area donations came from:

- **Ryan and Kelly Clery**, OIP residents who worked through Ryan's dental distributor to secure 500 dentists' masks and gloves for volunteers.
- The **iheartirvingpark.com campaign**, which raised \$16,610 through its matching challenge. The consortium included the **Athletic Field Park Advisory Council, Friends of Murphy, GIPNA, Hearth & Crust, Independence Park Advisory Council, Jet's Pizza, JT's Genuine Sandwich Shop, OIPA, Murphy School PTO, the Dinham and Guillaume Families, and West Walker Civic Association.**



Marco Acevedo (third from left), an OIP resident, organized members of the Chicago Police Knights Baseball Club, Bureau of Detectives and Chicago Police Women's Soccer Club to volunteer at the Irving Park Pantry in May and arranged with Radio Flyer to donate three wagons to help clients transport food to their cars.  
*Photo by Craig Shutt*

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Article submitted by Craig Shutt (773-282-3627; craigshutt@ameritech.net).  
John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry  
e-mail: info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org, | www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry

- **Tyson Foods** donated \$5,000 as part of its hunger-relief efforts, the primary way the company gives back to its communities. The donation was presented by **leon Bhairoo**, plant manager at the Bruss Plant, to Pantry Board Member **Sara Yoest**, both of whom are OIP residents.
- **St. Viator Elementary School**, donated 80 pounds of pasta and 50+ jars of sauce after the school's fundraising event was canceled.
- **Irving Park United Methodist Church**, donated \$10,000 from the sale of its building at Keeler & Grace, the Pantry's home for 35 years.
- **Dan O'Donohue**, owner of the **Jet's Pizza** at Kimball & Irving Park Road and an OIP resident, delivered pizza slices to Pantry workers and donated 20% of one day's total sales.

We thank everyone in OIP who has shown their support and helped us continue our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



Tyson Plant Manager leon Bhairoo presented Pantry Board Member Sara Yoest, both OIP residents, with a donation of \$5,000 to help to buy food for the Pantry. *Photo by Tyson Foods.*

## OIP Residents Answer the Call!

Never has the Irving Park Community Food Pantry's motto of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" proven more true than during the week of June 1, as residents responded to a call for food donations to help overcome a difficult situation caused by unrest in the city.

Concerned about driver safety, the Greater Chicago Food Depository alerted the Pantry on that Monday that it would not make its regular weekly delivery for our Wednesday, June 3 distribution. That delivery typically tops 10,000 pounds—five tons of food—leaving meager supplies to distribute.

Alerted to this disruption, neighborhood organizations and churches sent out a call via Facebook and email for members to donate critical items, such as pasta, cereal, soup, canned vegetables, jelly, and nonperishables.

OIPA alerted members Monday night about two drop-off points designated with OIP residents **Anna Sobor** and **Lynn Ankney**. They delivered three cars' worth of

food on Tuesday and returned Wednesday after closing to deliver two more carloads.

Throughout Tuesday, as volunteers accepted and sorted the food, more individual donations streamed in.

Thankfully, the Pantry did receive its delivery, which arrived unannounced Tuesday morning. Volunteers scrambled to get to the Pantry to take it in. However, we did not receive our usual last-minute delivery on Wednesday that includes meat, produce, and bread.

Fortunately, Executive Director John Psiharis had purchased additional produce, and Koch Food continued its deliveries of 240 ten-pound bags of chicken. Excess produce was donated to The Friendship Center and the Niles Food Pantry at closing.

We very much appreciate the extraordinary effort made by OIPA and its members to help us through this challenging time! The food received filled gaps in our purchase options. This response to help our neighbors in need inspired all of the volunteers and provided an uplifting story when sorely needed. Thank you!



# The Buzz at Belding

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



## Virtual End of the Year Activities

**B**elding students, families, and staff members worked creatively and came up with unique ways to virtually celebrate the end of the year milestones and activities as the school year came to an end. Special virtual events included Bingo Night, Comedy Fest, STEAM Day, and an Awards Assembly. It was sad to miss an in-person International Festival, which is always a favorite event of the community, Belding students and teachers created impressive presentations and videos as part of a virtual International Festival. While Belding hated to end the year remotely, we loved coming up with new and interesting ways to connect and have fun!

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### A Graduation to Remember

It was a tough year for Belding 8th graders, as they were unable to participate in an in-person ceremony they had been looking forward to for so long. Despite the disappointment, Belding staff created an incredible graduation ceremony video that closely resembled that of the traditional ceremony. Class president and valedictorian Djamila Kassou gave a speech as well as Principal Yutzy. Individual student names were read, including acknowledging

accomplishments, and a collage of photos from students and teachers made this an exceptional event. Balloons and a life-size cutout of Principal Yutzy gave families a fun scene for graduation photos. A huge thank you to Kelly McCann and Jenna Stamper for making the video and to all the teachers who submitted words of encouragement.

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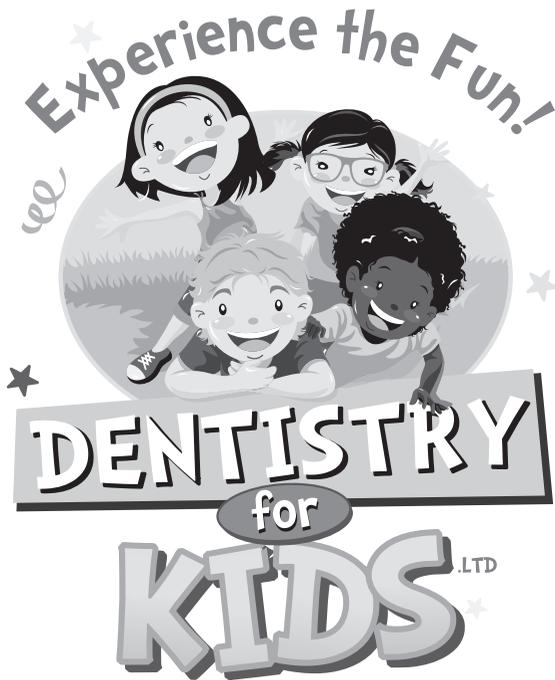
### Electronic Enrollment for NEW Belding Students

Happening Now! 2020-21 school year enrollment for new students (neighborhood families not currently enrolled)! Email Belding secretary Milly Castro: [mycastro@cps.edu](mailto:mycastro@cps.edu)

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### PreKindergarten Registration

Are you ready to apply for a preschool program for your 3- or 4-year old? If your child is 3 or 4 years old before September 1, 2019, your child may be eligible for Belding's preschool program. To learn more about the application and enrollment process visit [www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/chicagoeearlylearning](http://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/chicagoeearlylearning) or call 312-229-1690.



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# New State-of-the Art Aquaponics Lab

**A**s was announced at the October OIPA meeting, Schurz was selected to be the home of CPS' newest state-of-the-art aquaponics lab. The Office of Health and Wellness has been awarded a grant for this project in partnership with the USDA. As part of the CPS Farm to School program, the Schurz aquaponics lab will integrate school-grown food in the dining center and nutrition education in the classroom. Academic connections across core content areas and increased access to healthy foods will help students and families embrace healthy eating at school and in their community.

Aquaponics is a combination of growing processes, utilizing fish and hydroponics (growing plants without soil). The plant converts the fish waste and the solids into substances the plants can use to grow.

The impact of this system on our students and families will be huge.

- Yields of 540-600 lbs of fish (tilapia) annually
- 200 heads of leafy greens weekly
- 1,400 total planting spaces with an average five-week transplant to harvest period
- 450 lbs of tomatoes seasonally

The new lab will occupy the space most recently occupied by the hydroponics lab. CPS Capital Improvements anticipates the necessary upgrades to the space to cost roughly \$220,000, and it is being proposed in the FY21 Capital Budget. The Office of Health and Wellness is petitioning the federal government for an extension on the grant implementation due to the school closures.

## Library & Auditorium Renovations

**P**reparations are underway for the desperately needed roof repairs and interior renovations to our auditorium and library! Thank you to OIPA, Friends of Schurz, the Schurz Local School Council, neighbors, alumni, parents, students, teachers, and staff for their hard work and persistence.

After several visits to the Chicago Board of Education last spring, we finally succeeded in securing funding for these necessary projects. We are forever grateful for your support and look forward to unveiling these spaces

sometime this fall! Stay tuned for exciting updates on these projects over the coming months!



---

## Upcoming Events

**SAVE THE DATE!** 2nd Annual Schurz Schuffle - Saturday, October 24th

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## To keep up on the latest happenings

at Carl Schurz High School, visit us at [www.schurzhs.org](http://www.schurzhs.org), or follow us on Twitter and Facebook @CarlSchurzHS.

**Questions or concerns?** Kudos and compliments? Contact Dee Barrett at [dibarrett@cps.edu](mailto:dibarrett@cps.edu)

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For the third year, Stephanie will be distributing Sunflower seeds to homes and businesses all around Old Irving Park in an effort to grow and display a community-wide garden of large sunflowers.

Visit [www.stephaniecutter.com/sunflowers](http://www.stephaniecutter.com/sunflowers) to sign up for a packet of FREE sunflower seeds, and Stephanie will "non-contact" deliver your seeds right to you to plant and nurture!

Share photos of your sunflowers' progress with us on social media and you can be entered into drawings for free prizes! Tag your photos with #IrvingSunflowers!



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#IrvingSunflowers  
#HappyHomesIrvingPark

## St. Edward Scoop – Jenny Dreyer

### Congratulations to the St. Edward Class of 2020!



Photos courtesy of St. Edward School

The school celebrated its first drive-in graduation ceremony. Each family came out one at a time, keeping social distance and seeing their graduate receive their diploma from our school principal, **Mrs. Sara Lasica**. Our Exemplary High Performing Blue Ribbon school has given the graduates a firm foundation that will lead them to success and confidence as they begin their high school careers.

The 2019-2020 school year ended successfully. Our talented faculty, led by our strong administration, was able to continue teaching our students virtually throughout the pandemic with no interruption. St. Edward School is prepared and has the necessary e-learning guidelines in place should it be needed again.

Two beloved St. Edward teachers have retired after many dedicated years of service. **Ms. Cindy Rosasco** served 38 years. **Sister Shirley Stockus** served 22 years. The St. Edward community thanks both of them for their commitment and contributions. We wish them all the best!

### Fund-a-Need Program Extended to the Fall

To date, the school has raised enough funds to begin the purchase of flexible furniture options for a few classrooms! In honor of the Class of 2020, donate \$20.20 to Fund-a-Need. Your donation will be matched, and if we raise \$5,000, we can name a classroom after the Class of 2020! Visit [www.stedwardchicago.org/fund-a-need](http://www.stedwardchicago.org/fund-a-need) to donate.

### Celebrating 110 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade!

St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. We are accepting 2020-2021 registrations for new families. Scholarships are available through our parish, the Archdiocese, and the government. Take our virtual school tour at <https://youtu.be/cMIMJMjo01k>. For more information, please visit our website at [www.stedwardschool.com](http://www.stedwardschool.com).



## Celebrating 110 Years of Excellence in Catholic Education!

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calling the school office at 773-736-9133 or  
sending an email to [office@stedwardschool.com](mailto:office@stedwardschool.com).

[St. Edward School Virtual Tour](#)

**Visit [stedwardschool.com](http://stedwardschool.com)**

*St. Edward is a Catholic elementary school offering Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade, designated a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education for Exemplary Education in 2017. Providing excellence in education, we offer outstanding Academics, Art, Music, Technology, Physical Education, and Extra-curricular Activities to all grades. In addition, we offer full time and part time Preschool for 3 & 4 year olds.*

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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](http://stviatorchicago.org) or on our Facebook page.  
Twitter: @ChiViator & Instagram: @stvschoolchi.

# Congratulations to the St. Viator Class of 2020!

We are so proud of you, and we wish you success and happiness in high school. We can't wait to see what you'll achieve next!

*Photos courtesy of St. Viator*



**We are still accepting applications for the 20/21 school year.**

Please contact us for more details at 773-545-2173 | [www.stviatorchicago.org](http://www.stviatorchicago.org)



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hit the sidewalks of Old Irving Park. We've  
recently uploaded highlights from the first five  
years of the Irving Park Historical Society's  
house walk program. Every featured home  
includes the address and picture, architectural  
details to be observed, and fascinating  
historical information ranging from notable  
inhabitants and original construction costs.



## Huskies Headlines — Renee Klimkiewicz

Each year, Scammon Elementary dedicates time to honor and celebrate milestones. This year is no different, and we want to remember:

- Scammon's achievement of a Level 1+ SQRP for a third consecutive year.
- 8th Grade Math Team placing first in the Chicago Junior Math League at Lane Tech High School.
- 250+ students participating in our teacher led after school programs, ranging from algebra to arts and craft
- to dance to reading club to yoga.
- The fierce school-wide spelling bee competition.
- Singing stars during the Winter Music Assembly.
- Family movie night and speakers series hosted by Scammon's PAC.
- 5th/6th Grade Girls Basketball placing first in the CPS Score Conference Championship.
- Disney Musical cast tirelessly rehearsing for Disney's Aladdin.
- The many grants teachers received to help in the development of well-rounded students.
- The teachers who furthered their education, earning their masters and additional endorsements.

Yet, it is not these moments that define who we are as a school. It is how we respond to challenges. This year our Scammon community, much like everyone, had to pivot, relearn, and grow. We are indeed proud of our accomplishments, achievements, and activities, but we are most proud of how we came together. With grace, teachers partnered with parents and students to redefine school as they know it, each

teacher becoming a 'tech expert'. We witnessed staff and our community harness their energies to support one another, emotionally, financially, and physically through our daily food distribution. We saw our beloved students' faces light up during their daily online learning with teachers on Zoom, and Google Meets. We saw families share the love by asking their children to create hand-made signs to honor their teachers in a heartfelt teacher appreciation video. We remember the milestones, the considerable accomplishments, and these moments we will carry with us. And it is these moments solidify who we are as a Scammon Family.

As our year comes to a close, we honor and recognize our graduating Class of 2020. This year's 8th Grade Graduates are kind, remarkable, and tenacious. As they venture off to 17 different schools next year, we know the world has big things in store for them. We are immensely proud of this group and will miss them dearly.

**Congratulations,  
Class of 2020!**

On behalf of our family to  
you, stay safe and well.

---

### Are you interested in learning more about Scammon Elementary?

Please contact 773-534-3475 for more information or to schedule a school tour.

Visit us at <http://scammon.cps.edu>

Or follow us: Instagram - @scammon\_school

Twitter - @ScammonSchool

Facebook - Scammon School

*JAIME*



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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.



Jaime Andrade, State Representative, 40<sup>th</sup> District

# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

**Advertising:**  
First Tuesday  
of the month

**General Editorial  
Submissions:**  
First Thursday  
of the month



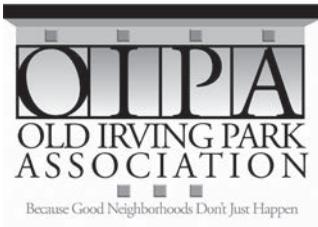
**NOTICE:** As Phases for reopening plans take shape, please watch for updates from OIPA and the individual organizations that usually post events in our calendar. Information can be found on Facebook or the organization's website.

**A note about the advertisement featured in this issue.** *Check with the individual advertiser by calling or visiting their website for information on their reopening status and hours of operation.*



## Start sharing the news...

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



# JOIN TODAY!

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- Gift Membership

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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 — name(s) and birthday(s) of your child(ren) and/or pet in newsletter, and an OIPA Tote Bag.
- \$150 Neighborhood All-Star: Good Neighbor membership plus — admission for two to an exclusive cocktail OIPA party.
- 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](http://olderirvingpark.com/join-us)

# Contribute to the OIPA News | SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, and articles for publication. Ten newsletters are produced annually (newsletters are not published in the month of January. We extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who continue to submit articles, photos and purchases ad space for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

## General Submissions

### Community Calendar, Articles & Photos

- Please send articles and calendar items as a Word document, in an email or Google doc. **Include in the document the author's name, company or organization (if applicable) and contact information. If submitting images, please include photo captions and photographer credit.**
- 400 words maximum without photos, 300/325 with photos and captions.
- Submissions as Links to websites or Facebook are NOT accepted.
- Articles should be information-based and should not contain advertorial content. Bylined articles should be written in third-person, unless the submission is an opinion piece or a personal story. Byline includes the author's name, business name and contact info.
- Photos and images should be provided as separate files. We cannot use photos or images that are embedded in a document.
- Photos should be accompanied with photographer credit and a caption(s). If submitting photos for an article, please include captions and photo credits in the same document as your article.
- If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wetransfer.com>. You can send several files at a time using wetransfer.
- 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 necessary reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.

## Advertising Submissions

- **Purchase ad space and upload your ad at:** [www.olderirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad](http://www.olderirvingpark.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) gray scale; jpg, PDF, or eps. **Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.**

## Submission Deadlines

- **Advertising:** First Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m.
- **General Submissions:** First Thursday of the month by 5 p.m.
- **Materials SUBMITTED AFTER** the deadline date will be held over to the next month's issue.
- **Send your contributions to:** Kathleen Kearns at [k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com](mailto: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 community calendar.

SUBMISSION DATES		
Publication Month	Advertising	General
August	6/30	7/2
September	8/4	8/6
October	9/1	9/3
November	10/6	10/1
December	11/3	11/5

## We specialize in:

- Water Leak Repairs
- Faucets
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- Low Water Pressure Problems
- Water Booster Pumps
- Gas Line Installation & Leak Repairs
- Rehab & Custom Shower Systems
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# Advertise with Us!

The OIPA News is distributed to approximately 600 area residents, in addition to surrounding neighborhood groups and elected city officials.

### 10 ISSUES PER YEAR

We publish ten issues per calendar year (omitting January and July).

### SPECIAL PERKS

Also, if you are a newsletter advertiser, you will be prioritized on our email blasts and Facebook posts. We have over 6,000 online followers. Our monthly post can reach up to 24K, and our post engagement is usually 15K. That means consumers see and engage with our Facebook posts!

The advertising rates are amazingly reasonable.

### To place an ad visit

[www.olderirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad](http://www.olderirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad).

**OIPPA**  
OLD IRVING PARK  
ASSOCIATION

Because Good Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen

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**OLD IRVING PARK NEWS**

Old Irving Park Association

3749 N. Keeler Avenue

Chicago, IL 60641

**FREE**  
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**TREATS**



*Bring this coupon  
on Sunday, July 26 to*

*3-4 p.m.*

**Disney 2 Magnet School**  
3815 N. Kedvale Ave.

*4:10-5 p.m.*

**Belding Elementary**  
4257 N. Tripp Ave.

*Compliments of OIPPA*

**For You and Your Family!**