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NEWS



APRIL

VOLUME 35 | ISSUE 3 | 2021



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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 35 ❁ Issue 3 ❁ April 2021

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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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, Libby Penner on unsplash

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

OIPA GENERAL MEETING • APRIL 12

Happy Spring Old Irving Park Neighbors!

— Adrienne Chan, OIPA President

Spring is all about new beginnings and fresh starts—why not learn some new culinary skills in 2021? Local business **Fearless Cooking** offers a variety of virtual cooking classes and private cooking lessons, as well as a new subscription service featuring a monthly selection of culinary goodies. You can check them out by joining our next OIPA General Meeting on April 12 at 7 p.m. for an interactive virtual cooking session on Zoom! Fearless Cooking will lead us through the preparation of a cocktail and Avocado Tartare on Radish Rounds (see the shopping list at right, if you want to be prepared to follow along from home).

Hope to see you there!

Zoom Meeting | April 12, 7 p.m.

<https://zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 948 7995 0433

Passcode: 564763

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,94879950433#,,,,*564763#

Shopping List

Cocktail

- Bourbon
- 5 lemons
- 5 limes
- 1/2 cup sugar

Avocado Tartare on Radish Rounds

- 1 watermelon radish
- 2 teaspoons sesame seeds, white or black
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- 1/4 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 red onion
- 1 medium-large ripe avocado

fearlesscookingchicago.com

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Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting

on March 1, 2021 — Bart Goldberg, OIPA Secretary

Attendees: Adrienne Chan, Lynn Ankney, Scott Legan, Merry Marwig, Meredith O’Sullivan, Michael Cannon, Annie Swingen and Bart Goldberg.

Commencement: President Chan commenced the meeting, which was again conducted via Zoom at 7:02 p.m. Even though spring was in the air, and as a result middle-aged minds start to wander, we got down to business as we knew we had a lot to talk about.

Treasurer’s Reports: The Treasurer’s Report for February was presented by Lynn Ankney. As was also true last month our revenues were a little down since we are largely past the renewal season. We had the normally expected expenses leaving us with approximately a \$1,000 decrease in funds for the month. However, when compared to our balances at a similar time last year we are in better shape than ever. The report was unanimously approved by the Board.

Membership: Meredith O’Sullivan wisely declined to discuss the membership numbers since there was so little change from the prior month.

Beware the Slippery Soap: It is with considerable melancholy that I must report on my own resignation as Secretary of this venerable organization. It was largely due to my falling down on a slippery slope caused by small batch soap. In hindsight, it appears that in spite of all of my prior sanctimonious posturing I was no more ethical than the average Chicago officeholder after all. Last month in the Minutes I had praised an item included in the gift

bag sent to OIPA VIP members, that being the “Honey Beeswax” soap produced by a local artisan. Evidently the soap maker was informed of this plug and was appreciative. She and a cooperative member of our Board then delivered to me a further “gift”; that being a wonderful bar of “Mocha Mint” small batch soap. (The names of the artisan and the Board member are not being included as my downfall was most certainly not their fault). I was certainly pleased to receive the “gift” even though I knew it was wrong to accept emoluments resulting from the performance of my ministerial tasks. (I should have been particularly aware as for over a year now my wife has been operating a somewhat profitable account on Tick Tick where I am a known “influencer” offering advice and encouragement to older Secretaries and the like).

At our Board meeting I confessed my transgression hoping that my forthrightness would get me off with just a slap on the wrist. I even offered to donate the soap to charity. They clearly and correctly saw through my well-rehearsed mea culpa deeming it patently insincere. However, they were still clearly torn as on the one sudsy hand they felt that this was a matter meriting termination, but on the other dirty hand no one wanted to have to write the Minutes. Since my wife and I are moving to Michigan in the next few months anyway, I saw that there was no benefit to either party in extending this unpleasantness, so I tendered my (semi-voluntary) resignation. We then dealt with my other functions for OIPA: namely being the Newsletter Coordinator for the southern portion

Continued on page 6



Jaime **ANDRADE**

Illinois State Representative • 40th District

My staff and I are here to serve you and our community. We encourage you to reach out with your thoughts about issues that we face together. If you need assistance with constituent services, please let us know and we will work to the fullest extent of the abilities of this office.

Please share your ideas on ways we can improve our community and state.

District Office Info

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

Chicago, IL 60618

Call us at, (773) 267-2880

Email us at, staterrep40@gmail.com

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@IL40thDistrictJaimeAndrade



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting on March 1, 2021, *continued from page 4*

of OIP (as such I deliver packets to the individual deliverers) and also my role in being a deliverer here on Kildare Avenue. While I love my paper route it was determined that I should give that up since the purity of our organization could be viewed as having been tainted by my touching the newsletters during the delivery process. But fortunately I can continue on for now as a Newsletter Coordinator since the packets that I deliver are in plastic and that was deemed a sufficient prophylactic. They said that I am welcomed to come back from MI and deliver those whenever I like, and I may well take them up on that.

Effort to Re-Dedicate Kolmar Park: Merry Marwig continues to make great progress on this project that she has been spearheading; that being the effort to rename Kolmar Park for Gertrud Kolmar, a renowned German-Jewish poet and author who died in the Holocaust. There was recently a Block Club article about this effort, and after reading it one of the 11 living relatives of Gertrud not only wrote to Merry to offer her support and encouragement, but provided her with photographs and a great deal of historical information. Keep it up Merry!

Newsletter: The Board discussed content for future issues. A decision was made to continue something we had started last year due to the pandemic, which was a feature to provide recognition of local school graduates. It was so popular we may do it every year. We also decided that since there would be no neighborhood Egg Hunt again this year that we would provide some Easter themed designs for children of all ages to color and hopefully then proudly display in their windows.

Former People's Gas Site: This is the retail project being proposed by GW Properties on the site that used to house People's Gas. We have already conducted many meetings with regards to this project and I have written about it many times in the Minutes, so to get fully up to speed please refer to your prized collection of prior issues or view them on our website (Note to Board: we should have a contest to honor the OIPer who has designed the most beautiful (or at

Continued on page 8



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OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting on March 1, 2021, *continued from page 6*

least appropriate] place to keep their collection]. As stated previously, on January 11, 2021 this Board had sent a letter that was not supportive of the project to GW, Alderman Gardiner and the Chicago Department of Planning. The main reasons for our lack of support were a concern about the lack of residential density around the Six Corners area and the general appearance of the project.

The most important new development since then was that during the afternoon of the 1st of March (the same date as this Board Meeting) we had another pleasant zoom meeting with **Mitch Goltz** (the owner of GW) his attorney, the Alderman and about five of us on the Board. At that meeting Mitch provided us a few pieces of important new information: the first being a new potential addition to the property that would add a residential component, and the other being the identities of three of the larger proposed tenants that have leases for the project. Please do not ask us to share this information as our meeting was understood by all parties to be confidential. (This was particularly important here as he also has confidentiality agreements with some of his tenants). Mitch has told us that he hopes to be able to share them with the public soon. We also continued to discuss other aspects of the project in this approximately 45 minute call.

At our Board Meeting that evening we had a long and spirited discussion concerning the desirability of this project for our neighborhood. The great majority of our Board concluded that the new proposals did not sufficiently move the needle away from our prior opinion. Accordingly, on the next day we wrote a letter to the Developer letting them know that the Board still did not approve of the project, and suggesting that the Developer attempt to make modifications that would give the project a more "urban" feel. It is our understanding that the Developer is working on some further revisions.

Continued on page 10



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OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting on March 1, 2021, *continued from page 8*

Future Meetings: We are still not scheduling any public events though we certainly hope that we will be able to in a few more months. Our next General Meeting will be on April 12 at 7 p.m. with **Catherine of Fearless Cooking** who will teach some new tricks to those of you who do the cooking for your family. We are pretty happy with this as this is the type of meeting we probably could not have had in person.

Please check your emails and our social media sites for further information such as the ingredients you should buy so that you can cook along with Catherine, and the Zoom link. Our next Board meeting will be on the 29 of March. That was moved up a week so as not to conflict with spring break.

This meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.



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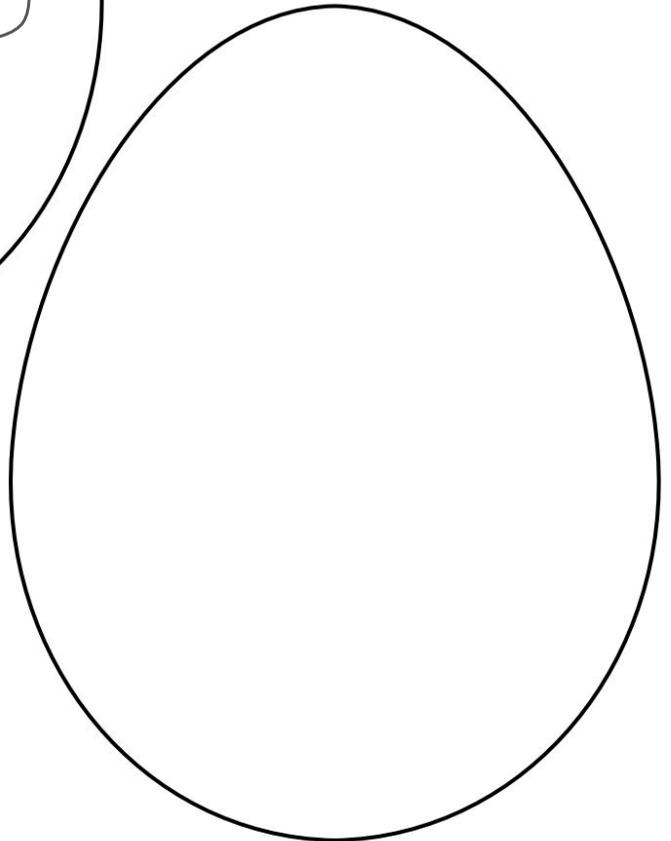
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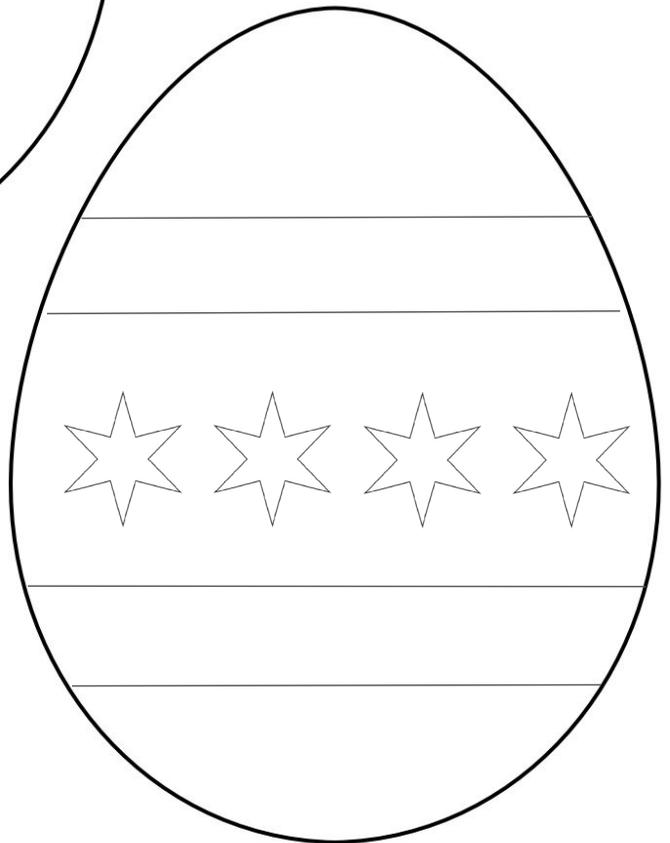


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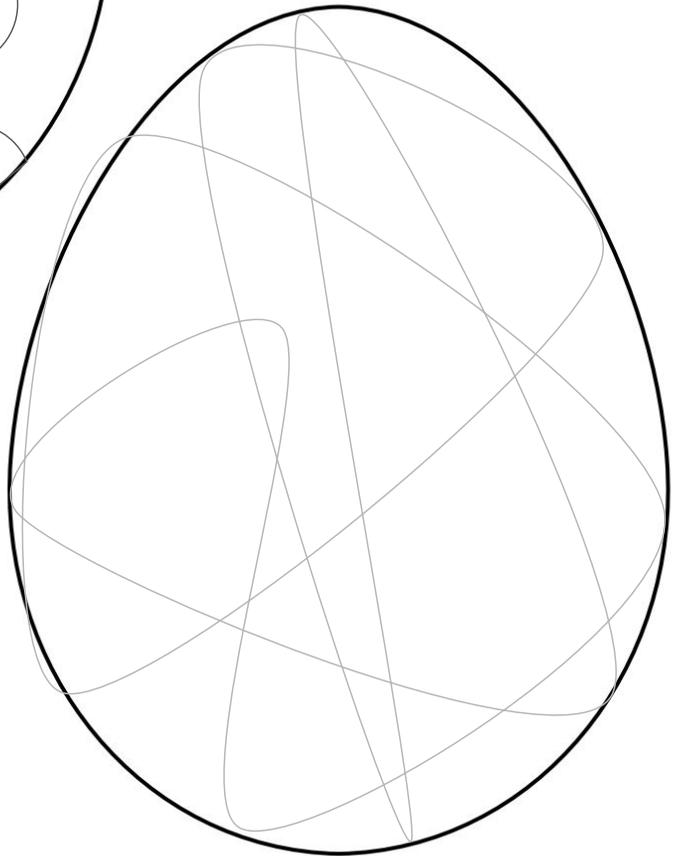
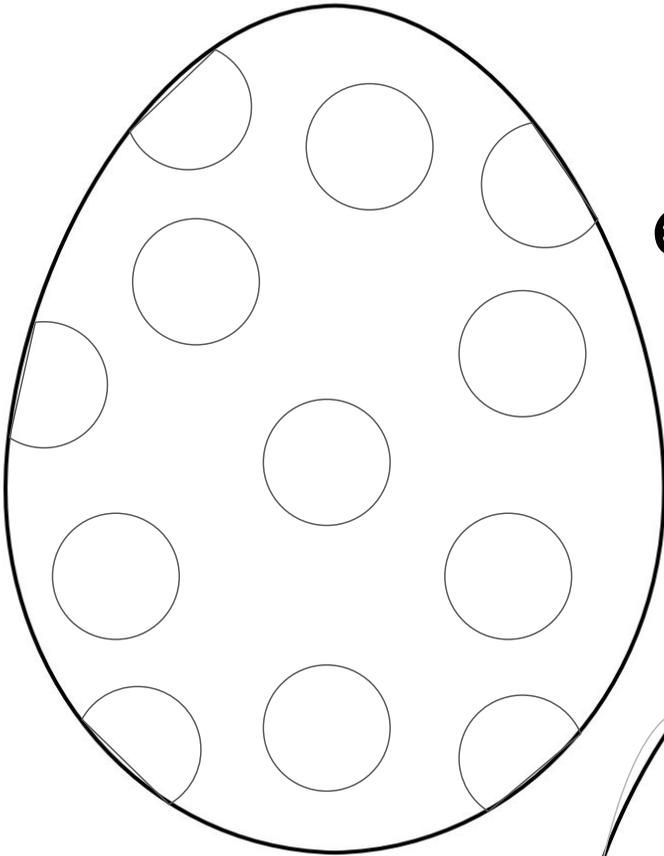


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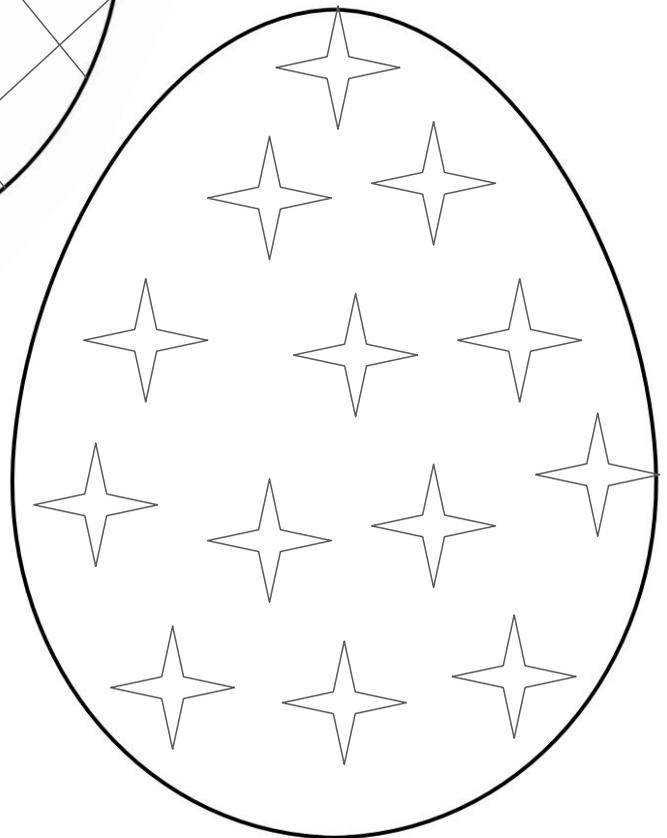
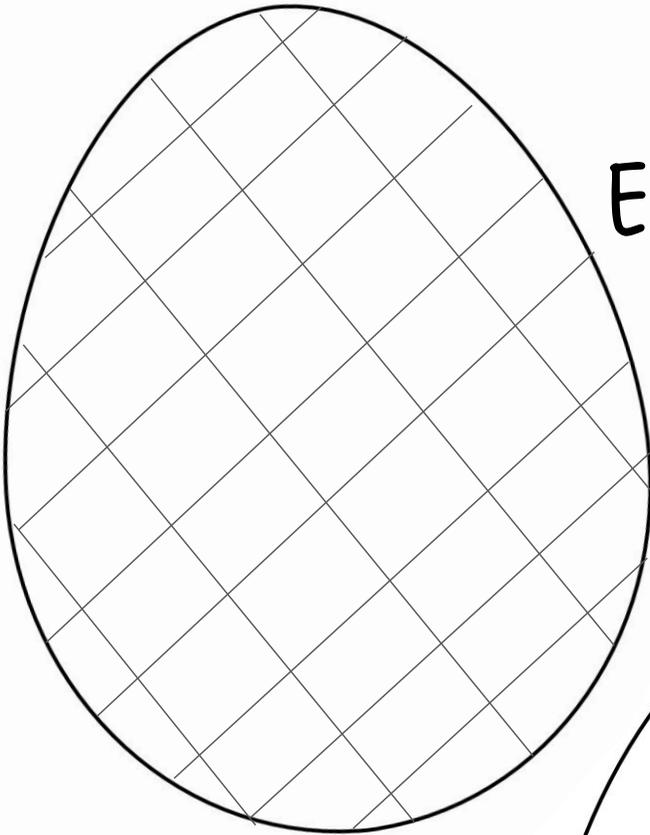


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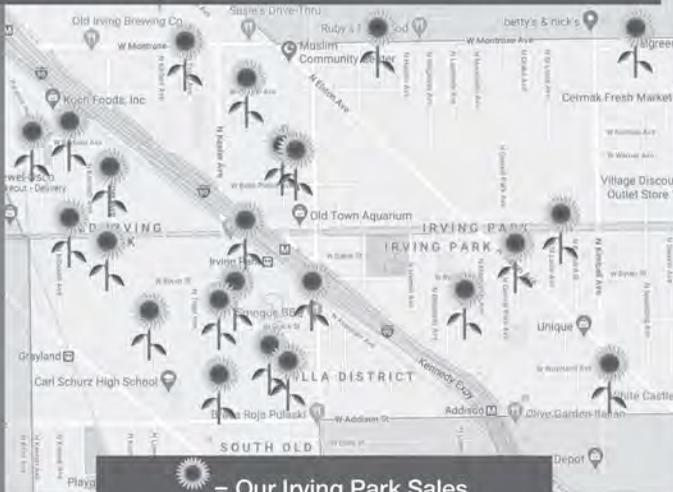
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Irving Park Sunflower Project

It's that time of year again!
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OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



April Birthdays

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| James Barrett | 9 Dan O'Donohue | 19 Julie Tye |
| Sheryl Nichin-Keith | 9 Harry Owen | 19 Meredith Cannon |
| 1 Lisa Kelly | 12 Deanna Varagona | 19 Chris Boran |
| 1 Mary Foster | 14 Christopher Reimann | 19 Phil Vertucci |
| 2 Katie Jackson | 14 Julie Whittington-Cirton | 20 Betty Scott |
| 2 Nilda Soler | 15 Cynthia Rivera | 20 Dan McGuire |
| 2 Sydney Hart | 15 Debbie LaPenta | 22 Kristen Lynch |
| 4 Bindu Alexander | 15 Mary Kuhn | 22 Marc Sussman |
| 4 Frank Serpone | 15 Mary Kuhn | 23 Elizabeth Fox |
| 4 Jaime Murray | 16 Marjorie Monaghan | 26 Mike Blaha |
| 6 Rochelle Jones | 16 Nick Meiers | 26 T. J. Hine |
| 7 Kate Geisler | 16 Rich Lucki | 27 Mary Ann McLaughlin |
| 7 Kitty Tataryn | 17 Len Wanger | 28 Sandra Stagg |
| 7 Lindsay Hunter | 17 Paul Moran | 28 Garrett Harabedian |
| 7 Michael Kennedy | 18 James Natoli | 29 Andrius Markvaldas |
| 8 Anthony Mallerdino | 18 Keith Handley | 29 Erin O'Donohue |
| 8 Brian Gillin | 18 Peter O'Mara | 29 Warren Stevens |

April Anniversaries

- Sally & Jose Frau
- 8 Elizabeth & Robert Fox
- 10 Yasmine Goelzer & Daniel Alter
- 14 Jessica & William Navin
- 15 Colleen & Roger Essex
- 15 Robert & Kathryn Kleisch
- 16 Kurt & Megan Rawlins
- 17 Susan Strong-Dowd & John Dowd
- 19 Meredith & Tim O'Sullivan (20th!)
- 19 Valerie & Patrick Ginnan
- 21 Jacqueline & James O'Neill
- 22 Allison & Jan-Luc DeBoer
- 23 Joe & Christine Jamrosz
- 27 Sheila & Shaun Quinn
- 29 Myra Karegianes & Owen Field

April Kid & Pet Birthdays

- 3 Sophie Horvath
- 5 Ellie Lynch
- 8 Rohan Sanders
- 14 Lulu the dog Boran
- 16 The Ankney Girls (our flock of hens)
- 25 Winston the dog O'Mara
- 26 Smokey "Bone Dog" Sobota

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



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Prepared by Tom Brandt

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The Pleasure of Procurement — Claudia Hine

The checkout line at Sunrise proves just how popular the nursery can be in spring.

Photo by Claudia Hine.

There are many wonderful things to enjoy about gardening, but procuring plants is by far my favorite. A leisurely afternoon spent at a well-stocked nursery is a great way to spend a few hours discovering a new variety of a favorite flower or just the right plant for that bare spot in your garden.

We are lucky to have Farmers Market Garden Center on Elston Ave. right in our own backyard, but sometimes a road trip is in order. Indeed, the Irving Park Garden Club takes an annual field trip to a large greenhouse just to “scratch the itch” left by a long cold winter and a desire to “smell the roses.”



As we have the past several years, the club will car pool for the 60-mile trip to Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Greenhouse, a seven-acre property in Grant Park, IL, for our April outing.

We'll mask-up to make the trip on April 24, and then try to figure out how to keep everything safe and warm until mid-May. Crazy, you say? Absolutely! But by the end of April, we're all getting a little desperate.

Our members will return home with flowers, vegetables, that longed-for tomato variety, shrubs, hanging baskets, beautiful pots, and more. Hopefully, we'll return with as many people as we took.

March Membership Drive

Renewal notices for the 2021 season went out with the club's March newsletter, and the response from members was terrific. I believe we are well on our way to renewing 100 members for this year, and thanks to the well-read OIPA newsletter, we've received requests to join from several nonmembers as well.

March also brought us a Zoom presentation from member **Karen Wehrle**, who provided a how-to program on seed starting. Karen shared her tips and tricks for successfully beginning vegetables, herbs, and flowers from seed.

New Members Always Welcome

Does it sound like we're having fun? We are! Garden club meetings are for members only, but we welcome new members all season long. The cost to join is just \$20/year per household. If you are interested in joining us, send an email to claudiahine@icloud.com.



For Claudia Hine, a flat of pink impatiens is always on the shopping list at Sunrise Greenhouse.

Photo by Laura Marie Sanchez.



The Scene @ Schurz — Dee Barrett, Parent & Community Outreach

Exciting News! International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (MYP) for ALL

So what does this mean for your Future Bulldog?

At Schurz, we believe that all students should have access to rigorous coursework to prepare them for success in life after high school. The MYP IB program provides a proven structure and network of support for accomplishing this. For this reason, we are bringing IB MYP to all 9th and 10th-grade students. This expansion is a multi-year project with the following goals:

- Beginning SY 2021-22, all 9th-grade students will receive MYP aligned curriculum in English, Math, Science, Social Science, and PE courses regardless of program enrollment.
- Beginning SY 2022-23, all 9th and 10th-grade students, regardless of program enrollment, will receive MYP aligned curriculum in English, Math, Science, Social Science, and PE courses.
- Improved preparation for and increased access to college-level courses (AP, IB, Dual Credit, Dual Enrollment) at the 11th and 12th grades.
- Increased access and success for students group traditionally underserved in advanced academic programs.
- Improved instructional coherence within and across 9th and 10th-grade core academic courses.

An informational session will be held via Zoom sometime after spring break. Details are coming soon!

Celebrating The Class of 2021

As of March 1st, Schurz students earned over \$6 million in scholarships, and 289 have received early acceptance to at least one college! Congratulations to all!

Loyola University Presidential Scholarship (\$100,000):

Jorge Esquivel, Perla Garcia, Riddhi Patel, Jaime Quevedo, Gema De Los Angeles Romero & Brian Vargas

Illinois Institute of Technology Henry T. Heald Scholarship (\$90,000):

Jorge Esquivel, Giancarlo Rivera, Marian Rodriguez, and Christian Eluid Rojas

DePaul University State Scholars Plus Scholarship (\$100,000):

Michael Alvarado, Melanie Arias, Perla Garcia, Alejandra Ramirez-Lopez, Giancarlo Rivera, Christian Eluid Rojas, and Gema De Los Angeles-Romero

Columbia College Chicago CPS Award: Alexis Arica [\$50,000], Jose Ariza [\$44,000], Alexia Hernandez [\$48,000], Jaquelin Nacipucha [\$50,000], Jaqueline Perez-Gomez [\$44,000], Marlene Perez [\$48,000]

Northern Illinois University Academic Merit

Scholarship : Adamary Bucio [\$8,000], Bryan Ernesto Cabrera [\$12,000], Edgar Gonzalez [\$12,000], Alexis Villanueva [\$28,000], Ashley Kate Yu [\$24,000]

Saint Xavier University Presidential Scholarship

(\$84,000): Felix Manuel Arroyo, Ivette Luna, and Ashley Kate Yu

Congratulations to The Schurz Bulldog JROTC!

The Schurz team has advanced into the semi-final round of the JROTC Leadership & Academic Bowl competition! Congratulations to cadets Amy Gamez, Perla Casiano, and Rosalinda Perez.

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"Taste and see that Jehovah is good..."

Psalms 34:8a

"...whoever calls upon the name of

the Lord shall

be saved."

Romans 10:13



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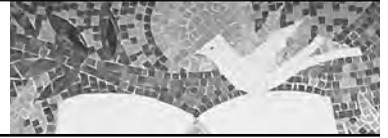
Neighbors, I have buyers who would like to live in our neighborhood and I have been unable to find them a home because of the very limited inventory.

***Have you been
contemplating a move?***

If so, could you or your REALTOR® reach out to me to discuss what my clients would like to buy?

Email, text or phone call!





Viator Vibrations — Sara Yoest

Extraordinary Academic Achievement —Pandemic or Not

After starting the 2020-21 school year with uncertainty, we find ourselves in the 3rd trimester of in-person learning filled with Eagle pride!

Periodic diagnostic data from i-Ready, a comprehensive assessment, and instruction program used throughout the schools in the Chicago Archdiocese, showed that St. Viator students came in strong at the beginning of the school year over 85% of students at or above grade level in math and reading. At the end of the 2nd trimester, St. Viator students continue to meet with academic success as over 92% of our students are at or above grade level in math and reading. Coming off of the Easter holiday and Spring break, students in grades 3-8 will be taking the ACT Aspire test in April to give us yet another benchmark on how our teachers and students are doing.

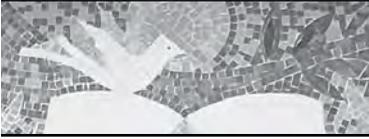
Our students' success is an incredible feat in light of a pandemic with students straddling two school years of pivoting between in-person and remote learning. Credit goes to St. Viator teachers and parents who never lost faith and are committed to each child's success.



Photo by Sara Yoest

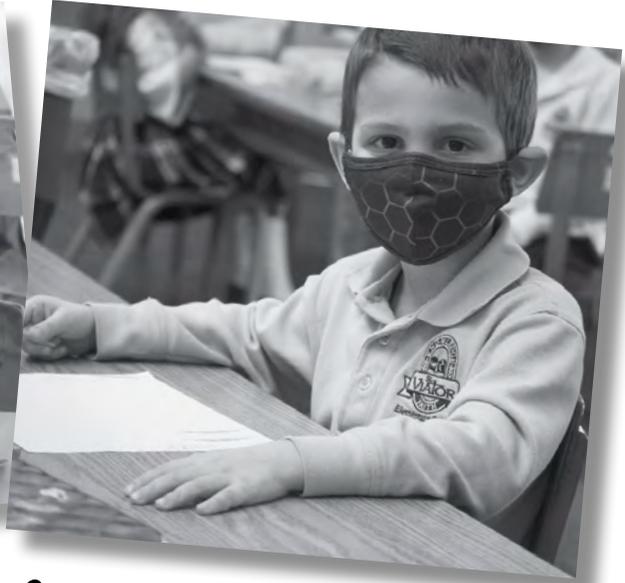
St. Viator Elementary School and Parish

4140 W Addison St, Chicago, IL 60641 | (773) 545-2173 | stviatorchicago.org | Follow us on Facebook



ST. VIATOR STUDENTS ARE THRIVING IN THE CLASSROOM.

Photos by Sara Yoest



“Blossom by Blossom
the Spring Begins.”

Spring Fling

Spring always brings renewed hope and new life! We are excited to bring our community together virtually for our **Spring Fling on April 24**. Watch our Facebook page for details on this virtual fundraiser, which will include fantastic auction items.

And we look forward to celebrating our 8th-grade students participating in **Confirmation on April 30**.

Registration is Open

St. Viator is still accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year. Space is becoming limited in some classrooms. Please contact **Marge Tiritilli** in the school office at mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org or call 773-545-2173 with questions or schedule a private in-person tour.



Chicago is in Phase 4 Without Any Mitigation Measures.

These restrictions are the most up to date and take precedence over the industry-specific guidelines if there are points of contradiction.

(Source: Chicago.gov website as of March 23, 2021)

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, alongside the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), industry leaders, labor leaders, and public officials, have developed industry-specific guidelines for safely operating within Phase 4: Gradually Resume. These guidelines are part of the city's Be Safe Chicago framework that will be used to guide Chicago's reopening process amid COVID-19.

Aligned with the State of Illinois but tailored to Chicago's context, these guidelines advise employers and residents of Chicago on how to gradually resume reopening while continuing to prioritize the health of our most vulnerable residents. Please reference the materials on this page to help cautiously guide your businesses and employees as we go into Phase 4 as of Friday, June 26: Gradually Resume. As we continue to reopen further, more guidelines will be added to this page, and existing guidelines will be updated.

The following industries or activities may continue operating under the following regulations:

- **Bars and Restaurants:** Can reopen indoors at lesser of 50% or 50 people per space. Food must be available at all times in order to offer indoor service. Bars, taverns or breweries without a food license can reopen indoors as long as they partner with a food establishment (e.g., making menus available and allowing delivery, allowing patrons to

order from third-party delivery services). Table size limited to no more than six people per table indoors and outdoors. Bar seating allowed with 6ft distance between parties. Indoor events allowed at 50% capacity with no more than 50 individuals, while following indoor dining guidelines.

- **Retail stores:** 50% capacity
- **Grocery Stores and Pharmacies:** 50% capacity
- **Places of Worship:** Limit each indoor space to 50 individuals, while practicing social distancing, or 50% capacity (whichever is fewer). Special events such as weddings, potlucks, and other community events are limited to 50% capacity with no more than 50 guests indoors and outdoors.
- **Health and Fitness Centers:** 50% capacity with no more than 50 people per space; group classes allowed with no more than 20 individuals per group; Locker rooms and showers can remain open if strict and frequent cleaning measures are in place; Close ancillary accommodations, including saunas, hot tubs, and steam rooms, where social distancing is not possible.
- **Personal Services:** Limit to 50 individuals or 50% capacity, whichever is fewer. If a service requires the removal of face coverings (e.g., facials, beard trimmings) employee must wear both a mask and eye protection (e.g. face shield, protective glasses). Physical, occupational and massage therapy allowed.
- **Outdoor Activities:** Outdoor museums, performance venues and other outdoor activities can continue at 50% capacity with a maximum of 100 individuals.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Chicago Phase 4

Group sizes are limited to 50 people or less, with total capacity limited to 100 people, while social distancing.

- **Out-of-School Programs:** Indoor group exercise or fitness classes capped at 20 individuals (e.g., dance, yoga). Programs in which participants are primarily seated/stationery may continue in cohorts of up to 20 people (e.g., painting, creative writing, homework help). Day camps are still limited to 50% of facility capacity with no more than 15 participants per group.
- **Libraries:** Considered an essential service as they support Chicagoans needing support with remote learning, job searching, temporary refuge for weather relief, securing needed benefits and

resources. Libraries may remain open at 25% indoor capacity with protective measures in place to ensure the health and safety of the public and staff. See chipublic.org for more details.

- Bars, restaurants and other establishments with a Tavern or Consumption on Premises-Incidental Activity license must have all patrons off premises by 1:00 a.m.
- Liquor stores, grocery stores and other establishments with a Package Goods license must cease alcohol sales at 11:00 p.m.

For complete up-to-date Phase 4 Guidelines visit <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/reopening-chicago.html>

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Marcy Ann Sherrill-Mitola of Hands to Help presents Board Member Sara Yoest and Executive Director John Psiharis with donations for the Pantry's food operations. So the Pantry can continue the group's efforts to provide housing help to those in the neighborhood. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

Hands to Help Donates to Pantry

Hands to Help, the northwest-side ministry that aided residents with a one-time grant to help resolve housing issues, closed its doors in December and donated some of its remaining funds to the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. The organization provided the Pantry with \$10,000 for future food purchases and an additional \$13,000 to continue working to meet neighbors' housing issues.

Founded in the mid-1990s and operating from St. John's Episcopal Church on Kostner, Hands to Help assisted people who were homeless or needed help with a housing bill. The Pantry has long worked with Hands to Help and is pleased to continue their work in some form. The Pantry's Board currently is working with Client Services Coordinator Elvia Esparza to review options for how to best leverage their donation.

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

● 0-18 Years (570) ● 19-24 Years (180) ● 25-35 Years (182)
● 36-50 Years (354) ● 51-59 Years (215) ● 60+ Years (289)

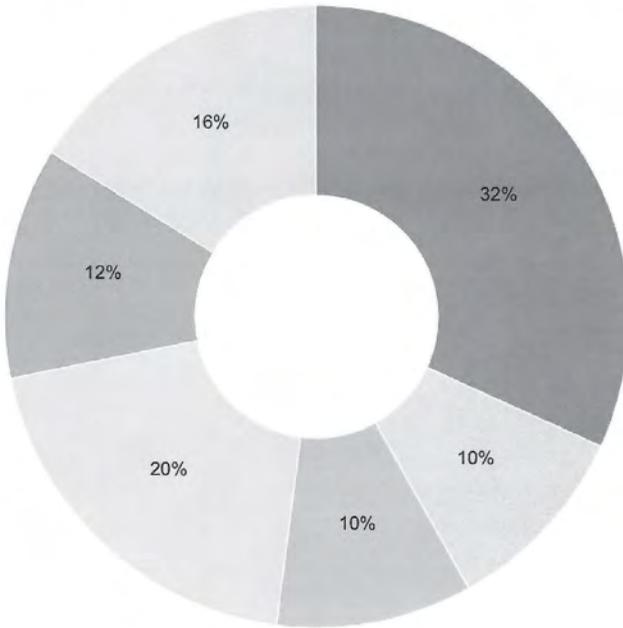


Chart shows the breakdown of clients visiting the Pantry through February. Children 0-18 (upper right) are the largest group. *Diagram courtesy of Lynne Anderson*

New Registration System, Link2Feed Data Helps Us Serve Our Clients Better

In January, the Pantry began using the Greater Chicago Food Depository's new registration system, Link2Feed, which ultimately will be used by all local pantries. It helps define clients by age, ZIP code, housing type, and other demographics. For example, it allows us to see our client base by age group (as expected, children 0-18 are the largest group by far).

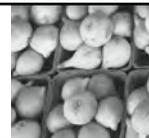
As we add all clients to this database, the information will help us source-specific food and other essential items based on average family sizes, develop and improve current programs, and help apply for targeted grants. This month, as part of GCFD's program, we will begin providing each client with a personal bar code to speed monthly registration.

Continued on page 30



Pantry volunteers Michelle Buchecker, and Anna Zolkowski Sobor input responses to questionnaires filled out by hand by clients registering for food using the Greater Chicago Food Depository's new registration system.

Photo by Craig Shutt



Pantry News, *continued from page 29*

Pantry Welcomes New Board Member

The Pantry has welcomed **Liz Mills, executive director of Carlson Community Services**, to its Board of Directors. Liz has worked closely with the Pantry on many programs, especially the group's Three Brothers Garden, which donates vegetables each summer. We look forward to having Liz's input on the Board's direction.

Many Thanks

We want to give a shout-out to our key partners, who make regular, often weekly, donations without special acknowledgment. Our key partners include:

- **Koch Food** (150+ 10-pound bags of chicken quarters each week).
- **Whole Foods** (twice-weekly deliveries of perishables and bread).
- **Nhu Lan Vietnamese Bakery** (weekly donations of bread loaves).
- **Lifeway Foods** (regular donations of kefir single-serve beverages).
- **Three Brothers Garden** (weekly summer deliveries of vegetables).
- **Jet's Pizza on Kimball** (pizza donations, drop-off location, and donation days).
- **BIG Helpers** (drop-off location).

Thank you to everyone who supports us in achieving our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



February's ice and snow made it difficult for the Pantry to receive deliveries, especially its largest ones from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. But it managed to remain open during all operating hours thanks to its hardy band of volunteers.

Photo by John Psiharis

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The Buzz at Belding — Michele Stefl, IB Coordinator



Photo by Hayes Potter on Unsplash

Coming Soon: Two New Murals at Belding

Belding and a few other 39th ward schools were top vote winners to receive a new mosaic mural along the building's north end. Our arts partner for the mosaic mural will be Green Star Movement. This mural will wrap around our north door along Cullom Avenue.

Principal Yutzy wrote a grant for ANOTHER mural, and we were awarded a big grant to work with local artist Ken Klopack to create murals around the windows just north of the main door at Belding. This mural will

be designed with and by Belding students and will feature diverse faces, honoring the cultural diversity at Belding.

City Wide Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Belding 8th grader Rosie West who will be moving on to the Citywide Spelling Bee. Out of hundreds of CPS students, Rosie made the top 28 in the city. Congratulations and good luck!

Virtual School Tours

Each month Principal Heather Yutzy offers virtual school tours for prospective parents. Tours are a great opportunity to learn more about our school and Belding community. Upcoming tour dates are April 20th and May 18th. Virtual tours begin at 8:00 a.m. There is also a library of school tour videos on the Belding website. Go to www.beldingelementary.com for more information on how to join the virtual tour!



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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 hello@oldirvingpark.com.



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Tim Mossholder on unsplash



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www.olderirvingpark.com/house_history and
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.



Small Business? Get Local Assistance

The SBA works with a number of local partners to counsel, mentor, and train small businesses.

Virtual Mentoring and Training. Offices around the country may be closed due to the pandemic, but SCORE, Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, Veterans Business Outreach Centers and other resource partners are providing free business mentoring and training by phone, email, and video.

Find an SBA resource partner near you at www.sba.gov/local-assistance

Independence Library

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Phone: (312) 744-0900

Email: independence@chipublib.org

Monday: 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

The meeting room, study room and computer help are unavailable at this time.

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; <https://311.chicago.gov>





St. Edward Scoop — Jenny Dreyer



Photo by Emily Made on unsplash

Welcome Wednesday

**A Great Way to Experience
Our Community**

Join us for our next virtual Welcome Wednesday tour on Wednesday, April 14, from 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM. This information session, Q&A, and conversation with our principal, Sara Lasica, and current school parents will offer you the opportunity to learn all about our 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. You can also contact office@stedwardschool.com to schedule an in-person tour or individual Zoom tour with our principal. Discover all that St. Edward School offers!

Discover all that St. Edward School offers!

St. Edward School celebrates 111 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th. Please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com or call the office at 773-736-9133 to learn more about our outstanding academic programs and extended care.

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CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Advertising:
First Tuesday
of the month

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

April

Submit your event for our calendar.

-
- 12 OIPA April General Meeting | 7 p.m. for an interactive virtual cooking session with Fearless Cooking on Zoom!
-
- 24 Irving Park Garden Club Member Outing | Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Greenhouse
-

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2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

This is a:

- New Membership
- Renewal
- Gift Membership

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

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

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

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

ANNIVERSARY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL E-MAIL 2

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS
 expire August 31 and are due by September 1.
 Membership dues received after May 1 will be applied to the following year membership.

MEMBERSHIP DUES (per household)

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

- \$25/year Standard – \$15/year Standard Seniors (age 65+)
- \$75 Good Neighbor: Standard membership plus — 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 Lynn Ankney, OIPA Treasurer, 4313 N Keeler Ave, Chicago, IL 60641.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE: Old Irving Park Association **OR** join/renew online: 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. hello@oldirvingpark.com.

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. **PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE DOCUMENT.**
- Photos and images should be provided as separate files. **We cannot use photos or images that are embedded or placed in a Word document. We need the original image file.**
- 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](https://wetransfer.com).
- 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.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) gray scale; jpg, PDF, or eps. **Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.**

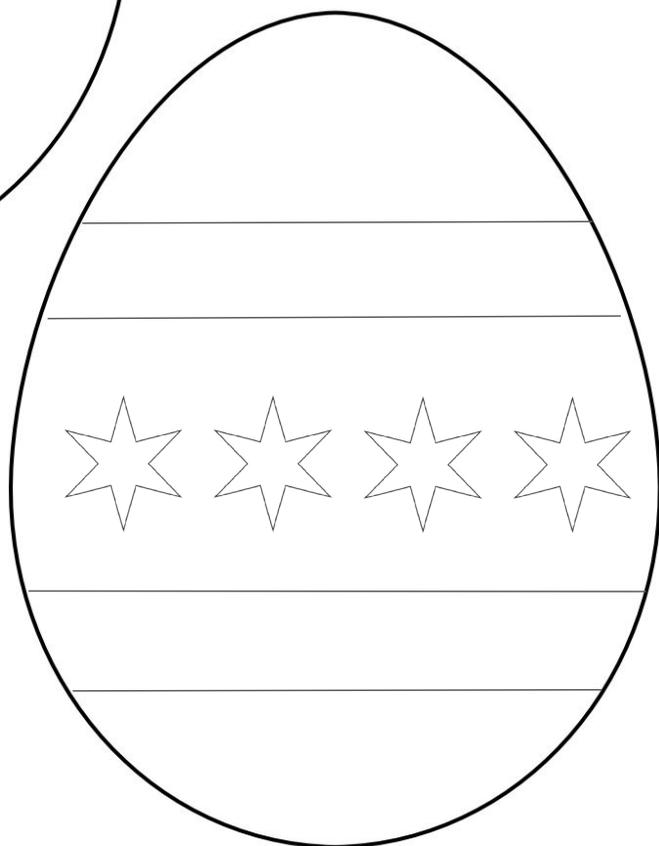
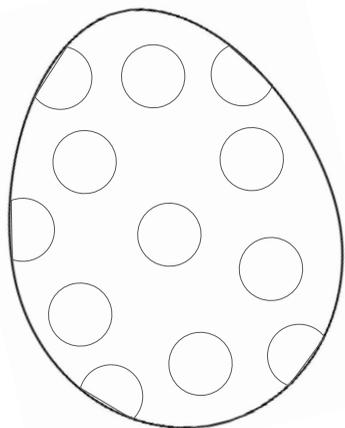
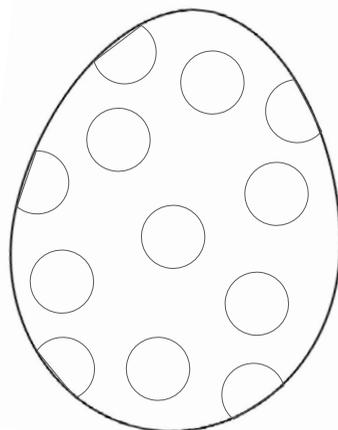
Submission Deadlines

- **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. 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	2021	
Publication Month	Advertising	General
May	4/6	4/8
June	5/4	5/6
August	7/6	7/8
September	8/3	8/5
October*	8/31	9/2
November	10/5	10/7
December	11/2	11/4

* Earlier submission date to accommodate delivery schedule

egg-stra special fun in OIP





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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS

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