

OLD IRVING PARK



NEWS



Stay & Play
Game Cafe

See story on page 18



FEBRUARY

VOLUME 37 | ISSUE 1 | 2023



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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 37 ☆ Issue 1 ☆ February 2023

A publication of the Old Irving Park Association by, for, and about people living in the neighborhood. Old Irving Park neighborhood boundaries include 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.

www.oldirvingpark.com

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

Delivery Staff

Devin, Owen & Asha Alexander
Cynthia & Dan Andrews
Julian Arias
Bridget Bauman
Sandra Broderick
Colleen Callahan
Barbara Chadwick
Gayle Christensen
Adrian & Oliver Christiansen
Barbara Cohn
Drew & Brandy Corboy
Mary Czarnowski
Tom Denio
David Evaskus
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Phuong Johnston
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Megy Karydes
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Hannah Lehman
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New Neighbor Packets

Claudia Hine

Parents Committee

Lynn Ankney
Renée Linnemeyer

Delivery Coordinators

Meredith O'Sullivan (Chair)
membership@oldirvingpark.com
773-551-4533
Lynn Ankney (Co-chair)
Kate Roche (Mailings)
Barbara Chadwick
Theo Kuhnlohe & Bil Susinka
Charlie & Johnny Ginnan

Editor / Design & Production

Kearns Design Group
k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com

Advertising

Colleen Kenny, oipaadvertising@gmail.com

Secretary

Nicholas Plagman-Frank

Treasurer

Lynn Ankney

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Here's to 2023 and the new beginning it brings!



Happy New Year, Old Irving Park neighbors! You probably do not need any reminders that we have local **Chicago elections coming up later this month on February 28**. Candidate signs are brightening up our winter lawns, and canvassers are out in full force. Last fall, OIPA had planned to send questionnaires out to all the aldermanic candidates for the 30th, 39th, and 45th Wards and publish responses in this Newsletter, with candidate forums to follow in the event of any run-off elections. Instead, we've been fortunate to work alongside nearby civic groups to host candidate forums in all three Wards before the general election. If you live in the 39th Ward or what will become part of the 30th Ward, we hope you were able to attend the forums held in January. If you are in the 45th Ward, please come out to the forum on February 2 at the Copernicus Center (see ad on page 3).

In the event any of our three Wards end up in a run-off election, we plan to host candidate meet and greets in March.

If you want to confirm which Ward you are in, you can find out at

https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/mayor/iframe/lookup_ward_and_alderman.html

If you need to check on your polling place and who will be on the ballot for your Ward, you can find that information at

<https://chicagoelections.gov/en/home.html>

Most importantly—get out there and vote early or on February 28. Our local elected officials play a critical role in day-to-day issues impacting our neighborhood.

.....

Join us for on February 13 for the OIPA General Meeting

Speaking of local engagement, it doesn't get any more local than OIPA. Join us for our General Meeting on February 13, which will feature updates from developers with major construction projects in the works in OIP and Six Corners. We will hear from Novak Construction and Northwestern Medicine, and more.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

45TH WARD ALDERMANIC CANDIDATE FORUM

COPERNICUS CENTER THEATER

THURSDAY, FEB. 2 at 7 pm

ALL SIX CANDIDATES ARE CONFIRMED
NON PARTISAN EVENT
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MODERATOR: Justin Kaufmann
of WTTW and Axios

FOR LIVE FEED, SEE:*
www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc
*other options may be available

Aldersperson Candidates as of November 17, 2022

45th Ward (Forum on Feb 2, see ad on previous page) (OIP North of Irving Park Road until the Interstate)

- Susanna Ernst: <https://susannafor45.com>
- James Gardiner (incumbent)
- Megan Mathias: meganfor45thward.com
- Ana Santoyo: anaforward45.com
- James Suh: Suhfor45.com
- Marija Tomic: marijaforthethe45th.com

39th Ward (OIP South of Montrose until the interstate)

- Denali Dasgupta: denalifor39.com
- Samantha Nugent (incumbent)

30th Ward (OIP South of Irving Park Road with a carve out near the Irving Park Blue Line stop)

- Ruth Cruz: ruthcruzfor30.com
- Jessica Gutierrez: jessica2023.com
- Juan Pablo Prieto: juanpabloprieto.com
- Warren Williams: warrenfor30.com

Voting Resources

- **Brochure guide provided by the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners**, PDF of 2023 *Election Information Pamphlet and Calendar* (<https://bit.ly/chgo-elections>) includes important information that pertain to the nomination and election of candidates for the offices of Mayor, City Clerk, City Treasurer, Aldersperson, and members of police District Councils by voters in the City of Chicago at the February 28, 2023 Municipal General Election and the April 4, 2023 Municipal Runoff and Supplementary Aldermanic Elections, if necessary.
- **Everthing you need to know about voting** in Chicago/Cook County and surrounding counties visit <https://chicagoelections.gov>.



SEEN & NOTED In a blink of an eye, the holidays are over.



Holiday Party



Thank you to all our members who came out for the OIPA Holiday Party held on December 4 at LaVilla. It was terrific to bring the OIP community back together after two long years to celebrate the season.



Pictured: Left, front to back: Emily and Nick Plagman-Frank, Nate Musgrove and Katie Johannigman
Right, front to back: Chris Hein, Adrienne Chan, Michael Kharouta and Carolyn Goldschmidt

Photo by Kaitlyn Keely.



Pictured: Left, front to back: Emily Peterson, John McKinley, and Annie Swingen.
Right, front to back: Colleen and Rich Kenny,

Photo by Kaitlyn Keely.



Kaitlyn Keely and Laura Marie Sanchez share a holiday hug.

Photo by Kathleen Kearns.



Pictured above: On left, front to back: Dave Ryan, T.J.Hine, Claudia Hine, Mike Basile, Madelyn Ryan. Right, front to back: Liz Basile, Laura Marie Sanchez, Kathleen Kearns

Photo by Kaitlyn Keely.

And the winner is...

The 2022 winner of OIPA's Crystal Snowflake Award is the Jarosz family of 4500 block of West Larchmont! Thanks to all who participated and decked out their homes. Congratulations to all the nominees, and thanks to all who voted.

Photo by Anna Sobor.



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting on December 5, 2022

Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

Meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm via Zoom
Meeting started at 7:33 pm.

Attendees: Annie Swingen, Nicholas Plagman Frank, Lynn Ankney, Adrienne Chan, Scott Legan, Meredith O'Sullivan, Colleen Kenny, David Ryan, and Merry Marwig.

Treasurer's Report – Lynn Ankney

The November 2022 account balance looks high but doesn't account for:

- a. 8 of 9 annual donations being delivered this week (Irving Park Garden Club in May 2023)
- b. The 2022 OIPA Holiday Party at La Villa.

The Board approved the Treasurer's Report.

Membership Update – Meredith O'Sullivan

- a. Numbers update: 637 paid memberships. 93 lapsed memberships.
- b. Some new members need "We Heart OIP" signs delivered. David Ryan volunteered to make deliveries.

Newsletter - The board discussed

- a. The February Message from the Board.
- b. Local Business Feature February newsletter.

Holiday Lights Decorating Contest

The Holiday Lights Decorating Contest has begun. Nominations due by 12/18, voting closes 12/22, and the winner will be announced on 12/23. OIPA will continue to publicize the contest on social media and via email.

Old & New Items

a. Ward Business

- 39th Ward Business: Montrose traffic study request. OIPA sent an email Tues 11/29 and cc'd neighbors who requested help
- 45th Ward Business: OIPA sent a request to Northwestern Memorial Hospital for status update on Kilbourn traffic solutions and inquired about the residential lot at 4522 W. Irving Park Road. At time of meeting no responses were received.

b. Aldermanic Candidate Forums and/or questionnaires

- A candidate questionnaire has been started but not been finalized. In lieu of the questionnaire, the board decided to partner with other civic organizations and neighbors to organize forums in all three wards (45, 39, 30) within the OIP neighborhood boundaries.

c. Forums

- 39th – The first forum was held on 01/19. A second forum date is still in the works. A second forum is possible. OIPA will provide details if a second forum occurs.
- 30th – A neighbor reached out and said they were willing to coordinate. The Board agreed to accept and share materials developed in planning for the 39th ward forum. The forum date and venue have not yet been discussed.
- 45th – Neighboring civic groups and OIPA have been in contact and are working on a date and a place for a forum.



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

d. Kolmar Park Plaque Options

The Board is exploring options for a plaque to commemorate Gurtrud Kolmar, the park's namesake.

e. Murals

Graffiti on the Kostner underpass "Dreams" mural has been painted over in blue to match the mural. After much discussion about the options and design the board is leaning towards replacing "Dreams" with a new mural. Finding a well known artist or changing the material to mosaic or tile, as well as including the underpass columns were discussed as ideas. The OIPA beautification committee will reach out to local organization The Green Star Movement to begin a conversation.

Upcoming Events:

- 12/13/22 (Tuesday): Mayoral Forum at The Copernicus Center (5:30 pm doors. 6:30 pm forum). OIPA pledged \$100 and 1-2 staff.
- 1/5/23 (Thursday): Deadline for general content for February OIP News
- 1/9/23: January Board Meeting
- 1/19/23 (Thursday): 39th Ward forum
- 2/6/23 (Monday): February Board meeting
- 2/13/23 (Monday): February general meeting

Meeting ended at 8:12 pm.



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OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting on January 9, 2023

Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

Meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm via Zoom

Meeting started at 7:32 pm.

Attendees: Adrienne Chan, Lynn Ankney, Scott Legan, Merry Marwig, Meredith O'Sullivan, Nicholas Plagman-Frank, Michael Cannon, Dave Ryan, and Colleen Kenny.

Treasurer's Report – Lynn Ankney

Lynn Ankney presented the December 2022 Treasurer's Report. The report showed greater than normal expenditures in December, but this was expected and was for great things like OIPA's annual charitable donations to area organizations accounting for a \$4,400 debit, and a \$2,473 debit for the OIPA Holiday Party on December 4th. The Treasurer's Report was approved by the board.

Membership Update

Instead of a membership update the board discussed giving away extra OIPA swag in inventory at future general meetings. You must be present to win!

Newsletter Planning

- a. Finalize February Message from the Board
- b. Updates on Aldermanic Forums and elections.
See pages 2–3 for details.

Old & New Items

a. Ward Business

– 39th Ward Business:

A Montrose traffic study has been requested by the OIPA Board. Neighbors also advocated for themselves with the 39th Ward office to get this done! Alderman Nugent confirmed on

12/27/22 that the study has been scheduled. Block Club Chicago covered the request by neighbors/OIPA on 1/9/23. Well done team OIP!

– 45th Ward Business:

- The Board sent a request to Northwestern Medicine for status update on Kilbourn traffic solutions and the residential lot on Kenneth being used for this project. No response had been received at time of meeting. OIPA will follow up in January 2023.
- The Milwaukee Ave closure for the Metra/RTA infrastructure project will continue through February. There have been updates from the 45th Ward office about this.

b. Aldermanic Forums

– 30th Ward – January 18

- This event will be livestreamed to the OIPA Facebook page.
- Event organizers have asked the OIPA Board for help selecting questions for the forum. The Board brainstormed some questions that could be used and will compile and send organizers a list of questions that have been shared at board meetings in the past.

– 39th Ward – January 19

- There is a planning meeting scheduled Thursday 1/12. A couple of OIPA board members will be in attendance.
- The decision was made to also live stream this forum to OIPA's Facebook page.

– 45th Ward – February 2

- OIPA Board members will attend a planning meeting 1/18.



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

Other Business

a. **The Portage Park Neighborhood Association and Jefferson Park Forward** are members of Six Corners Association. OIPA is not currently a member but has been in the past. The board discussed renewing OIPA's membership and will reach out to the Six Corners Association.

b. Murals

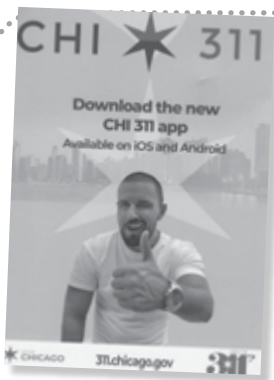
The Board decided to postpone the mural budget and maintenance discussion until March. For now the OIPA Beautification Committee will reach out to Greenstarmovement.org to explore additional options of funding.

c. **An Aldermanic Candidate** meet and greet was brought up as an idea following the general election but before runoff elections. The OIPA Board will reach out to candidates with a save the date for our March 13 General Meeting.

Upcoming Events

- **1/18/23 (Wednesday):** 30th Ward forum
- **1/19/23 (Thursday):** 39th Ward forum
- **2/2/23 (Thursday):** 45th Ward forum
- **2/6/23 (Monday):** February Board meeting
- **2/13/23 (Monday):** February General Meeting. The Board will reach out and invite the developers of the projects proposed or being built in OIP and at 6 Corners including, GW Properties, Novak Construction, Northwestern, & Ryan Companies/ The Clarendale. The idea is that the developers can give updates to OIPA members about their projects.
- **3/6/23 (Monday):** March Board Meeting
- **3/13/23 (Monday):** March General Meeting
- **4/3/23 (Monday):** April Board Meeting
- **4/10/23 (Monday):** April General Meeting
- **4/15/23 (Saturday):** Openlands Grant Tree Planting Day (North of Irving Park)

Meeting ended: 8:05 pm.



Source: www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/311ProjectInformation;
<https://311.chicago.gov>

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>

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Call for Contributions to the *OIPA News*



We welcome individual article submissions for the OIPA newsletter!

Here are a few ideas:

- Give a shout-out to a kind neighbor.
- Did you recently visit a local business or restaurant? Then share your experience.
- Write a fun story about our neighborhood or a fond memory.
- Share your knowledge on a topic.
- Attend an event? Share a photo (please include photo credit).

Guidelines: For editorial submission guidelines see page 36 for full details.

Advertise with Us!

The OIPA News is distributed to approximately 600 households, 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 8.2K 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.oldirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad.



City of Chicago Emergency Heating Repair Program

Application will be accepted through April 1, 2023.

Program Overview

The Emergency Heating Repair Program (EHRP) provides qualified homeowners with a one-time grant to repair or replace their furnaces or boiler heating systems. The program is administered by the Department of Housing (DOH). Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The grants are available to owner-occupants of one-to-four unit residential buildings. A site inspection will be performed by a DOH rehab construction specialist to determine the heating system's condition after a completed application is processed and approved.

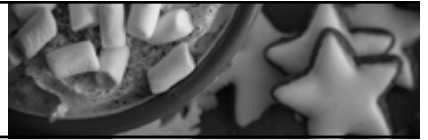
How to Apply

Submit a service request through 311 or call the Department of Housing's (DOH) customer service line at 312.744.3653 to request an application. Follow the detailed information on completing the forms and submitting copies of all required documents, including proof of ownership, income, and identification.

Homeowners can call DOH's customer service line at 312.744.3653 for further assistance.

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/doh/provdrs/homeowners/svcs/emergency-heating-repair-program>

RECIPES FROM THE BOARD & MEMBERS



Love Potion #9

sparkling cherry spritzer
Valentine's Day mocktail or cocktail

Ingredients:

- 5 ounces 100% cherry juice (or pomegranate juice or cranberry juice)
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1 large lime, juiced
- Sparkling mineral water to top off each drink (I love Topo Chico)
- **OPTIONAL:** 2 shots (jiggers) vodka [one shot or one jigger equals 1.5 fluid ounces]

Garnish:

- 2 tablespoons maple sugar for sugar rim
- Fresh raspberries
- Heart Shaped Ice Cubes: 100% pomegranate juice for silicone heart molds (or cherry juice or cranberry juice)

Submitted by Merry Marwig.

Credit: *Eating by Elaine*: www.eatingbyelaine.com/love-potion-9-sparkling-cherry-spritzer-valentines-day-mocktail-or-cocktail

Instructions:

- **MAKE IN ADVANCE:** Place a silicone heart mold on a small baking sheet. Fill the molds with pomegranate juice (or cherry juice or cranberry juice) and place the baking sheet in your freezer for eight hours until juice is frozen solid. I typically do this the night before.
- **JUST BEFORE SERVING:** Prepare 3-4 cocktail glasses with a sugar rim. Place maple sugar on a small plate. Rub the rim of the glasses with a lime wedge (just enough to wet the rim) and then dip the rim of each glass in the maple sugar. You can use any granulated sugar here but to keep it refined sugar-free I recommend using maple sugar. Set glasses aside or place in your freezer to chill the glasses.
- **PREPARE THE DRINK:** Shake cherry juice, maple syrup, lime juice and vodka (if using) in a cocktail shaker filled with ice cubes.
- Fill the cocktail glasses with ice cubes. Pour the shaken cocktail into the glasses (about halfway). Leave room for sparkling mineral water.
- Fill each glass with sparkling mineral water and stir gently with a spoon. Leave room for 1-2 red heart ice cubes.
- Remove red heart ice cubes from the silicone mold and place 1-2 (or more!) in each drink.
- Arrange fresh raspberries on a cocktail pick and place the pick in the drink or balancing on the glass rim.
- *Enjoy immediately.*

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Friday – Saturday: 10am – 12am

Sunday: 10am – 10pm

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OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



February Birthdays

Mike Abbott
Bradley Anderson
Nicholas Arvanitakis
Shirley Buss
Hannah Carter
Kevin Cisner
Chris Craig
Irene Flaherty
Michelle Foik
Sara Freeman
Denise Giszczynski
William Hanzel
Carroe Healy
Richard Hoffman
Kyle Holmer
Martha Howe
Timothy Huizenga
Lauren Innocenzi
Andrew Jukes
Tom Keith
Jessica Kick
Catherine Kozisek
Heather Legan

Liam McLaughlin
Amy Meadows
Ashley Menardo
Maria Montadas
Patrick Muench
Liliana O'Shea
Randall Patke
Sharon Perrine
TJ Perrine
Emily Reagan
John Rooney
Meni Sarris
Ted Simmons
Will Staker
Lee Swingen
Antonio Tabacchi
Danielle Tetrault
Kyle Tondo-Kramer
Christen Walczak
Casey Williams
Rodney Zech

February Anniversaries

Laura Baginski & Patrick Wasser
Jessica & Jim Covert
Cate Hall & Will Staker
Rachel & Pete Horvath
Caitrin & Jonathan McElroy
Megan & Eric Stalder
Lyndon Taylor & Daphne Roscoe
Danielle & Randy West
Eris Brewery & Cider House



FEBRUARY KID BIRTHDAYS

Oliver Cernak
Nathan Coe
TJ Danahy
Collin Hackleman
Liam Kick
Emmet Rood
Nick Sennett



PEI BIRTHDAY
Buck, a dog in the Berger family



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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Jazz Night
with
**Steve
Thomas**

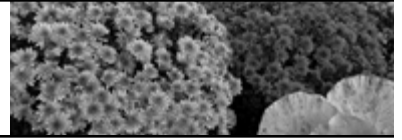


**Wednesdays
7:00 – 10:00**

FOUNDATION

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Chicago IL**

OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

(C) = Court Approved (F) = Foreclosure Sale (S) = Short Sale



Single Family

4106 N. Kostner	\$350,000
4167 W. Addison	\$475,100
3723 N. Kenneth.....	\$506,500
3711 N. Keeler.....	\$525,000
4253 W. Cullom.....	\$530,000
3712 N. Lowell.....	\$585,000
3634 N. Tripp.....	\$600,000
4346 N. Tripp.....	\$605,000
3646 N. Kenneth	\$625,000
4008 N. Kolmar	\$785,000
3720 N. Kostner.....	\$1,000,000



Attached Single Family

4235 N. Kedvale, 1B	\$105,000
3651 N. Kedvale, 2A.....	\$145,000
4213 N. Kedvale, 1I	\$150,000
4340 N. Keeler, 1F.....	\$170,000
4332 N. Keeler, 2B.....	\$178,000
3878 N. Milwaukee Ct.....	\$400,000
4517 W. Irving Park.....	\$495,900
3856 N. Milwaukee Ave.	\$522,000

2-4 Units

3626 N. Tripp.....	\$585,000
--------------------	-----------

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New Listing! Coming Soon!



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DINING & FUN ADVENTURES IN OIP & BEYOND



New to the Neighborhood

Stay & Play Game Cafe

by Dave Ryan



Jose and Yesenia Maldonado, along with their families and an extensive network of friends (www.meetup.com/northwest-side-chicago-board-game-friends), have been meeting at neighborhood venues and restaurants for over 25 years to play board games, eat, drink and most of all communicate and collaborate face-to-face.

Now they have taken their passion for food, drink, and board games to the next level, opening Stay & Play Game Café in the old Independence Tap location, 3932 W Irving Park Road. The space has been completely renovated into a light, airy, playful venue. Personal touches abound, and the game theme is skillfully and cleverly woven throughout. They even have a mascot of sorts, “Jibi.” Derived from “Jibaro,” a term traditionally referring to a Puerto Rican farmer who traditionally tends his land. Today many Puerto Ricans identify themselves as Jibaros in a proud connection with their Puerto Rican history and culture. See if you can find “Jibi” represented in various places throughout the Café.



Stay & Play Game Café owners Jose and Yesenia Maldonado

Photos by Dave Ryan.



DINING & FUN ADVENTURES IN OIP & BEYOND



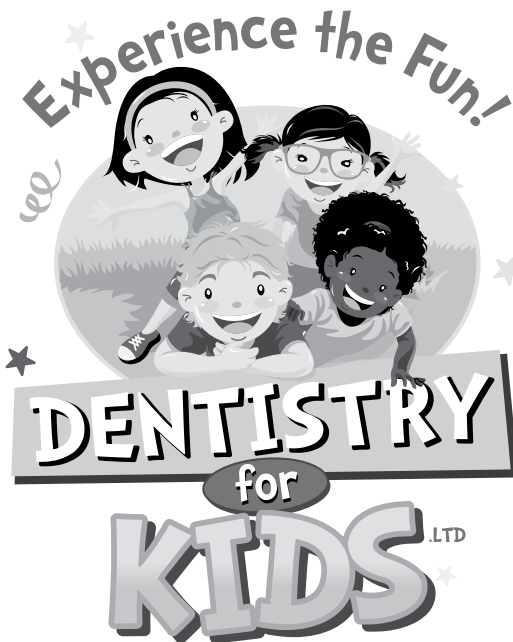
Stay and Play differs from most bars and cafes because no televisions exist. Instead, patrons can access a library of over 500 board games for a small fee. All the old familiar titles are present, along with many games that will be new to the visitor.

We sampled the Coconut shrimp appetizer and a Cubano sandwich during our visit. The shrimp was excellent, prepared fresh in the kitchen rather than the frozen fare.

The Cubano (pork, ham, and cheese) and fresh hot French fries were also delicious. Everything on the menu was reasonably priced.

Jose and Yesenia reside in the Dunning area and are warm and gracious hosts. Stay and Play is a unique and welcome addition to our neighborhood and well worth a visit, whether you bring friends for an evening of board games or only to enjoy the great food and drink.

Stay & Play Game Café
3932 W. Irving Park Road
<https://stayandplaygamecafe.com>



**February is
children's dental
health month**

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ph. 773-545-0007

Dr. Kirk Kollmann Dr. Cissy Furusho

www.dentistry4kids.net



A Passion for Beauty and Community

A longtime OIPA News supporter, **XOX Hair Studio**, located in the Agatite Plaza at Milwaukee and Sunnyside, is celebrating 31 years of a woman-owned business!

The salon offers cuts to make you feel your best, passionate stylists, and a vast product offering, all in a welcoming space.

Owner **Margaret Domanus** opened XOX in 1991 with a focus just on hair. After 30 years, with a new vision and remodeling, the salon services expanded to include hair, nails, make-up, and waxing. Since the start, the studio has been serving Chicagoland clients with modern styles and beautiful colors.

XOX's commitment to providing the highest beauty service and care is evident through the rave reviews they receive from clients. Whether they are just getting their hair trimmed or a visit full of pampering, many clients make statements like, "I feel like a million bucks."



Margaret Domanus, Founder and owner of XOX Hair Studio located at 4458 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, shows off her award winning moves.

Photo provided by XOX Hair Studio.

XOX Hair Studio was presented with a proclamation in celebration of their 31 years of business in Jefferson Park by Senator Martwick. "Margaret Domanus has run her neighborhood-favorite hair salon, nail studio, and esthetician center for over three decades in Agatite Plaza. As a Polish immigrant, Margaret exemplifies the American Dream. This proclamation was an incredible way to celebrate Polish American Heritage Month and Women's Small Business Month."

— Senator Robert Martwick

Picture from left to right, Rep. Lindsey LaPointe, Kasia Laczak, Margaret Domanus, XOX owner, and Senator Robert Martwick.

Photo provided by XOX Hair Studio.





OIP FOCUS ON LOCAL BUSINESS

The space reflects the rustic sensibilities of a hip urban loft while also providing a relaxing ambiance. The open-concept loft-like salon offers haircuts in front of oversized reclaimed mirrors. The space includes two pedicure stations, a vast retail area (hair and skin products of all types), and two manicure stations.

Ask anyone who knows Margaret about her success, and they'll tell you it has much to do with her strength of character, originality, and heart.

"This community is like family to us. We've seen clients having kids, raising those kids, and those kids having their kids. We've been an ongoing part of many life milestones with various families in our community."

Small businesses like XOX are valuable. By their nature, they have a focus deeper than just profit. They become anchors of the community, providing services on a personal level. Small businesses have been proven to be more generous than large businesses. They're also mission-driven and community-powered. Giving back to the community is important to Margaret by supporting neighborhood charities and fundraising events. Her team at XOX organizes a yearly holiday gift drive to provide all of the boys and girls at Lydia Home with art kits, race cars, hats, scarves, and gloves.

So if you are ready for some pampering like no other, make an appointment. Margaret and her team hope to see you soon! (773) 777-9997 | info@xoxhairstudio.com

EST. 1991

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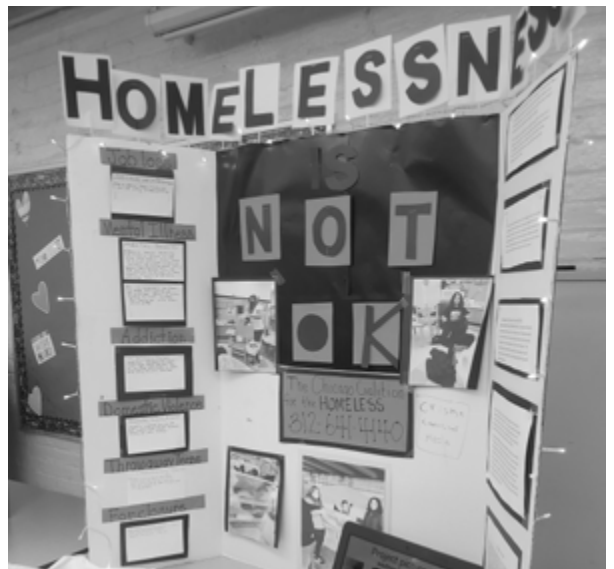


The Buzz at Belding — Michele Stefl, IB Coordinator

Belding 8th graders give back with the IB Community Project

The Community Project allows 8th-grade students to identify a need in their school and community and address that need through service learning. In conjunction with their Civics class, students researched topics such as homelessness, women's rights, animal adoption, technology usage, and helping veterans, to name a few. We look forward to seeing our 8th graders become agents of change in Belding, Chicago, and the world!

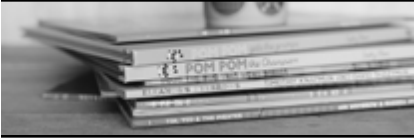
Photos at right, students share their community projects with the Belding community. *Photos provided by Belding School.*



BELDING STUDENT FUNDRAISER

Students in the 7th grade completed an IB math project where they came up with a marketing plan to sell socks to raise money to build a well for clean drinking water in Rwanda. It costs \$5 for one pair and \$12 for a pack of 3. Choose from many fun designs and help bring clean drinking water to a community in Rwanda. Use the link below to learn more about the cause and purchase some socks!

Link: <https://go.wehelptwo.com/campaign/?campaignid=21984>



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Belding School



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

Principal Mandi Cohen and Assistant Principal Arman Cortes set aside one morning each month to give tours to interested parents. Tours begin at 8 am in the main office. Tours are a great opportunity to learn more about our school and the Belding community.

Upcoming tour dates include February 14 and March 14.



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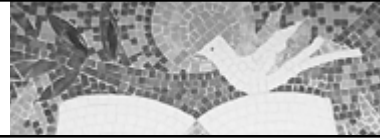
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Viator Vibrations

— Sara Yoest

The St. Viator Eagles' 4th–8th-grade boys and girls basketball teams are finding success on the basketball court this season! One highlight is the 5th & 6th-grade girls' combined team bringing home the championship in the 2022 Chicago Park District Holiday Tournament this past December.



St. Viator Girls Basketball team celebrate their wins. *Photo by Sara Yoest*

Annual Trivia Night

St. Viator will host its annual Trivia Night as a fundraiser for the 8th-grade class on February 11, 2023, at the St. Viator Rec Center. Watch the St. Viator Facebook page for details, or contact the St. Viator school office for a team registration & payment form. The cost is \$25 per person, with eight people max per table. All adults are welcome!

Catholic Schools Week

St. Viator will be kicking-off Catholic Schools Week with an open house from 2:30–4:30 pm on Saturday, January 28, followed by a 5 pm family mass. Prospective parents and students are encouraged to attend, walk the halls and speak with current families and faculty. Watch our Facebook page for details, including 2023-24 enrollment deadlines.

Call the school office at 773-545-2173 with questions regarding admission for the 2023-24 school year or to schedule a private in-person tour. Admission for the current school year is rolling based on classroom availability.

The Best Way to Get to Know Us Is to Visit!

Please get in touch with the school office at office1@stviatorchicago.org or call 773-545-2173 regarding 2022-23 school year rolling admissions. Or how to apply for the 2023-24 school year.

www.stviatorchicago.org | Follow us on Facebook: St. Viator Elementary School and Parish, Chicago



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aerialdancechicago.org

Youth Ballet

Adult Ballet



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St. Edward Scoop — Adrienne Chan



SAVE the Date

Save the date to attend St. Edward School's biggest annual fundraiser, **Howl at the Moon Big Red Auction**. Join us for a fun night out on **Saturday, April 2, 2022**. featuring **live performances by Howl at the Moon dueling pianos, cash bar, taco truck, and of course, amazing packages to bid on and win!**

Proceeds from the Big Red Auction & Comedy Night event support educational resources, school improvements, and tuition assistance. There are several ways you can support our efforts, including donating an item to the auction, becoming a sponsor, and buying a raffle ticket or ticket to the event.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit <https://stedwardchicago.org/big-red-auction.html> or email auction@stedwardschool.com

Celebrating 113 Years of Catholic Education to Children in Grades PK3–8th grade.

St Edward Catholic School | 4343 W Sunnyside Ave, Chicago, IL 60630 | 773-736-9133 | stedwardchicago.org

Registration continues to be open for the 2022-2023 school year. St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School with small class sizes and attention to an individual students. For more information, 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. To schedule an in-person or virtual tour with the principal contact us contact.office@stedwardschool.com.

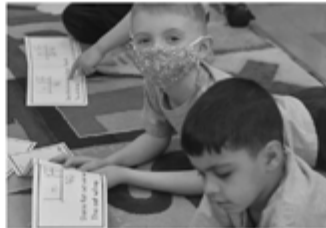



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Mrs. Lasica at slasica@stedwardschool.com
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Stephanie's Irving Park Sales

I am grateful to have so many opportunities to help people buy and sell homes in Old Irving Park!

I am also a Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES®) trained to help people who are downsizing.

Call me if you are considering a move, I will be happy to share tips and resources about how to get started.

Visit stephaniecutter.com
for more information and
resources for sellers and buyers.

February Funnies

Enjoy these jokes from connoisseur of funny—OIPA Board Member Merry Marwig.

Send us your best corny jokes! OIPA members, how about sharing some of your best wholesome jokes? Please send in your funniest, clean and corny jokes (plus the name of who we should credit for the zinger if you're submitting the joke on behalf of a child) to us at hello@oldirvingpark.com. Use the email subject line, "Corny Jokes Submission." We will print a selection of jokes in our upcoming newsletters.



Happy Heart DAY

Q: What do you call a small valentine?

A: A valen-ty!

Q: What is the best outfit to wear on Feb 2nd?

A: a tu-tu (2/2)

Q: How does a telephone propose marriage?

A: By giving a ring!

Q: What kind of flowers should you NOT give on Valentine's Day?

A: Cauliflowers!

Q: What did a piece of toast say to another?

A: You're my butter half

Q: Why do skunks cry during sappy movies?

A: They're scent-imental

Q: What does a French groundhog see when he wakes up?

A: His château



**LOVE IS AN ART,
WHICH COMES FROM THE HEART.**





Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Max Bessesen on February 12

— Liz Mills, Executive Director, Carlson Community Services

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee will present a free concert featuring saxophonist **Max Bessesen** on Sunday, February 12, at 2 pm. Praised for his “saxophone virtuosity” by Downbeat Magazine, Max is a young composer and performer based in New York City. A former resident of Independence Park, Max performed a holiday jazz concert for the Fine Arts series in 2020, which was recorded due to the pandemic. We are thrilled to have Max back in Chicago and performing for us in person! Joining Max are Ethan Philion, bass; Dave Miller, guitar and Greg Artry, drums.

The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. The concert is free, but donations to support future programming are always welcome. The program is subject to change. Check our website or Facebook page for updates.

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee, now in its 29th season, was created by Roger Bingaman, Director of Music at Irving Park Lutheran Church. The intent of the series is to bring high-quality, professional music to the northwest side of Chicago, free of charge.



Saxophonist Max Bessesen will be featured in the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's February 12 concert.





NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Carlson Community Services

Since the OIPA news doesn't publish in January, we'd like to take this opportunity to say "Happy New Year" from Carlson Community Services!



The Peppermint Patties performed their vintage holiday song stylings at the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's free holiday concert on December 11.

Photo by Liz Mills.



TJ & Claudia Hine enjoy the post-concert reception following the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's holiday concert.

Photo by Liz Mills.

Enriching Lives | Carlson Community Services connects the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture, and service. For more information, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org or contact Liz Mills, Executive Director, at 773.398.6766 or lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org. Follow us on Facebook or sign up for our newsletters at carlsoncommunityservices.org if you'd like to stay informed about all that is happening!



Thank You to All Who Made the Holidays Brighter



Chris Cunningham shows off the Pantry shirt he received when volunteers picked up the company's \$4,300 donation proceeds from their summer sales at GIPNA's Farmers Market at Independence Park.

The Irving Park Food Pantry's board, staff, and volunteers thank everyone who supported our special programs during the holiday season. Some of those contributors comprise:

- **Mount Olive Church** for holding its annual food drive after Thanksgiving. Members of the congregation met at Jewel at Six Corners and provided shoppers on their way in with a list of our most-needed items, so they could buy them and donate them on their way out.
- **Owner Chris Cunningham and the staff at J.T.'s Genuine Sandwich Shop** for donating the proceeds from their summer sales at the GIPNA Farmers Market at Independence Park. The total came to \$4,300!
- **Dr. Kenneth Barker and the staff at Clearly Cares Dental** for donating 50 of their dental kits, comprising a toothbrush and toothpaste. Those are popular items that are hard to keep in stock, and we appreciate their support.
- **State Representative Lindsey LaPointe and Alderman Samantha Nugent** for donating masks.

- Several schools have made considerable and diverse donations recently, comprising **Dever Elementary School** (food), **Farnsworth Elementary School** (coats), **Reilly Elementary School** (Halloween candy), and **Carl Schurz High School** (toiletries).



Thank you to Dr. Kenneth Barker and the staff at Clearly Cares Dental (3246 N. Elston Ave.) for donating 50 of their dental kits, comprising a toothbrush and toothpaste. Celena Martinez (left) and Zhuji Ochoa show off the kits.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry

- **Park Ridge Presbyterian Church**, whose members have been volunteering regularly and collected various items for us in December, including money, food, hats, scarves, gloves, toiletries, socks, and candy.
- **Redeemer of Calvary and SS Viator & Wenceslaus** churches for regularly collecting canned and non-perishable food items for the Pantry.
- **Harvest Trolley–Chicago** for their periodic donations of food items nearing their expiration

dates and for providing discounts on various items we need on short notice.

- **All those who donated** so we could stuff 300 stockings to give to our clients' children 12 years old or younger.

Many others also contributed to making the holiday season a little brighter for our neighbors in need. We thank you all for your continued support that helps us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



Students at Reilly Elementary School contributed some of their Halloween candy to the school's campaign to provide the Pantry with candy to give to clients.



In December, Christine Sain and Lourdes Ryczak were among the volunteers representing the Pantry at the Irish-American Heritage Center's Christmas Bazaar.



Students at Farnsworth Elementary School donated many bags of coats they collected for our November coat drive.

*All photos provided by Craig Shutt,
Irving Park Community Food Pantry*

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

CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Advertising:
First Tuesday
of the month

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

February

-
- 2 **45th Ward Aldermanic Forum** | 7 pm | Copernicus Center 5216 W Lawrence Ave.
-
- 12 **Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents** Max Bessesen Quartet | Irving Park Lutheran Church | 2 pm | 4100 N. Harding Ave. | Free! Festive reception follows. For info visit carlsoncommunityservices.org/event
-
- 13 **OIPA February General Meeting** | 7 pm | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N Kostner Ave.

March

-
- 13 **OIPA March General Meeting** | 7 pm | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N Kostner Ave.

Ongoing in the Neighborhood

1st Wednesdays **Clarendale Six Corners, Wine-Down Wednesday** | First Wednesday Monthly, 5:00 to 6:30 pm, Clarendale Six Corners, Information Center, 4004 N. Cicero Avenue, RSVP to 872-250-5126, 2 Days Before Each Event. Hurry! Space is limited. Wine and refreshments will be served.

1st & 3rd Wednesdays **Clarendale Six Corners, Coffee & Conversations with Clarendale!** | First and third Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 am, Clarendale Six Corners, Information Center, 4004 N. Cicero Avenue, RSVP to 872-250-5126, 2 Days Before Each Event. Hurry! Space is limited.

Stay Connected, Be Informed

There are a variety ways for you to connect with OIPA and your neighbors.



OIPA Enews | Stay up to date with local neighborhood news and happenings. Request to join OIPA's news eblast email distribution group by emailing us at hello@oldirvingpark.com

Google Parent Group (not just for parents) | To join our interactive community google group visit: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/oipa-parents-discuss>

Facebook | Our Facebook page is a great way to learn about neighborhood events and issues <https://www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc>.

Visit our website | www.oldirvingpark.com

Questions? Contact us | Hello@oldirvingpark.com

2023 OIPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Joining or renewing your membership is easy with our online membership form at www.oldirvingpark.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).

This is a: New Membership Renewal Gift Membership

NAME (FIRST/LAST)

BIRTH MONTH

SPOUSE/PARTNER NAME (FIRST/LAST)

BIRTH MONTH

ANNIVERSARY MONTH

CHILD OR PET NAME (FIRST), BIRTHDAY MONTH (LAST NAME OPTIONAL)

CHILD OR PET NAME (FIRST), BIRTHDAY MONTH (LAST NAME 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 Level (per household)	In area DUES	Out of area DUES	Benefits
Standard	\$25	\$42	Monthly meetings, newsletter delivery, member/spouse and anniversary published in newsletter, ice cream social event, holiday event
Senior (Age 65+)	\$15	\$32	Same as Standard membership
Good Neighbor	\$75	\$92	Standard + kid/pet birthdays in newsletter and OIPA tote bag
Neighborhood All-Star	\$150	\$167	Good Neighbor + admission for two to an exclusive OIPA cocktail party

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 a gift membership 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: oldirvingpark.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 months of January and July. 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 or in an email or Google doc. Include the author's name, company or organization (if applicable), and contact information in the document. If you have an event for inclusion in the calendar (regardless of whether or not you mention it in your article submission), please specifically note it when submitting your article. 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://wettransfer.com> or Dropbox Transfer. You can send several files at a time using either platform.
- 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.

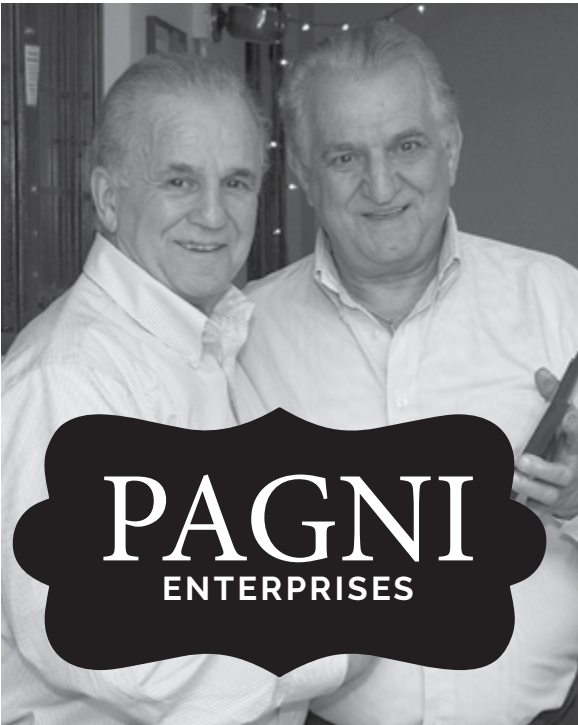
Advertising Submissions

- 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 pm.
- **General Submissions:** First Thursday of the month by 5 pm.
- **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.

2023 SUBMISSION DATES		
NO JANUARY OR JULY ISSUES.		
Publication Month	Advertising	General
March*	1/31*	2/2
April*	2/28*	3/2
May	4/4	4/6
June	5/2	5/4
August	7/4	7/6
September	8/1	8/3
October	9/5	9/7
November	10/3	10/5
December*	10/31*	11/2



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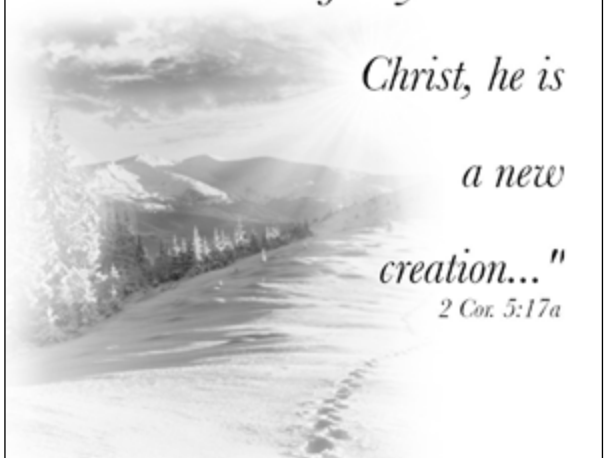
"So then if anyone is in

Christ, he is

a new

creation..."

2 Cor. 5:17a





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4313 North Keeler Ave

Chicago IL 60641