

# OLD IRVING PARK



## NEWS



# APRIL

VOLUME 37 | ISSUE 3 | 2023

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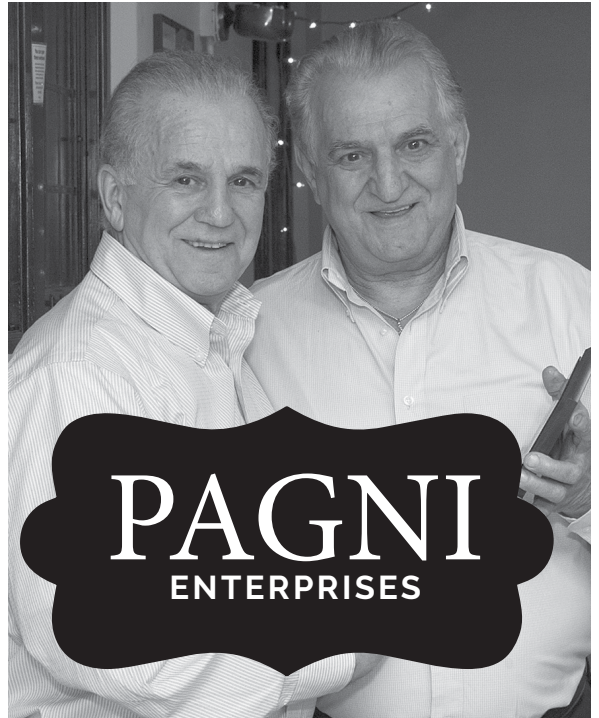
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# OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 37 ☆ Issue 3 ☆ April 2023

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](http://www.oldirvingpark.com)

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

## Delivery Staff

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Cynthia & Dan Andrews  
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## Delivery Coordinators

Meredith O'Sullivan (Chair)  
[membership@oldirvingpark.com](mailto: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](mailto:k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com)

## Advertising

Colleen Kenny, [oipaadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:oipaadvertising@gmail.com)

## Secretary

Nicholas Plagman-Frank

## Treasurer

Lynn Ankney

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Cover: Featured on the cover is local artist of international fame, Ken Klopack. Ken provides the wonderful art for the coloring pages in the *OIPA News* (page 29), but his scope of work goes beyond these whimsical drawings. To see more of Ken's work visit [kenklopackart.com](http://kenklopackart.com).

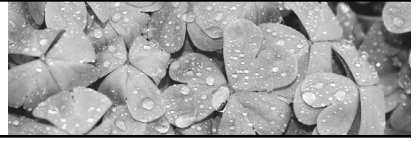
*Photo provided by Ken Klopack*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

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# Spring Cleaning

– Adrienne Chan, OIPA Board President



Adopt A Green Space photos by Michelle Skoropistsev.

**Happy Spring OIP! It's time for some cleaning up of our green spaces!**

### Openlands Tree Grant

We will start spring by celebrating Earth Day a week early with a tree planting in conjunction with Openlands on April 15 (8 a.m. kick-off at 4101 N. Kilbourn). As you heard in last month's newsletter, this planting session will focus on filling gaps in our tree cover on the north side of Irving Park Road. You can still volunteer to help with the planting by contacting **Michael Cannon** at [michaelcannon@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcannon@gmail.com).

### "Adopt A Green Space"

It is also time to revisit our "Adopt A Green Space" Program. OIPA has six "mural planters" and 16 in-ground planting beds on Irving Park Road that must be maintained over the warmer months. For the past few years, we have asked neighborhood residents and businesses to "adopt" one or more of these plots and take care of plant upkeep and trash cleanup. We are asking our community to step up again this year and adopt one of these green spaces. OIPA will provide identification signs for in-ground garden bed plots for those interested. All sponsors will be identified on Facebook and in the newsletter.

"Adopt A Green Space" is a FUN opportunity for a family, group of neighbors, or local business to get out and improve our streetscape. You do not have to be a master gardener to take this on—any maintenance or improvement is appreciated! You'll have a tangible impact on the beautification of our stretch of Irving Park Road and enjoy a sense of pride and ownership whenever you walk, bike or drive past "your" green space.

We've had difficulty finding anyone to adopt the three huge in-ground garden beds on the North side of Irving Park Road,





## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

just west of Kolmar. These are at our community's gateway, but keeping them looking good all season long is challenging. While Board Members Adrienne Chan and Nick Plagman-Frank were out weeding these spaces last season, they were surprised at how much they got done in just a few hours. We have a possible solution—while no one seems to want to be responsible for these beds all season, perhaps a variety of people would be willing to commit an hour or two throughout the summer to make a big difference. This year we will try “Weekly Weeders;” there will be a schedule that runs from May to September, and people can sign up for a week or two to come out at their convenience and pull some weeds.

Ready to tackle some weeds for a good purpose? To sign up as a “Weekly Weeder,” sponsor a planter or bed,

contact Adrienne at [adrienne.chan@oldirvingpark.com](mailto:adrienne.chan@oldirvingpark.com) to find out what's available.

OIPA and the Irving Park Garden Club will sponsor a Clean & Green again in May. Stay tuned for the details in our May newsletter.

Lastly, we would like to conclude our “Spring Cleaning” message with a big thank you to resident **Dan Williams**, founder of **Keep OIP Clean**. Dan coordinated this season's first volunteer cleanup on March 25, targeting the viaduct and embankment areas. Thanks to everyone that assisted in this effort. Keep OIP Clean also funds a private company to perform monthly viaduct cleanings and other cleanup efforts in our most needed locations. Monthly cleanings cost around \$450. If you would like to contribute to the viaduct cleanings, donate via PayPal: [keepoipclean@gmail.com](mailto:keepoipclean@gmail.com).

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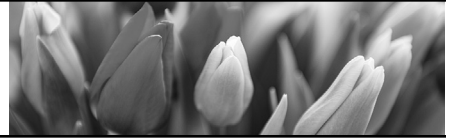
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# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



## Summarized Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on March 6, 2023

Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

**Meeting scheduled for 7:30 p.m. via Zoom**

**Meeting started 7:33 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Annie Swingen, Nicholas Plagman-Frank, David Ryan, Colleen Kenny, Lynn Ankney, Merry Marwig, Michael Cannon, Adrienne Chan, and Scott Legan.

### Financial Report

**Lynn Ankney** presented the February 2023 Treasurer's Report. February saw modest receipts from standard and premium dues and advertising revenue. The only expenses were for newsletter publication, general meeting refreshments, and annual reporting to the state. The board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.

### All-Star Party

After taking a two-year hiatus, the much-awaited party for our All-Star members is just around the corner. During the heart of the pandemic, OIPA curated gift bags for our premium members, including items like wine, handmade soap, and wine bottle insulators. The board discussed preparations for the 2023 "Neighborhood All-Star" party, including the budget, theme, decorations, menu, and equipment needed to pull off an event of this size. With the largest number of premium members ever invited, we want to make sure we plan a successful and fun event. OIPA Director **Colleen Kenny**, along with her husband Rich have graciously volunteered to host the party as they have in previous years. Please watch your email for the forthcoming invitation!

### Newsletter Planning

Newsletter submission deadlines can be found on page 36, "Contribute to the OIPA News | SUBMISSION GUIDELINES."

The board also:

- Finalized the April Message from the board.
- Shared ideas for our next local business feature.

If you have a suggestion for a business we should feature or would like to write an article about a local business, please reach out to [hello@oldirvingpark.com](mailto:hello@oldirvingpark.com) to submit your article before the publication deadline.

### Municipal Elections

OIPA was involved in the planning and hosting the Aldermanic Forums in the 30th, 39th, and 45th Wards before the February 28 Municipal Elections. The top two candidates in the 30th and 45th are headed to a runoff on April 4. The board discussed the upcoming candidate meet and greet during our General Meeting on Monday, March 13, and sending information via our weekly email about Chicago's runoff elections, registering to vote, and voting by mail.

### Other Business

#### • Public Safety

After a couple of automobile-related shootings on Irving Park Road, the board discussed ideas about what role OIPA can play in advocating for the safety



# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

of our families and neighbors. Both incidents in the week prior to the board meeting started outside of OIP but ended up escalating to the point of gun violence within our neighborhood boundaries.

The board decided to email a summary of the two incidents that occurred and encourage our neighbors to attend CAPS meetings in their beat. The sergeant in charge of the 17th District CAPS program is **Mike Coughlin**. The CAPS office phone number is (312) 742-4588. Additionally, neighbors are encouraged to call their Alderman's office to request information about crime incidents and to ask for solution-oriented action to combat violent incidents in our neighborhood.

There was also a discussion about pedestrian safety improvements in OIP. A number of traffic incidents have ended up on the pedestrian right-of-way in the past year. OIPA will reach out to elected officials and city agencies to advocate for public safety improvements for pedestrians and bicycles in our neighborhood. This is a momentous task and will require advocacy from neighbors as well.

## • Murals

The board decided to defer proceeding with soliciting proposals from Greenstar Movement while we develop a budget for mural updates for 2023.

## Upcoming Events

- **Monday, March 13:** OIPA General Meeting—Chicago Municipal Election candidate meet and greet
- **Saturday, March 25:** Easter Egg Hunt
- **Monday, April 3:** OIPA Board of Directors Meeting
- **Monday, April 10:** OIPA General Meeting—Irving Park Garden Club, Greenspace Adoption and Members from the North Park Village Advisory Council, of which OIPA is a standing member, will share with us an exciting new initiative called "Building for the Future."
- **Saturday, April 15:** Openlands Tree Planting Day
- **Monday, May 1:** OIPA Board of Directors Meeting
- **Monday, May 8:** OIPA General Meeting

**The meeting ended at 8:56 p.m.**

## APRIL OIPA GENERAL MEETING

**7 p.m. | Monday, April 10 | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave (Lower Level)**

**Presenters: Irving Park Garden Club, Greenspace Adoption and Members from the North Park Village Advisory Council**

Members from the North Park Village Advisory Council, of which OIPA is a standing member, will share an exciting new initiative called "Building for the Future." For the first time in 40 years, this effort seeks our community's input, thoughts, and opinions about what the future of North Park Village (located at Pulaski and Bryn Mawr) could look like. Please come to hear how you lend your voice to this important community conversation! Find more information about North Park Village and "Building for the Future" at <https://northrivercommission.org/npvbuildingforthefuture>

# OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT



## Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on March 13, 2023

Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

Meeting started at 7:00 p.m.

From the very start, the March OIPA General Meeting had a different feel than our typical meetings at St. John's Episcopal Church. A new seating layout greeted attendees, and four tables were parallel to the room's north and south walls. This new seating arrangement was because OIPA was hosting our first-ever Aldermanic candidate meet and greet! The four Aldermanic candidates facing the runoff election on April 4th were in attendance, including **Jim Gardiner** (incumbent) and **Megan Mathias** seeking election in the 45th Ward, and **Ruth Cruz** and **Jessica Gutierrez** seeking election in the 30th Ward. Also attending was **Congressman Mike Quigley**, representative of Illinois's 5th congressional district, which includes the entirety of Old Irving Park.



Congressman Mike Quigley shares updates with OIPA General Meeting attendees. *Photo by Merry Marwig.*

**OIPA Board Vice President Scott Legan** started the meeting promptly by welcoming those in attendance and introducing the OIPA Board of Directors. He then invited Congressman Mike Quigley to the mic.

Congressman Quigley greeted the audience and applauded us for taking part in the democratic process just by being present at a candidate meet and greet. He recognized the aldermanic candidates and thanked them for their willingness to serve by seeking public office. He praised all of the work Aldermen do on the street level, a lot of which goes unnoticed.

The Congressman started by sharing his updated district boundaries and the location of his new congressional office (3223 N Sheffield Ave). He reminded neighbors about some of the services his office provides like passport, Medicare and Medicaid services, and help with Social Security benefits. He prefaced that while the congressional staff is happy to help with expedited passport services, travelers are encouraged to double-check their passports before the start of their trip.

Next, Congressman Quigley addressed the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and shared that the federal government would make the depositor's accounts whole. He reminded us that he supported Dodd Frank, the Wall Street Reform, and Consumer Protection Act. Among the provisions of this act are mandates that banks of this size keep a larger safety net to prevent collapse.

The Congressman shared that one of the concerns his office has heard from constituents is freight

*Continued on page 8*



# Holy Week and Easter

*at St. John's Episcopal Church*



*All are welcome to worship with us.*

**Palm Sunday Parade** April 2

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

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

**Children's Holy Week** Wednesday, April 5

6:00 P.M. Interactive worship especially for children; Supper included

**Maunder Thursday** April 6, 7:30 P.M.



**Walking Stations of the Cross** April 7, 12:00 P.M.

*In the neighborhood, gather in the garden, walk is about 2 hours*

**Good Friday** April 7, 7:30 P.M.

**Easter Sunday** April 9, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 A.M.

*Peanut-free Easter Egg Hunt in the garden following the 9:30 service!*

*Please bring an empty basket.*



*We gather to celebrate God's gifts—open hearts, minds, and hands—and transform the world.*

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# OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

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## Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on March 13, 2023, *continued from page 6.*



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### **Runoff Aldermanic Candidates (pictured above) address the OIPA meeting attendees with their candidate statements.**

Pictured from left to right:  
30th Ward Candidates– Ruth Cruz and Jessica Gutiérrez;  
45th Ward Candidates– Jim Gardiner (incumbent) and Megan Mathias.

*Photos by Merry Marwig*

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trains in our neighborhoods following the Norfolk Southern train derailment in Ohio, which caused serious environmental and health concerns for nearby residents. Chicago has a lot of intermodal transportation, including many train lines crossing through our city and backyards. He reminded us that considering this tragedy, freight rail is still safer than pipelines and tanker trucks and that technology like Positive Train Control (PTC) is a big step towards

preventing disasters like this in the future. PTC is currently required and used on all Class 1 train lines like those running through OIP.

As a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee and the Ranking member of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, Congressman Quigley shared some highlights of the bipartisan Infrastructure bill that passed last year in congress and was signed by the President. This bill includes \$18 billion in additional infrastructure funds for Chicago.

Some of the things this \$18 billion has been earmarked for in our city include:

- Making all CTA train stations ADA compliant
- Investments in pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements are required alongside new transportation improvements
- Grant money for an elevator at the Irving Park YMCA

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# OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

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- Expansion to the 606 pedestrian and biking trail
- Money for improvements at:
  - Lincoln Park Conservatory
  - The Field Museum
  - The Shedd Aquarium
  - The Museum of Science and Industry

The Congressman thanked the Aldermanic candidates and the meeting attendees for participating in the democratic process and invited one question.

**Q:** Old Irving Park is sliced up by railroads and expressways. What can we do to improve our neighborhood connections, and how can the Congressman help?

**A:** Five different entities control stakes in many of the shared infrastructures in OIP. He encouraged the community to work together for the improvements

we would like to see in our neighborhood. By uniting as OIPA to involve city and state stakeholders and the Congressman's office, we have a good chance to make change happen.

OIPA Vice President Scott Legan thanked Congressman Quigley and gave some quick ground rules to the Aldermanic candidates before inviting them up to share a 2–2.5 minute statement and inviting meeting attendees to make the rounds of the candidate meet and greet.

Following Scott's instructions, each candidate took a few minutes to share remarks about themselves and their campaign. Neighbors were then encouraged to partake of the snacks and wine provided by Clarendale Six Corners and to talk with the 30th and 45th Ward candidates.

**The formal program concluded at 7:27 p.m.**



## April Birthdays

Bindu Alexander	T. J. Hine	Dan O'Donohue
James Barrett	Lindsay Hunter	Erin O'Donohue
Carol Berger	Katie Jackson	Peter O'Mara
Mike Blaha	Rhys Jones	Harry Owen
Chris Boran	Rochelle Jones	Cynthia Rivera
Sandra Broderick	Lisa Kelly	Tatyana Ruderman
Meridith Cannon	Tracy Kennedy	Betty Scott
Virginia Cernak	Mary Kuhn	Frank Serpone
Thomas Clohisy	Debbie LaPenta	Frank Smith
Jo Ann Coli	Rich Lucki	Nilda Soler
Carly Forsthoefel	Kristen Lynch	Marc Sussman
Mary Foster	Anthony Mallerdino	Catherine Tataryn
Betty Fox	Mary Ann McLaughlin	Julie Tye
Kate Geisler	Marjorie Monaghan	Deanna Varagona
Illeana Gomez	Paul Moran	Phil Vertucci
Jorge Gomez	Jaime Murray	Len Wanger
Garrett Harabedian	Sheryl Nichin-Keith	Julie Whittington-Cirton

## April Anniversaries

Betty & Bob Fox  
Valerie & Patrick Ginnan  
Yasmine Goelzer & Daniel Alter  
Joe & Christine Jamrosz  
Robert & Kathryn Kleisch  
Marcus Mason & Roel Mason-Vivit  
Jessica & William Navin  
Meredith & Tim O'Sullivan  
Sheila & Shaun Quinn  
Susan Strong-Dowd & John Dowd

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



## APRIL KID BIRTHDAYS

Sophie Horvath  
Ellie Lynch  
Emmett Reagan  
Rohan Sanders



## PET BIRTHDAY

The Ankney Girls, our flock of 5 hens  
Elle, puppy child in Belber-Rakotz family  
Lulu Boran, a dog in the Boran family  
Saluki in the Morton family  
Otis in the Nguyen family  
Winston, a dog in the O'Mara family  
Smokey "Bone Dog" in the Sobota family



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# OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

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



## Single Family

3920 N. Kostner .....	\$430,000
3721 W. Kildare .....	\$495,000
4150 N. Kenneth .....	\$577,250
3704 N. Kostner .....	\$650,000
4028 N. Kolmar .....	\$715,000
3857 N. Kenton .....	\$717,500



## Attached Single Family

None

## 2-4 Units

None



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Information submitted by Annie Swingen, OIPA Board Director, via Congressman Mike Quigley's office and Medicaid resources.

## Got Medicaid? Get Ready To Renew!

In response to the COVID Public Health Emergency from 2020-present, the U.S. government waived the review of the eligibility process for Medicaid subscribers and instead provided continuous coverage as we navigated the pandemic. However, as of April 1, 2023, states are returning to an annual assessment of subscriber eligibility for registration and renewal of Medicaid policies.

### What to Expect?

**Get ready to renew your Medicaid!** To avoid unnecessary delays in paperwork transmission and submission, please update your address with Illinois Medicaid today!

You can go online to update your address at **medicaid.illinois.gov** and follow the below instructions:

- 1) **Click 'Manage My Case' at [abe.illinois.gov](http://abe.illinois.gov)** to set up your online account
- 2) **Verify your address is correct** (the address Medicaid has on file for you is in the 'Contact Us' tab)
- 3) **Look up your due date** so you know when to expect your redetermination letter (should arrive 30 days prior)

Or call 877-805-5312 for free from 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (TTY, call 1-877-204-1012) to speak to a Medicaid Illinois specialist.

Medicaid will start sending renewal notices in the mail at the start of May 2023, with notices arriving one month before their respective due date (the first of the following month.) **PLEASE NOTE THAT EVERYONE'S RENEWAL DATE IS DIFFERENT.**

If Medicaid has enough information about a customer to automatically renew them, their renewal form will tell them what information they used to determine their eligibility and ask for any corrections. If Medicaid needs

more information, the form will ask for more information.

### What Happens If You Miss Your Due Date?

It is highly recommend you submit your renewal, even if you are late. After you miss your renewal date, a letter will be sent to you telling you the date you will lose your Medicaid coverage. However, there is a chance that we can still renew you if you submit your renewal within 90 days of that date. Cases are reviewed on an individual basis.

If you are reinstated, your Medicaid coverage will be retroactive back to your original renewal due date.

If you are more than 90 days late, you are required to reapply completely with a new application.

### What if You are No Longer Eligible for Medicaid?

If someone fails to submit their renewal or no longer qualifies for Illinois Medicare, they may lose coverage a month after their renewal due date. If you are no longer eligible for Medicaid, quickly getting other health insurance is important. You usually are allowed a special enrollment period of 60 days to enroll in a new plan. If you are employed and are offered health benefits, ask your job's human resources representative about health insurance or visit the official Affordable Care Act marketplace for Illinois at [GetCoveredIllinois.gov](http://GetCoveredIllinois.gov).

You can find detailed information online regarding Illinois Medicaid and the End of Continuous Coverage on the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) website at [www2.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalClients/Pages/FAQSEndofContinuousCoverage.aspx](http://www2.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalClients/Pages/FAQSEndofContinuousCoverage.aspx).

Additionally, Congressman Mike Quigley's office is a wonderful resource in navigating the Medicare/Medicaid application and renewal process. Please reach out via phone at 773-267-5926 or visit his website at <https://quigley.house.gov>.



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[WWW.TAYLORMLD.COM](http://WWW.TAYLORMLD.COM)



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- \* SEASONAL CONTAINERS
- \* BRICK AND STONE  
PATIOS & WALKWAYS



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## RECIPES FROM THE BOARD & MEMBERS

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# SPINACH FATAYER

Submitted by Merry Marwig.

Recipe modified from

[www.simplyleban.com/recipe/spinach-fatayer](http://www.simplyleban.com/recipe/spinach-fatayer)



.....

Fatayer are a staple of Lebanese cuisine. The variety of fillings are endless! The most popular ones you will find daily at local bakeries in Lebanon are sabenekh (Spinach) and lahme (Meat).

### Dough

- Pre-made biscuit dough in the tube (such as Pillsbury Grands Biscuits).
- 1 egg (for brushing dough)

### Spinach Filling

- 2-10 oz. Spinach Bags or Frozen
- 1 medium Onion
- 1 small Tomato (Optional)
- 2 tb. Olive Oil
- 1 Lemon (Juiced)
- 2 tb. Sumac
- 1 tsp. Salt
- 1/2 tsp. Black Pepper
- 1/2 tsp. 7 Spices

### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 400F and place oven rack in the middle. Prepare baking sheets with parchment paper or spray with cooking spray.
- Prepare the spinach filling. If using fresh spinach, roughly chop and put in a large bowl. Sprinkle with a teaspoon of salt. Set aside for 10 minutes, then squeeze the spinach dry. If using frozen spinach, thaw out then squeeze out as much water as you can. Set aside.
- Chop the onion and tomato (optional) finely. Add to the spinach along with the olive oil, black pepper, 7 spices and sumac.
- Juice a lemon and add it to the filling right before stuffing so filling does not get too wet. Taste for seasoning.
- Roll out each biscuit dough to a 5-inch circle (about the size of a pita). Place about 2 tablespoons of filling in the middle. Bring two sides together and pinch to close. Bring the third side up so it looks like a triangle and pinch to close well. Place on baking sheet.
- Whisk one egg well. Using a pastry brush, brush all the fatayer on the sheet right before putting in the oven.
- Bake for 12 minutes until golden brown.



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## Contribute 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 40 for full details.



# BOLD, *Beautiful* Floral Design

— Claudia Hine

Just as many of us have warm memories of viewing Marshall Field's State St. windows during holiday seasons long past, so do we also fondly recall the store's fabulous spring flower shows. Entering through the revolving doors, the scent was overwhelming, and the floral displays were massively beautiful.

Following a successful presentation to the Irving Park Garden Club in November 2022 on Marshall Field's at Christmastime, IPGC is bringing back (by popular demand) retail design consultant and OIP resident **Amy Meadows** to share her experiences once again. Amy spent 25 years at Field's and subsequently Macy's, and in this talk, she will address *Designing With Flowers*, taking us behind the scenes to look at floral window displays and the flower shows.

## Don't Miss It

This meeting will take place at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave., from 7:00–9:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 20. Enter the parish hall on Byron St.

IPGC meetings are for members only, but you can join or renew at the door for \$25 with cash or a check payable to Irving Park Garden Club. Can't make the April meeting? Contact [irvingparkgc@icloud.com](mailto:irvingparkgc@icloud.com) for a membership form to join by mail.



Retail design consultant Amy Meadows is the guest speaker at IPGC's April meeting on *Designing With Flowers*. *Photo courtesy Amy Meadows.*

## What's Coming?

As gardening season swings into view, the club will hold its annual Plant Exchange in May, Art & the Garden Walk in June, and the ever-popular Midsummer Night's Stroll in July.

Our volunteers will participate in a Community Planting Day in May, fulfilling our part of an alliance IPGC has formed with OIPA and Farmer's Market Garden Center to fill the square planters on Irving Park Rd. with plants and flowers to brighten our main drag.

You also may spot our volunteers tending the Tripp Garden (across from Eris Brewery) as the community garden comes into bloom. Always lots of trash to pick up there too.



IPGC member/volunteer Katie Orozco collects her flowers on Community Planting Day last year to fill her adopted planter, "Tutti Frutti," at Irving Park Rd. and Lowell Ave.

*Photo by Claudia Hine.*



**We invite you to follow us on [Facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub](https://www.facebook.com/IrvingParkGardenClub).**



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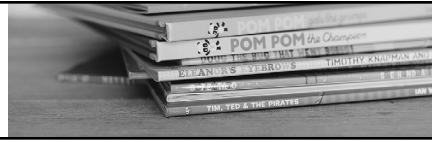
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## The Buzz at Belding — Michele Stefl, IB Coordinator



Belding staff  
and 8th graders

*Photo provided by  
Belding School.*

### Student vs. Staff Basketball Game

**B**elding staff got to show off their athletic skills as they took on the 8th graders in the first-ever student versus staff basketball game fundraiser to support the Belding athletic program. The 8th-grade girls and boys definitely made the staff work for a 43-43 tie! A special shout out to the boys' basketball team, who ended up with a perfect 6-0 conference record and were the 2023 Site Champions!

**Our Mission** The Belding community works and dreams together to inspire, cultivate and engage the hearts and minds of our diverse students, families and staff.

**Belding Elementary School**

4257 North Tripp Ave., Chicago, IL 60641, 773-534-3590,  
beldingelementary.com

### STEAM Night

Belding families came out for an evening of science fun. Kids of all ages participated in labs and various hands-on activities related to science, technology, engineering, arts, and math.

This year's STEAM night offered new labs that included marble mazes, lightning bugs, rain clouds, and take-home bath bombs.

### 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 a.m. in the main office. Tours are a great opportunity to learn more about our school and Belding community. Upcoming tour dates include April 18 and May 9.





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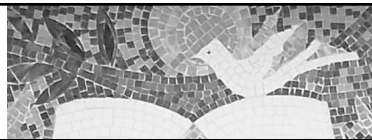
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## Viator Vibrations — Sara Yoest

### Spring is in the Air!

**A**s you walk or bike through the neighborhood, enjoying the weather, stop at our pollinator garden on the corner of Addison and Kedvale to see how our plants are growing—and visit our Little Free Library to take a book or leave a book!

---

### St Viator Students to Compete in the 2023 Science Olympiad



Fourteen students from grades 6, 7, & 8 competed against other middle schools from across Chicagoland in the 2023 Science Olympiad on March 11 at the Oakton Community College in Des Plaines. St. Viator students competed in 18 events, testing

their knowledge on various topics from forestry to anatomy, including three construction events—building a musical instrument to play an octave, a marble traveling across a roller coaster, and a bridge tested for strength. Congratulations to our Science Olympiad Team for a great showing!

---

### The 2023 Blue & Gold Gala A Night at the Derby is on April 29!

The 2023 Blue & Gold Gala is our biggest in-person fundraising event of the year. The night will feature delicious food, drinks, live band karaoke, a wine-pull, raffles, and a silent auction. Visit the auction website at: <https://one.bidpal.net/bluegold2023/welcome> to purchase tickets, browse auction items or donate.

---

## OPEN HOUSE

### Are you looking for a preschool or elementary school for the 2023-2024 school year?

St. Viator will be hosting an OPEN HOUSE on Wednesday, April 19. Visit classrooms while school is in session. See our Facebook page for details.

Contact the school office or call 773-545-2173 with questions regarding admission for the 2023-2024 school year. Classrooms are filling quickly, especially preschool & kindergarten. Avoid a waitlist! Submit your application now.

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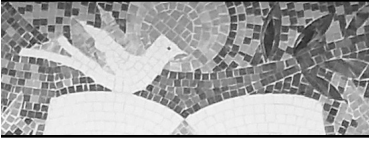
We wish the Old Irving Park community a happy and blessed Easter season! Visit the parish website [www.ssviatorwences.org](http://www.ssviatorwences.org) for mass times during Holy Week and on Easter Sunday.

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

Please get in touch with the school office at [office1@stviatorchicago.org](mailto: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](http://www.stviatorchicago.org) | Follow us on Facebook: St. Viator Elementary School and Parish, Chicago**



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | St. Viator Elementary

**Congratulations to our 8th-grade students, who will be confirmed during mass on April 28.**

*Photo by Sara Voest*



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# BEYOND THE NEIGHBORHOOD Earth Day Activities

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## Help Restore the Land with Some TLC

- **Friends of the Parks** is coordinating cleanups at more than 50 Chicago parks, including hub sites at McKinley Park, North Park Village Nature Center, Ogden Park, and Douglass Park, where a post-cleanup party will include free mini-golf at Douglass 18. For more information, visit the organization's Earth Day website at [www.fotp.org/earth-day.html](http://www.fotp.org/earth-day.html)
- The **Forest Preserve District of Cook County** is also hosting cleanups at several preserves <https://fpdcc.com/celebrate-earth-day-with-the-forest-preserves>.

## Purchase Sustainable Products

**Chicago Environmentalists** has compiled an ever-growing online directory of environmentally responsible businesses, organizations, and services. Search for everything from composting options to natural lawncare providers. [www.chicagoenvironmentalists.org](http://www.chicagoenvironmentalists.org)

## Watch—City of Chicago Earth Day Mini Film Fest, April 19 to 23, 2023

The **One Earth Film Festival** organizers are hosting a mini Earth Day film fest of virtual watch parties and in-person screenings, followed by discussions. Highlights include Bob Dolgan's popular "Monty and Rose 2," the story of Chicago's beloved piping plovers. The film fest runs through Sunday; view the schedule online at <https://www.oneearthfilmfest.org/earth-day>

## Plant With Purpose

Native plants provide loads of environmental benefits, from offering food and habitat to wildlife to helping with stormwater absorption. Check out plant sales like Openlands', currently underway. <https://openlands.org>

## Revolt

The Chicago Architecture Center's latest exhibit, "Energy Revolution," demonstrates the technologies and design features available now to make net-zero buildings a reality, along with steps people can take to use less energy. Check out the exhibit's kinetic dance floor, which captures energy from dancing, and a scale model of the Hancock Center that shows how retrofitting can help reduce energy loss. The exhibit runs through October 17. [www.architecture.org/exhibits/exhibit/energy-revolution](http://www.architecture.org/exhibits/exhibit/energy-revolution)

## Reuse, Recycle

Reducing waste is critical to a healthier planet. Here are multiple opportunities to keep stuff out of landfill.

- The Plant's Reuse-a-Palooza is a one-stop shop for repairing clothing and household items and recycling/repurposing tricky things like keys, eyeglasses or worn-out gym shoes. Check out the complete list of items accepted during the event, Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 1400 W. 46th St.
- Brookfield Zoo is collecting electronics, textiles and used books for recycling/repurposing Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., north parking lot. The zoo has comprehensively described what is and isn't being accepted ([www.czs.org/PartyPlanet](http://www.czs.org/PartyPlanet)).

## Rebuild, Repurpose

The "Make It, Take It" workshops by **Rebuilding Exchange** shows you how to turn salvaged materials into new usable items such as planters. They are located at 1740 W. Webster Ave. Register for workshops at <https://rebuildingexchange.org/workshops>.

## Observe Nature

- The region's conservation and environmental researchers can't be everywhere at once. Help them by downloading the **iNaturalist app** and



## BEYOND THE NEIGHBORHOOD Earth Day Activities

recording your observations of plants and wildlife. **Shedd Aquarium's Great Lakes Fish Finder** ([www.inaturalist.org/projects/great-lakes-fish-finder](http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/great-lakes-fish-finder)) is just one of the many iNaturalist projects that benefit from community scientists.

- The **Chicago Botanic Garden's Budburst** program is another way for the average person to contribute to ecological research and plant conservation. Find out how to join the effort at <https://budburst.org>.

### Capture

The **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District** is offering discounted rain barrels. Help build Chicago's green infrastructure by using the barrels to keep stormwater from overwhelming Chicago's sewer system by capturing rain from roofs. <https://rainbarrel.ca/mwrd>.

(see information below)

### Discover

The Chicago region offers many opportunities to appreciate nature, surrounded by thousands of acres of protected preserves and natural areas, from beaches to parks, forests to wetlands, bogs to prairies. Not sure where to start? **Openlands' Get Outside Map** has a searchable database of more than 400 locations that can be filtered by location, activity, or amenities. View the map on their website at <https://openlands.org/getoutside>.

**Source:** Excerpted from "10 Ways To Participate in Earth Day and Sustain the Momentum," Patty Wetli | April 19, 2022, 3:45 p.m. <https://news.wttw.com/2022/04/19/10-ways-participate-earth-day-and-sustain-momentum>

### Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Rain Barrel Program!

**R**ain barrels are a type of green infrastructure that captures rainwater from your roof and saves it when needed. Rain barrels can also help prevent sewer overflows and flooding by keeping this water out of the sewer system. You can use rain barrel water to wash your car, water your lawn or clean work boots and tools. Rain barrel water is naturally free of chlorine, lime, and calcium; some gardeners swear their plants prefer it. However, since rain barrel water is runoff from your roof, please do not drink it!

Since the rain barrels in this program are repurposed, they may have scuffs, scratches, and signs of previous use. Initially, the barrels were used to transport and store olives or vegetables. Before home delivery, each rain barrel goes through an industrial wash system, where high-pressure water

is used to clean them. No cleaners or detergents are used that could alter their food grade status. Any contents that may be left over, including the wash water, are all food grade, biodegradable, and considered a nutrient for the soil.

**Discounted rain barrels will be available to Cook County residents beginning April 1, 2023, by ordering at <https://mwrd.org/rain-barrels>.**

Free shipping is included in the price (\$43) for barrels and any accessories ordered with them. Each rain barrel consists of a two ft. flexible downspout pipe. Delivery may take up to 30 days.

*RainBarrel.ca and RainBarrelFundraising.com are pleased to supply rain barrels and accessories to residents of Cook County through the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. For product-specific questions, contact [info@RainBarrelFundraising.com](mailto:info@RainBarrelFundraising.com) or (844) 4-BARREL.*

# April Antics

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

**Q: Why don't you ever see cows  
hiding in trees?**

**A:** They're really good at it.

**Q: If you ever get cold,  
go stand in a corner.**

**A:** They're usually 90 degrees.

**Q: Should I plant  
flowers in April?**

**A:** May as well!

**Q: In all of spring, it can rain  
cats and dogs, but when does  
it rain monkeys?**

**A:** In Ape-ril.

**Q: Where do fruits  
go on vacation?**

**A:** Pear-is!

**Q: Which superhero likes  
spring the best?**

**A:** Robin.

**Q: If April showers bring May flowers,  
what do Mayflowers bring?**

**A:** Pilgrims!

(from Michelle Buchecker)

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](mailto:hello@oldirvingpark.com). Use the email subject line, "Corny Jokes Submission." We will print a selection of jokes in our upcoming newsletters.

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

APRIL



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## Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents The Fermi String Quartet on April 30

— Liz Mills, Executive Director, Carlson Community Services

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present The Fermi String Quartet (FSQ) on April 30 at 2 p.m. The Quartet is an ensemble of four highly experienced Chicago musicians, formed in 2018 to honor Beethoven's 250th anniversary. In addition to their work as a quartet, these talented artists have performed internationally and with some of America's most important professional orchestras and chamber ensembles. Since 2021, the FSQ has been in residence at the Southern Illinois Music Festival, presenting master classes and performances and performing in the Festival Orchestra. The Quartet's name is in tribute to Dr. Enrico Fermi, who first split the atom at the University of Chicago. Fermi String Quartet members include violinists **Linda Veleckis Nussbaum** and **Nina Saito**, violist **Jessica Lipon** and cellist **William Cernota**.



The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee presents the Fermi String Quartet Sunday, April 30th at 2 p.m. Admission to the concert is free. *Photo provided by Carlson Community Services.*

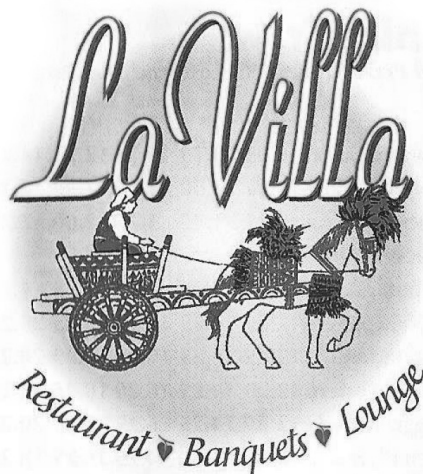
The concert will be held at 2 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. Admission is free, but donations to support future programming are gladly accepted. The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee, now in its 29th season, was created by Roger Bingaman, Director of Music at Irving Park Lutheran Church. The intent of the series is to bring high-quality, professional music to the northwest side of Chicago, free of charge.

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**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](http://carlsoncommunityservices.org) or contact Liz Mills, Executive Director, at 773.398.6766 or [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org). Follow us on Facebook or sign up for our newsletters at [carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://carlsoncommunityservices.org) if you'd like to stay informed about all that is happening!



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## Provide the Basics—Pantry Needs Toiletries Donations

The Irving Park Food Pantry includes a Toiletries station and its various food stations, as those products are essential and have proven popular with clients when available.

But toiletries often aren't available at the Pantry. They're hard to source from suppliers at any discount, and our budget can't keep us in stock. So we rely on donations to help our clients with these items weekly.

To that end, we're asking for donations of the essential basics of toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, razors, and shaving cream. Other popular items include diapers (especially #5 and #6), baby wipes (given to those requesting diapers), dishwashing liquid, hair conditioner, skin lotion, floss, and sunscreen.

If you would like to donate to the program, you can use our online Amazon registry to have products sent directly to us. Locally purchased items can be taken to Big Helpers (4184 N. Elston Ave.) on Monday through Friday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or the front porch at 3912 N. Kenneth Ave. any time.

Monetary donations can be made via PayPal at [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org) or by check to Irving Park Food Pantry, 4256 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, IL 60618. Both can be marked for the "Toiletries" program.



This QR code will take you to the Pantry's Toiletries wish list at Amazon.



Facility Manager Sara Hilby at the McFetridge Sports Center delivered the results of their February toiletry and food drive. They collected a carload of items. *Photo by Craig Shutt.*



Michelle Buchecker shows off some of the baskets the Pantry gave to clients' children 12 years old and younger during March. *Photo by Craig Shutt*



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry

## Expressing Gratitude to Our Supporters

Thank you to the staff, teachers, Student Council, and all the students at **St. Viator Elementary School**, who donated to the school's toiletries and sock drive for the Pantry. They collected three big boxes of socks and many more boxes and bags of toiletries (which they helpfully sorted by type). Special thanks to **Paul Barigiola**, curriculum director and Student Council advisor, for supervising the program.

Thank you to the offices of **Senator Robert Marwick** and **State Representative Lindsay LaPointe**. In February, they set up at the Pantry to talk with clients about assistance available through various government and organizational programs based on individual needs. They hope to return in a few months.

Thank you to **Jonathon Martin**, a Boy Scout with Troop 979 based at the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park. He ran a big food drive and delivered the results in March with the rest of his troop as part of his Eagle Scout badge requirements.

These donations and so many others from members of Old Irving Park are greatly appreciated and help us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

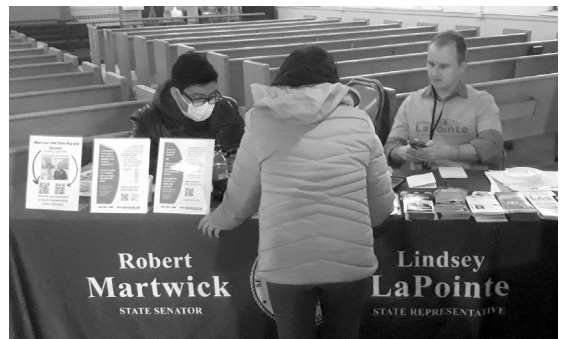
David Medrano (left) and Christopher Lempa, representing the offices of Senator Robert Marwick and State Representative Lindsay LaPointe, respectively, talk with a Pantry client who stopped to get information. They hope to return in a few months. *Photo by Craig Shutt.*



Diane Urgo (right), office administrator with St. Viator Elementary School, rounded up some students to help deliver the school's toiletry and sock drive results. *Photo by Craig Shutt.*



Client Services Coordinator Elvia Esparza meets with Jonathon Martin, a Boy Scout with Troop 979, who organized a food drive and delivered the results with the rest of his troop. *Photo by Silvia Martin.*



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

# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

**Advertising:**  
First Tuesday  
of the month

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

## April

- 
- 10 **OIPA General Meeting** | 7 p.m. | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N Kostner Ave. Earth Day, Irving Park Garden Club, Greenspace Adoption and a presentation from Members of the North Park Village Advisory Council, of which OIPA is a standing member, will share with us an exciting new initiative called "Building for the Future."
- 
- 15 **Openlands Tree Planting Day** | For details on the program and how to request a tree before the planting date, and for information on volunteering on the planting day, see page 2.
- 
- 20 **Irving Park Garden Club** | Designing With Flowers | Speaker: Amy Meadows, Windows Matter | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave. | 7-9 p.m. | Members Only; \$25 to join.
- 
- 30 **Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents The Fermi String Quartet** | 2 p.m. | Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave., Free admission; donations welcome.

## May

- 
- 7 **Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents The Kalamazoo College Singers** | 2 p.m. | Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave., Free admission; donations welcome.
- 
- 8 **OIPA General Meeting** | 7 p.m. | 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 p.m., 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 a.m., Clarendale Six Corners, Information Center, 4004 N. Cicero Avenue, RSVP to 872-250-5126, 2 Days Before Each Event. Hurry! Space is limited.

# 2023 OIPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Joining or renewing your membership is easy with our online membership form at [www.olderirvingpark.com/join-us](http://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).

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: [olderirvingpark.com/join-us](http://olderirvingpark.com/join-us)

# Contribute to the OIPA News | SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, and articles for publication. Ten newsletters are produced annually (newsletters are not published in the 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com). Please include "OIPA submission" in the subject line of the email. Also include the category of the item you are submitting—advertisement, article or community calendar.

2023 SUBMISSION DATES		
NO JANUARY OR JULY ISSUES.		
	* Early due to holidays	
Publication Month	Advertising	General
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

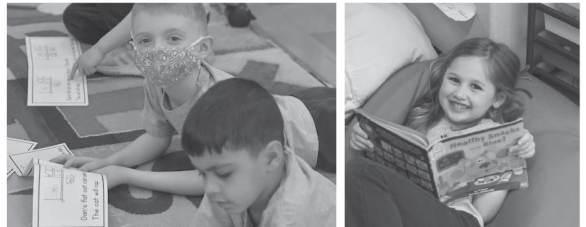


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Mrs. Lasica at [slasica@stedwardschool.com](mailto:slasica@stedwardschool.com)  
for more information or to schedule a tour.

*St. Edward School*  
4343 W. Sunnyside - Chicago, IL 60630  
773-736-9133  
Visit [stedwardschool.com](http://stedwardschool.com)



# 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](http://www.oldirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad).





Because Good Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen

[www.oldirvingpark.com](http://www.oldirvingpark.com)

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

**OLD IRVING PARK NEWS**

Old Irving Park Association

4313 North Keeler Ave

Chicago IL 60641