

# OLD IRVING PARK



## NEWS



# MAY

VOLUME 37 | ISSUE 4 | 2023

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# OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 37 ☆ Issue 4 ☆ May 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.ouldirvingpark.com](http://www.ouldirvingpark.com)

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On the cover: Old Irving Park volunteers are all smiles as they restore the canopy of trees on Keeler Avenue. See the story on pages 3-5.

*Photo provided by Openlands.*

© Old Irving Park Association

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## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

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# Time to Celebrate, Gather, Honor – Dave Ryan, OIPA Board Member

## Celebrating Our Graduates

Celebrate your graduate with a mention in the June edition of the Old Irving Park Association's Newsletter. All graduates: Kindergartner, Grammar School, High School, College, and beyond may be recognized. Submit the graduate's name, grade graduating, photo, school name and major (if applicable), and any other pertinent information to **Annie Swingen at [annieswingen@gmail.com](mailto:annieswingen@gmail.com) by May 7, 2023**. We will feature these OIP grads in our Old Irving Park News newsletter and a virtual photo gallery shared via OIPA's Facebook page.

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## Ice Cream Social

The annual OIPA Ice Cream Social will be held in the garden of St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 North Kostner at 3 p.m. (weather-permitting). All OIPA Members are welcome. The Ice Cream Social will replace the June OIPA meeting.

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## Keep OIP Clean

The OIPA Board has added Keep OIP Clean to the list of local organizations receiving support through a \$550 contribution. Those wishing to help this worthwhile endeavor may donate via PayPal: [keepoipclean@gmail.com](mailto:keepoipclean@gmail.com). Keep up the good work, Dan William.



Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday of May, this year, on May 29. Unlike Veterans Day or other days celebrating veterans, Memorial Day commemorates those Americans that Abraham Lincoln spoke of in the *Gettysburg Address* as having given "the last full measure of devotion" to their country.

The purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.



## Honoring Our Fallen Firefighters

The Old Irving Park Association extends its sincerest condolences to the families, friends, and co-workers of Chicago Fire Department **Lieutenant Jan Tchoryk** and **Firefighter Jermaine Pelt**. Firefighter Pelt died fighting a house fire on the far south side on April 4. Lieutenant Tchoryk died a day later fighting a high-rise fire on the Gold Coast on April 5.



# ARBOR ACTION IN OIP

– Michael Cannon & Meredith O’Sullivan, OIPA Board Members

## LETTER TO OIPA FROM OPENLANDS

### Thank you for planting with us!

Dear Volunteers, TreeKeepers, and TreeKeepers-in-training,

It was a lovely day to be outside planting trees [Shumard Oaks] in the Old Irving Park Neighborhood last Saturday, April 15. The stretch of Keeler we planted trees on was hit hard by the Derecho in 2020 and you helped us restore some of the lost canopy.

Thank you to **Michael Cannon** and the **Old Irving Park Association** for seeking out and coordinating this TreePlanters Grant. Thanks also to the **Connors** for hosting us. Thank you to the folks from **PricewaterhouseCoopers** for bringing snacks. And finally thank you to the **39th Ward Alderwoman Samantha Nugent** and **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Commissioner Dan “Pogo” Pogorzelski** for coming to plant with us and being great advocates for trees!

In total, the 45 of you provided 180 hours of dedicated labor. Congratulations on a remarkable outpouring of support!

Openlands Team

#### Pictured at right:

Top: 39th Ward Alderwoman Samantha Nugent, MWRD Commissioner Dan “Pogo” Pogorzelski and Openland’s representative prepare for a day of tree planting. *Photo by Michael Cannon.*

Bottom: Openland’s staff, Alderwoman Nugent, MWRD Commissioner Pogorzelski and OIPA President Adrienne Chan put the finishing touches on a newly planted tree. *Photo courtesy of Openlands.*



**See more planting action photos on pages 4 & 5.**

## ARBOR ACTION

45 Volunteers gathered with Openlands organizers on April 15 to plant trees. The planting was made possible by the Openland's TreePlanter Grant.



"In total, the 45 of you [OIP residents] provided 180 hours of dedicated labor. Congratulations on a remarkable outpouring of support!"  
—Openlands



**Openlands**, founded in 1963, protects the natural and open spaces of northeastern Illinois and the surrounding region to ensure cleaner air and water, protect natural habitats and wildlife, and help balance and enrich our lives.

*Photos courtesy of Openlands.*



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# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

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## Summarized Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on March 27, 2023

Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

### Meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm via Zoom

### Meeting Started 7:35 pm

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

### Financial Report

Since the April Board of Directors meeting was held early due to Spring Break, the March Treasurer's Report will be presented alongside the April financial report during the Board of Directors' meeting on May 1.

### Membership

Because we distribute OIPA branded canvas tote bags to members subscribed at the "Good Neighbor" and "All Star" levels of membership in May, some discussion was had about this year's tote bags color, style, and print. This spurred conversation about potentially replacing the signature tote bag with something different in future years. A couple ideas that were shared included a nice water bottle, or a custom print from an OIP artist.

We also talked briefly about OIPA membership and advertising rates. Because of increasing costs for newsletter printing and publication, membership giveaways, and OIPA events, it may be time to consider rate increases. Advertising and membership rates have not increased in more than five years. This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

### All-Star Party

Invitations have been sent for the Cinco de Mayo themed OIPA All-Star Party scheduled on May 5, 2023. An early check of confirmed RSVPs was shared by our gracious host **Colleen Kenny** and a couple of names were added to the list of those invited.

### Newsletter Planning

**Dave Ryan** volunteered to write May's message from the board which will include a call-out for submissions of graduate information in celebration of our neighborhood graduates for publication in the June newsletter. We will also plug for the upcoming OIPA ice cream social in June.

### Other Business

#### • 39th Ward Participatory Budgeting

- Project ideas are due by April 16 and prioritize:
  - Parks & Recreation
  - Safety & Environment
  - Community & Culture

A couple ideas shared by board members during the meeting were:

- Viaduct improvements such as new murals, sidewalks, and lighting.
- Pedestrian safety improvements such as pedestrian piers and curb bump outs along Montrose Avenue.

The board decided to send an eBlast calling for 39th ward residents to share their ideas with





# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

hello@oldirvingpark.com by April 10 so that we can submit ideas as a neighborhood united, to the 39th ward office before the deadline.

## • Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC)

**Lynn Ankney** and **Adrienne Chan** attended a Reconnecting Communities virtual meeting/presentation on 3/27 at 2 pm.

Out of 120 plus projects evaluated city-wide, 22 were identified as “top-rated,” including two within Old Irving Park and Portage Park neighborhood boundaries:

- A project that proposes pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements to the areas around the Kennedy Expressway at West Irving Park Road and North Keeler Avenue.
- A rails-to-trails project converting an underutilized rail line on the eastern boundary of Portage Park into a bicycle and pedestrian trail that connects the 606 Trail to the south with the planned Webster Spur trail to the north.

MPC shared potential funding sources, starting with planning grants and access to pro bono design services. Federal funding is potentially available for these projects.

MPC is able to provide guidance and support when applying for grants, but the community needs to advocate for itself to make these projects happen.

The board will continue to investigate the next logical steps to continue the forward momentum of these opportunities and leverage relationships with groups that have completed projects like these in the past.

## • Pedestrian Safety Initiatives

Lynn spoke with a representative from 47th Ward (Alderman Martin’s) office and provided an update to the board.

Next steps identified from the dialogue and discussed by the board:

- Gather data from the city’s data portal to justify the need for improvements. This is publicly available information.
- Review and reference the recently updated rules that give the City authority to make improvements on state roads.
- Research funding, CDOT, TIFF, and State of Illinois.

## • Murals

**Cyd Smillie** from Arts Alive Chicago provided a detailed inventory of conditions and a budget for refreshing and replacing murals within the neighborhood this year. The board decided that a subset of directors would review the proposal in detail and make recommendations to the full board in May.

The board will also reach out to a couple of OIP residents with knowledge and experience with mosaics while we explore this as a mural replacement option.

## • Irving Park Road Streetscaping Elements

**Dave Ryan** completed a cleanup of most of the garden beds along the north and south side of Irving Park Road in late March and took an inventory of trash cans, garden bed fences, and planters that could use a little TLC. This sparked a conversation about who is responsible for the maintenance of these items. While OIPA members and volunteers

*Continued on page 8*

# OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



## Summarized Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on March 27, 2023,

*continued from page 7*

maintain the plantings, there are questions about who is responsible for the hard elements of this infrastructure. The board discussed and decided to begin rolling some of the above-ground planters into mural maintenance. Hard element maintenance will be revisited once the growing season starts.

### Upcoming Events

• **Monday, April 10:** General Meeting—Reps from North Park Village “Building the Future” team will present, additional presenters are the Irving

Park Garden Club, Earth Day, Clean & Green, and Greenspace Adoption.

- **Saturday, April 15:** Openlands Tree Planting Day
- **Monday, May 1:** OIPA Board of Directors Meeting
- **Friday, May 5:** OIPA All-Star Party
- **Monday, May 8:** OIPA General Meeting
- **Monday, June 5:** OIPA Board of Directors Meeting
- **Sunday, June 11, 3 pm:** OIPA Ice Cream Social, 3pm.

**The meeting ended at 8:54 pm**

### What is Participatory Budgeting?

Chicago residents in participating aldermanic wards have a vote on how to spend the \$1.5 million in “menu money” that City Council allocates to each Ward for infrastructure maintenance, projects, and improvements. Through participatory budgeting, community members get a voice. Citizens can propose neighborhood infrastructure projects in their Wards, such as road or park improvements. Those projects then go up for a vote in the community. Check your respective Ward office for process deadlines and voting.

*At the time of publishing this newsletter, the 39th Ward Idea Project Collection deadline has passed (March 15 to April 16). Check the 39th Ward website for updates (<https://aldermannugent.com/participatory-budgeting>) or their e-newsletter.*

### The 39th Ward Participatory Budgeting 2021 PB Cycle and Winning Projects

During the 2021 PB cycle, the 39th Ward hosted idea collection events. Community representatives worked with ward staff and city agencies to develop 16 ballot items, that included sidewalk repairs and other infrastructure improvements. Voting took place January 31, 2022 to February 11, 2022. 1,041 residents voted at the ward office, in the community, and online.

#### 2021-2022 Winning Projects

- North Park Village Nature Center Roof Repair (\$20,000)
- Nature Play Space at Gompers Park (\$50,000)
- Trail Connection to Gompers Park (\$70,000)
- Solomon Elementary School Playground and Site Improvements (\$100,000)
- Lawrence Avenue Revitalization (\$50,000)
- Improve Forest Glen Avenue Sidewalk to Multi-Use Path (\$100,000)
- Bryn Mawr Avenue Beautification (\$50,000)
- Tennis Court Rehab at Hollywood and Eugene Field Parks (\$65,000)

*Source: UIC Great Cities Institute and PB Chicago, <http://www.pbchicago.org/39th-ward>; <https://abc7chicago.com/what-is-participatory-budgeting-chicago-voting-election>; <https://aldermannugent.com/participatory-budgeting>*

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# OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

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## Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on April 10, 2023

Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

### Meeting started at 7:30 p.m.

After a scramble to set up our first presenter's audio-visual presentation, the April OIPA General Meeting was underway. **Adrienne Chan, OIPA**

**President**, welcomed attendees and introduced the Board Members in the room. After doing a remarkable job of stalling for just a couple of additional minutes, Adrienne welcomed **Jac Charlier (pictured below) of the North Park Village (NPV) Advisory Council** to present an updated plan for North Park Village.



Jac, an energetic volunteer and co-chair of the NPV Advisory Council, is no stranger to OIPA. Having served on the OIPA board and as an involved member of the community, he came prepared with a call to action for those in attendance.

North Park Village, located east of Pulaski and north of Bryn Mawr, sits on more than a 100-acre property comprising seven zones or management areas, including:

- Nature Preserve (46 acres) – trails, woodlands, savanna, prairie, wetlands
- Peterson Park (23 acres) – playground, soccer and baseball fields, tennis courts, fieldhouse
- Rock Garden (3.4 acres)
- Nature Study Area (12 acres) – Walking Stick Woods

- Community Gardens (3.2 acres)
- General Open Space (12.4 acres)
- Cultural Public Space (10.3 acres)

This property is the city's largest natural area on the north side. It is part of an easement that limits the land's use to protect its conservation value and preserve the natural and scenic open space for future generations.

After sharing what NPV is today and its history, starting as Chicago's Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium in 1915, Jac asked OIPA members to get involved. After more than 40 years, the NPV Advisory Council is undertaking a process to create an updated North Park Village plan. The plan will address topics such as:

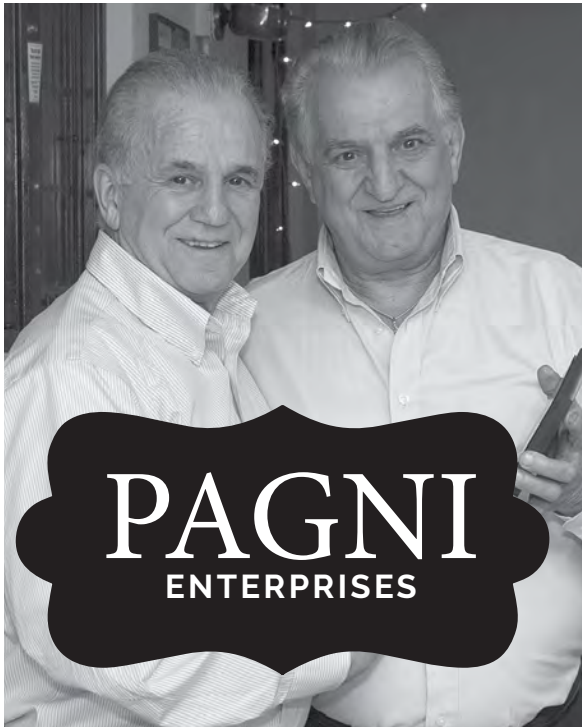
- Transportation, walking & biking
- Open space, gardens, & sustainability
- Public safety
- Historic preservation
- Adaptive re-use of existing vacant and underutilized facilities
- Parks – Updated Vision Plans for Peterson Park and North Park Village Nature Center Park

Jac invited and challenged OIPA to share our input by taking the NPV Building for the Future Survey on the North River Commission's Building for the Future website. The video presentation shown by Jac can also be viewed on the website. It includes, in chronological order, the past, present, and building for the future of North Park Village.

After the survey closes, a community meeting will be held on Saturday, June 10, to present the survey

*Continued on page 12*





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# OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

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## Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on April 10, 2023, *continued from page 10.*

results and kick off the process of selecting a steering committee for the plan.

Jac opened the final minutes of his presentation to questions.

**Q:** Are there any ideas for the NPV plan the Advisory Council is championing?

**A:** The Advisory Council is relying on community input to drive the planning process.

**Q:** Does the Nature Center still hold children's nature classes?

**A:** Yes, the Nature Center is a member of the Advisory Council and is a strong member of the community.

**Q:** There was a water feature, including a waterfall, planned in NPV. Was it built?

**A:** Yes, the water feature was built and is beautiful; however, it is currently closed for the season.

**Q:** How many privately owned condos were built on the NPV property?

**A:** Unknown, but there are both privately owned condos and senior apartments located within North Park Village.

Adrienne thanked Jac for his presentation and welcomed the next presenter of the night, **Debbie Maher Co-President of the Irving Park Garden Club.**

The Irving Park Garden Club is a group of people who like to garden and meet monthly to celebrate our local gardening community and listen to various speakers present on topics such as the best plants for shade gardens and window displays designed with flowers. These two topics happen to be on top of the 2023 Garden Club schedule.

Debbie shared the IPGC's 2023 full schedule of events available (see page 22) and made the call for Garden Club membership. Dues are only \$25 per year, which fund speakers and refreshments at monthly meetings. Additionally, the Garden Club plants and maintains the gray raised planters lining Irving Park Road within OIP's boundaries.



Debbie Maher Co-President of the Irving Park Garden Club.

Debbie also called for volunteers to participate in the IPGC's Annual Garden Walk on Saturday, June 24. This year's walk will take place north of Irving Park Road. No experience is required to participate in the Garden Walk; it is a great way to meet neighbors and participate in the community. Volunteers are also needed to help maintain Trip Gardens, managed by the Garden Club, and for a neighborhood Clean and Green event OIPA and IPGC are partnering on in April, focusing on ground planter beds and viaduct areas in the neighborhood.

For the last part of the Garden Club presentation, Adrienne joined Debbie in presenting OIPA's annual donation to the Garden Club. OIPA's \$550 donation helps fund the planting of the gray raised planters, previously mentioned. These raised beds and the in-ground beds on Irving Park Road add so much color and beauty to our neighborhood throughout the growing season. There are still in-ground beds that are in need of adoption in 2023. Please consider volunteering to help maintain these gardens this spring and summer. For more information, email [hello@oldirvingpark.com](mailto:hello@oldirvingpark.com).

# OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT



OIPA President Adrienne Chan presents a check to IPGC President Debbie Maher; the \$550 donation will help fund the planting of the raised planters on Irving Park Road.

In the gardening and spring cleaning theme, Adrienne also announced a new "Weekly Weeders" program that OIPA is starting this spring. This program will focus on the two large garden beds west of Kolmar on the north side of Irving Park Road. Because of the size of these garden beds, they have not been adopted in past years like the others along Irving Park Road. The plan is to have neighbors volunteer 1 or 2 hours at a time to pull weeds and clean up these gardens. If different people or groups of people spend a little time each week, it will make a big difference in the appearance of these two beds.

In the final few minutes of the meeting Adrienne, Alderman Gardner, and other community members shared some announcements.

- In addition to the donation to the garden club, OIPA also made a \$550 donation to the Keep OIP Clean initiative. Neighbors with questions or interested in making a donation can reach OIP Neighbor **Dan William**, via email [KeepOIPClean@gmail.com](mailto:KeepOIPClean@gmail.com).
- **Saturday, April 15 - Open Lands Tree Planting** - there is still time to volunteer, even if only for an hour or two
- **39th Ward Participatory Budgeting** is in

progress. Neighbors who live in the 39th Ward are encouraged to share their ideas by emailing [hello@oldirvingpark.com](mailto:hello@oldirvingpark.com).

- **Chicago's first elected School Board** is in process. There are opportunities to get engaged in this process.
- **Metra bridge replacement work** at Milwaukee has been approved for extended hours. Work is approved to begin as early as 4 a.m. and continue until 7 p.m. daily.
- **Alderman Gardiner** offered to share OIPA community events in his office's weekly eBlast.

**The meeting ended at 8:01 p.m.**

*Photos by Merry Marwig.*

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## May Birthdays

Faustino Aguilera	Theresa Lechowski	Leroy Pfeifer
Sarah Arvanitakis	Hannah Lehman	Shaun Quinn
Elizabeth Basile	Burke Leshner	Sinisa Rasberger
Robert Berner	Wendy Lundgren	Brian Richardson
Thomas Clark	Debbie Maher	Jerry Rinard
Allison Clark Young	Cindy Malin	Kate Roche
Dave Dampitz	Michael Manier	Vicci Rodgers
Susanna Ernst	James Mastro	Molly Rutkowski
Alan Gurevich	Josh Mattingly	Andrew Sarros
Jay Hackleman	Miranda McCoy	Craig Shutt
Katherine Heinrich	Brad McDowell	Megan Stalder
Amy Isadore	Mark McKelvey	Christine Stypka
Carolyn Jensen	Theresa Mueller	Marisa Tell
Frances Jochum	Alex Murphy	Phil Timberman
Mary Kane	Joyce Nieman	Megan Toth
Taylor Klassman	James O'Shea	Kara Wagner Sherer
David Kozisek	Tim O'Sullivan	Anna Ware
Kevin Krakora	Joyce Owen	Steve Warmbir
Adeline Krohmer	Lori Petersen	

## May Anniversaries

Barry & Karen Bebart	Demetri & Elpitha Lambros
Leslie & Bob Becksted	Susan Lulich & Randall Coe
David Bremner & Carly Forsthoefel	Tobi & Josh Mattingly
Ed Caplan & Gina Iliopoulos	Sheryl Nichin-Keith & Tom Keith
Felix & Zarah Chan	Harry & Joyce Owen
Thomas & Michelle Clark	Sharon & TJ Perrine
Rosemarie & Thomas Clohisy	Maria & Leroy Pfeifer
Lindsey & Josh Evans	Vanessa & Geoff Reu
Denise & Richard Ghilarducci	Brian & Marites Richardson
Carolyn Goldschmidt & Michael Kharouta	Reetu & Will Sanders
Joshua Hall & Kristen Miller	Frank & Mary Pat Serpone
Timothy & Annette Huizenga	Ben & Sarah Sochacki
Katie & Damian Jackson	Megan Stride & James Hotchkiss
Lisa & Mark Kelly	Henry & Susan Strozewski
David & Catherine Kozisek	Cathie Van Wert & Tim Menard
Lowell & Peggy Krischer	

## MAY KID BIRTHDAYS

Charles Calloway III  
Andrew Chan  
Leir Dierdorff  
JP Hicks  
Claire Hotchkiss  
Clayton Jost  
Charlie McDowell  
Sam O'Mara  
Melia Pitts  
Sofia O'Shea Quezada  
Georgia Quinlan  
Winter Ryan  
Catalina Simmons



## PET BIRTHDAYS

Penny (Shih Tzu) & Cocoa (Shih Tau) in the Anguiano family  
Peaches Bebart

**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.



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# OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

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



## Attached Single Family

4209 N. Kedvale, 3F.....	\$145,000
4130 N. Kedvale, 6.....	\$155,000
4243 N. Keystone, 6S.....	\$190,000
3737 N. Pulaski, 3S.....	\$280,000
3809 N. Milwaukee, C.....	\$345,000
4239 N. Keystone, 4S.....	\$407,500



## Single Family

4163 W. Addison.....	\$490,000
4236 N. Kildare.....	\$576,000
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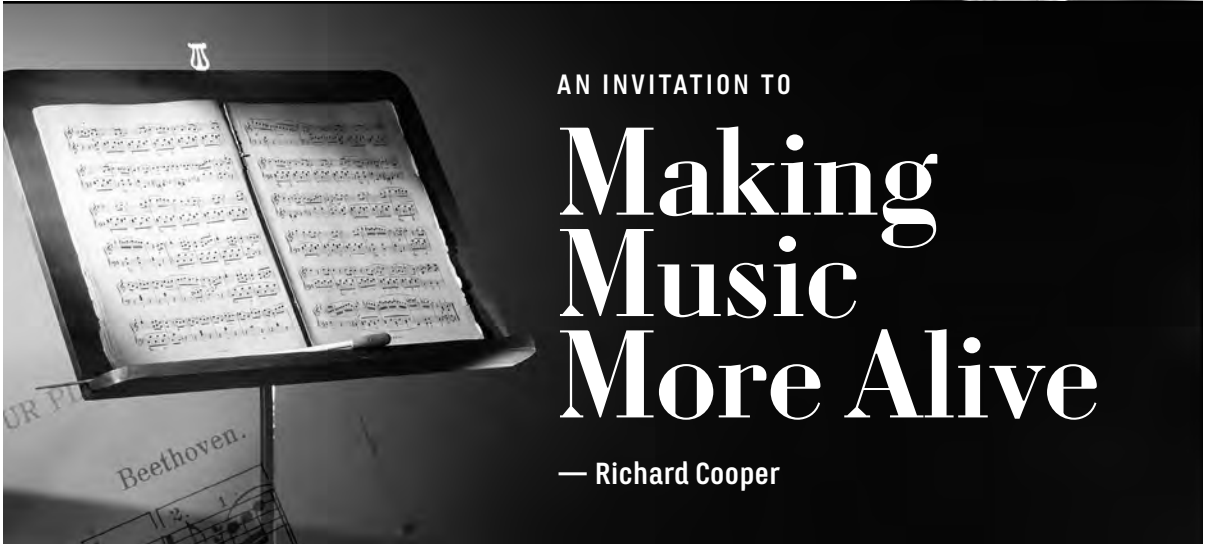
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## INVITATION TO OIPA NEIGHBORS



AN INVITATION TO

# Making Music More Alive

— Richard Cooper

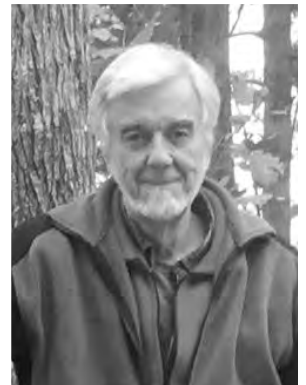
**T**he enjoyment—in particular, the emotional experience—of certain kinds of music can often be enhanced by a deeper understanding of the construction of the piece—call it the notational grammar. By analogy, many of us might have a weak comprehension of a foreign language, but with a facing translation can appreciate much better the nuance and intent of what the writer is trying to say. In the same vein, it occurred to me that it might be interesting to see if some members of this organization [OIPA] would like to meet, perhaps once a month, to share their understanding of a piece of music, as well as their emotional response.

While I accept that 'any' music you like is good music, I am thinking of a fairly restricted range of that medium we all enjoy. Specifically, I am narrowing down the work of what now passes for 'classical' music, e.g., Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, and beyond. There is more going on in the first movement of Beethoven's Third Symphony than is apparent in casual listening. And there is more going on in Bach's Art of the Fugue than

almost any of us will ever appreciate.

I am open to any democratic process to organize such an event and am prepared to make our house available—we live on the 3700 block of Lowell. Live performance, of parts or the whole, would certainly be a useful addition. I have a decent piano but cannot play it at a level that would provide a worthy statement of any of this music. Fortunately, the Internet now holds an immense library of performances and plenty of helpful 'translations' to jump-start a discussion. A musical score would obviously be useful as well.

**If you have any interest** or alternative suggestions, feel free to contact me (Richard Cooper) directly. Email is the best place to start at [rcooper@luc.edu](mailto:rcooper@luc.edu).



*Photo provided by the author.*



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*Flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,  
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## RECIPES FROM THE BOARD & MEMBERS

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Photo provide by Cheryl Knecht Munoz



# POTSTICKERS

Submitted by Cheryl Knecht Munoz

*Initially written for the holiday season, but any month is suitable for a Potsticker Party.*

This time of year, I would typically plan big holiday meals and daydream about the desserts I'd make to bring to parties. Ok, (gulp), this year is going to be different (sigh), but I am still going to celebrate with my kids and the very few others in my "pod" with some fun cooking parties.

I am planning a Potsticker Party! Everyone will get dressed up (I can't wait to wear heels!), and we'll turn on some fancy music (I can't wait to dance!) and dim the lights and maybe open some sparkling wine (and bubbly apple juice for the kids).

I'll set up a beautiful spread of minced veggies, herbs, sauces, and wrappers and welcome everyone to make potstickers while I cook them and sing along to the music at the top of my lungs. There will be ornate paper invitations slipped under bedroom doors very soon, and I will have as much fun planning a party for five as I would for fifty. I invite YOU to try your hand at this wonderful recipe. Whether you are in the mood to party or just make a nice meal is a lot of fun. Kids especially love making these. The first few might be messy, but you'll get the hang of it with a little practice. You can freeze them, too. So, get out your dancing shoes and plan for a bit of fun in the kitchen.

### POTSTICKERS (Yields 50)

Prep time one hour if one person is making them

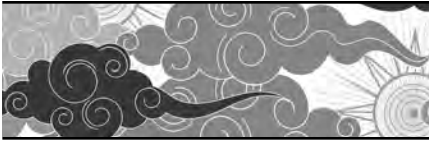
#### INGREDIENTS

- ½ pound ground pork\*
- ¼ cup finely grated carrots 1 cup finely sliced cabbage
- ¼ cup tablespoon finely chopped green onions 1 garlic clove, minced
- ½ tablespoon ginger, grated
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar or rice vinegar 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil (optional) Vegetable oil for pan
- Prepackaged frozen round dumpling wrappers

\*To make these vegetarian you can use 1 cup diced mushrooms or firm tofu to replace the pork.

#### DIRECTIONS

- Remove dumpling wrappers from the freezer and let them defrost.
- Add all ingredients except for vegetable oil and dumpling wrappers into a bowl and mix together with your hands.
- With one wrapper in hand, wet the edges of the wrapper with your finger, add about a tablespoon of the pork mixture to the middle of the wrapper.



## RECIPES FROM THE BOARD & MEMBERS

- Holding the filled wrapper cradled between your thumb and middle finger, use your index finger to flatten the pork mixture.
- Using your thumb and index finger press the wrapper to close the dumpling.
- When all dumplings have been made, heat a large pan with about 3 tablespoons of vegetable oil until it shimmers.
- Add dumplings to the hot oil. Don't move the dumplings.
- Once dumplings are brown and crispy on the bottom, add about a half cup of water to the pan and cover with a lid to steam them for about 5 minutes or until the dumpling wrappers are slightly see-through. Remove from the pan and serve with soy sauce for dipping or a ginger dipping sauce.

### KIDS CAN:

- Grate carrots and ginger and thinly slice cabbage
- Finely cut green onions with kitchen scissors
- Mince garlic with a garlic press
- Measure seasonings and veggies into the mixing bowl
- Make their own potstickers!

### PARENTS CAN:

- Help mix everything
- Help with potsticker making
- Fry and steam potstickers

### FREEZING INSTRUCTIONS

- Place individual uncooked potstickers on a parchment lined sheet pan or tray that fits in your freezer. Once frozen (should take about two hours?) pop them off into a labeled ziplock bag. No need to defrost them before cooking, simply use the cooking instructions above.

### GINGER SOY DIPPING SAUCE

Yields one cup sauce. Prep time five minutes.

This dipping sauce is so versatile. It can be a dipping sauce for potstickers, a marinade for meats or even a tasty vinaigrette for a green salad with cucumbers, peppers and cold noodles. What's more is it all comes together in a jar and can be kept in the fridge for up to two weeks.

### INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons finely grated ginger 2 tablespoons chopped green onion 2 medium cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil

### DIRECTIONS

- Measure all ingredients into a jar with a tight fitting lid and shake until well combined.

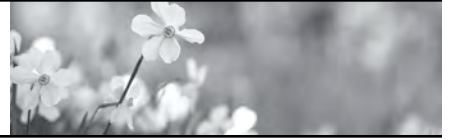
### KIDS CAN:

- Measure ingredients.
- Shake it up!

### About the Author

*Cheryl Knecht Munoz is the Founder and Owner of Schoolhouse Kitchen + Studio. 'It's her dream job.' In 2016, her passion for education and skill-sharing motivated her to establish an educational organization called Sugar Beet Schoolhouse. Cheryl opened the second Schoolhouse in Portage Park, at 4410 N. Milwaukee, in February 2023.*

*To read more about Cheryl and all of the Schoolhouse's offerings like summer camps, signature kids' and family classes, and adult classes and parties, visit the Schoolhouse website at [www.iloveschoolhouse.com](http://www.iloveschoolhouse.com).*



## Busy as a Bee

— Claudia Hine

**M**ay is the “semi-official” start of the gardening season in Chicago, as the chance of frost killing our newly purchased annuals is small [we hope]. May is also a very busy month for the Irving Park Garden Club with lots of events on the calendar.

- First up is a trip to Sunrise Greenhouse on May 6 when members will car pool to Grant Park, Illinois, to shop a wonderful selection of veggies, flowers, trees, shrubs, and plants spread over acres and acres of space. Great prices make the trip worthwhile.
- Then on Saturday, May 20, we will fulfill our partnership with OIPA and Farmers Market Garden Center, our wonderful local nursery, to fill the square containers along Irving Park Rd. and brighten our main drag. Volunteers have agreed to adopt the containers, fill them with the flowers chosen by FMGC, and then keep the plants watered through the long, hot summer.
- Also on May 20, the membership will gather at 11 a.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave., to attend our annual plant exchange. Our gardeners have been dividing their perennials to revitalize, spread, and share them, and they’ll also bring any extra seedlings that they’ve started indoors.



**Want to create a habitat for early season pollinators?** Here are some simple steps you can take. Plant more flowers that are native to the Midwest. Eliminate pesticide use. Be a “messy” gardener, as beneficial insects are hibernating in the hollow stems and dead wood you’re itching to clean up.

You also can delay mowing your lawn during the month of May to provide food for bees early in the growing season. No Mow May is a conservation initiative that’s catching on across the country.

Don’t think you can be that messy? Then try a mullet — mow the front yard and let the back yard get shaggy. Here’s a little sign the kids can color and you can put in your window to let your neighbors know you’re just trying to do some good in the world.

## Shade Plants in the Spotlight

**Debbie Maher, IPGC president**, presided over an overflow crowd of new and renewing members who came to our first meeting of the 2023 season in March. Debbie also introduced members to our new treasurer, **Kate Roche**,



*Photo by Cathey Curley.*

who is a familiar face in the club. Kate has served as treasurer and president of IPGC over the years, and she has stepped in to fill a vacancy on the board.

March attendees had an opportunity to pay their dues, get their garden tools honed by **Sharpening by Dave**, and learn more about shade plants. IPGC invited horticulturist **Heather Prince, Fearless Gardening**, to educate us on plants appropriate for shady sites of all kinds—in the parkway, under trees, on the north side of the house, etc. Heather introduced us to a comprehensive list of shade-loving, problem-solving plants suitable for dry or moist conditions.



### 2023 MEETING DATES

- Saturday, May 6
- Saturday, May 20
- Saturday, June 24
- Thursday, July 20
- Saturday, August 19
- Thursday, September 21
- Saturday, October 21



IPGC President Debbie Maher (left) with horticulturist Heather Prince, who spoke on shade plants at the well-attended March meeting. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*



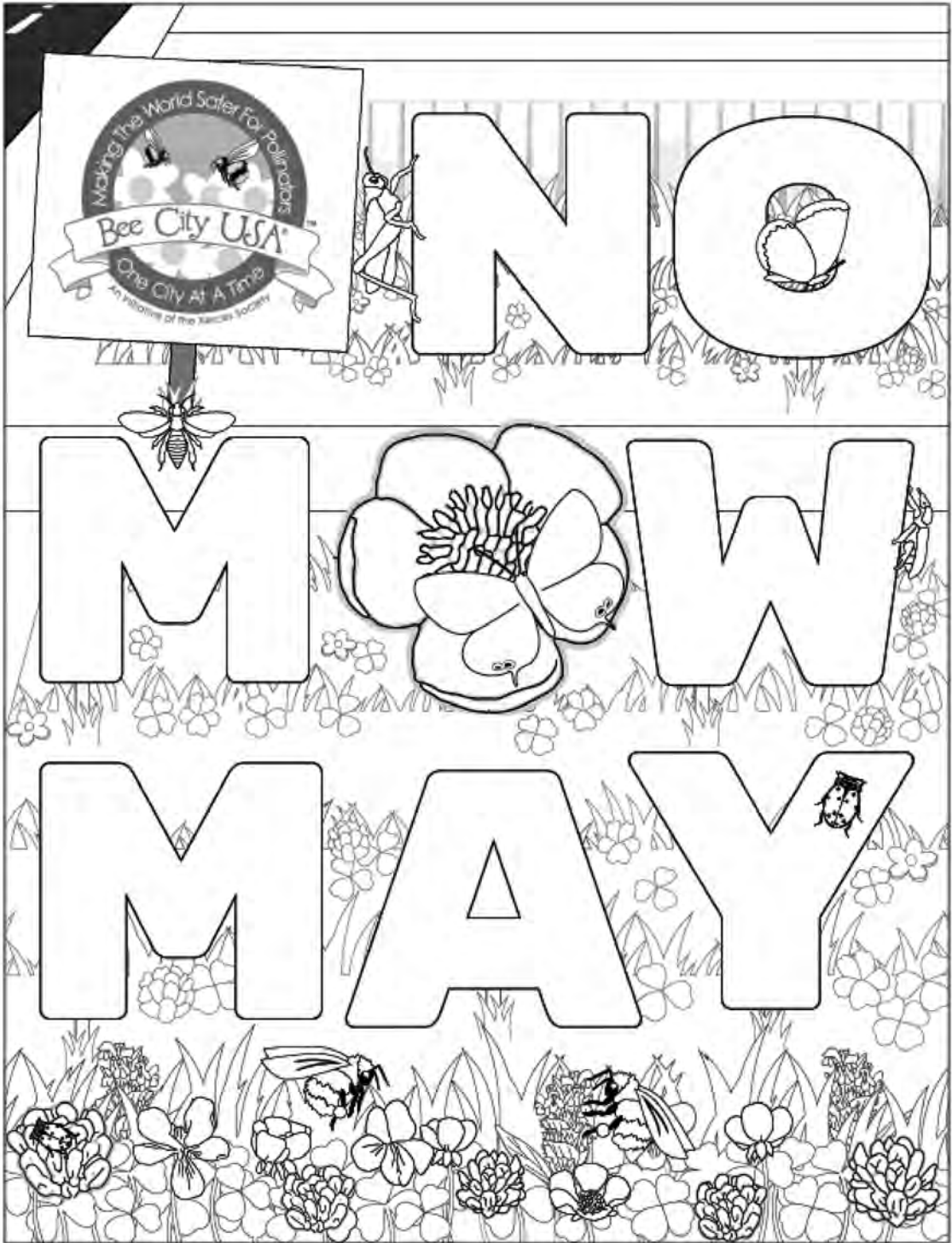
Three of the 50+ attendees at our March meeting, Laura Marie Sanchez (from left), Anna Sobor, and Sue Geisler are all smiles. *Photo by Claudia Hine*

## Become a Member

IPGC meetings are for members only, but you can join at the door in April for \$25 with cash or check payable to Irving Park Garden Club. Contact [irvingparkgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:irvingparkgardenclub@gmail.com) for more information.

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





The Xerces Society, which runs Bee City USA and Bee Campus USA, gives permission for this No Mow May sign to be printed. It is released under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 Unported (CC BY-NC 3.0) license.

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

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

Principal Mandi Durkin 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 an excellent opportunity to learn more about our school and the Belding community. The final school tour of the year will take place on May 9. If you cannot make it, email Principal Durkin (mfcohen@cps.edu) to schedule a tour.

### Belding Registration

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year will open in May. Check out [cps.edu](http://cps.edu) to see if you are within the attendance boundary and the Belding website ([www.beldingelementary.com](http://www.beldingelementary.com)) for registration dates and times.

For those interested in our PreK program, apply at [chicagoearlylearning.org](http://chicagoearlylearning.org). Belding will have two classrooms, 40 seats, and it is tuition free.

**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](http://beldingelementary.com)

## 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.

## Keeler Gardens Announces Tree Murals Program

Keeler Gardens is excited to announce its newest art program, "Tree Murals," a bold initiative to promote nature connections and their benefits, indoors and out. This amazing new program will feature trees painted on canvas and installed like wallpaper by local artist **Paula Clayton**. She will create murals and be inspired by the people and the environment. Images may be realistic or whimsical as desired. Our vision is that the space allows people to connect with nature. The murals will provide a unique, meaningful, and memorable experience in a natural environment.

Paula Clayton is a devoted artist; she states, "I love how art can show dreams and values in a visual way, easily understood by others." She supports the community "with meaningful work that creates value in our communities. My goal is to visually help you show and share what matters to you."

Paula designs each custom tree with interactive, experiential collaboration, and ultimately, the tree becomes a permanent addition to a space to be enjoyed for years to come.

The program offers varied experiences, like creating a visual of a mission statement, outlets for creative development, and social-emotional learning.

The Tree Murals program is in the developmental stages, and Keeler Gardens plans to fund Tree Murals through grants, partnerships with corporate donors, and sponsorships at various levels.

Paula said, "I am excited to be a part of the Tree Murals program and to share my art with the community. I believe that art can positively impact the world, and I am committed to using my art to make a difference."



Detailed image of tree mural courtesy of the artist Paula Clayton.

*Keeler Gardens is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization improving the health and sustainability of urban community life through environmental experiences, supporting diversity and youth development, and building a love of nature. Visit us at 3631 N. Keeler Ave., our website [KeelerGardens.org](http://KeelerGardens.org), or contact Keeler Gardens at [Gina@KeelerGardens.org](mailto:Gina@KeelerGardens.org).*

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## OIPA EASTER EGG HUNT HIGHLIGHTS



# Easter Egg Hunt

The 24th annual OIPA Easter Egg Hunt attracted a huge crowd of residents, children, families, and friends under a blue sky. The Belding Elementary playground was ground zero for the mad dash to find eggs filled with candy and prizes. The entire hunt lasted less than one minute as children scrambled to fill their baskets with as many eggs as possible.

Thanks to **Allison Clark**, who organized, and all the volunteers dedicated to creating a fun event for young and old alike.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Cynthia Andrews, Justin Antony, Maria Ariza, Nadia Barron, Colleen Callahan, Maureen Durkin, Danny Ehle, Jessica Gutierrez, Alyza Hernandez, Kate Lapin, Jamie Murray, Erin O'Donohue, Ally Skoog-Hoffman, Marisa Tell, Anna Ware, Chelsea Weber, Matt Young

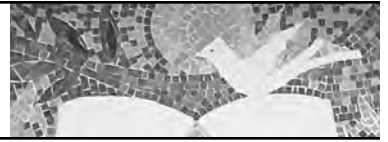


*Photos by Allison Clark*





*Photo by Merry Marwig*



## Viator Vibrations — Sara Yoest



Our "It's Showtime!" musical review will be presented on Sunday, May 7, at 3 p.m. in the Rec Center gymnasium. The show features 85 of our talented students from grades PK3-7th performing select songs from the musicals *Lion King*, *School of Rock*, *Singin' In the Rain*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Wicked*, *Rent*, *Tarzan*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Students have been rehearsing once a week with parent volunteer directors,

who guide them in song, dance, and acting. The 35 running crew members have been working behind the scenes to create set designs and props for the show and will power the scene changes, prop handoffs, and onstage "magic" for the production. This musical performance opportunity gives the students insight into the performing arts and encourages them to discover their talents in a fun and supportive environment.

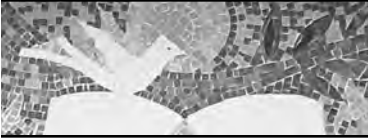


Photos by Sara Yoest.

### 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



## Blessings to Our First Communicants

Congratulations to our second-grade students who will receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 13. May you always feel surrounded by love and peace on this special day!

## Time to Think about School Registration

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

Contact the school office at 773-545-2173 and speak with Diane with questions regarding admissions. Classrooms are filling quickly, especially preschool & kindergarten. Avoid a waitlist! Submit your application now.

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

# MAY Merriment

**Q: When is it impossible to plant flowers?**

**A:** When you haven't botany.

**Q: What's the difference between spring rolls and summer rolls?**

**A:** Seasoning.

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

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

**Q: Why couldn't the little flower ride a bike?**

**A:** It didn't have any petals.

**Q: Why is the letter A like a flower?**

**A:** Because a B comes after it!

**Q: How can you tell spring flowers are friendly?**

**A:** They always have new buds.

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.



HAPPY   
MOTHER'S  
DAY







## Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents **The Kalamazoo College Singers on May 7**

— Liz Mills, Executive Director, Carlson Community Services

**T**he Irving Park Fine Arts Committee, is pleased to present The Kalamazoo College Singers on May 7 at 2 p.m., under the direction of Assistant Professor of Music Chris Ludwa. The concert will be held at Irving Park Lutheran Church, 4100 N. Harding Ave. There is no charge for admission, but donations are gladly accepted to help defray the cost of the ensemble's tour expenses.

The ensemble comprises 30 singers whose majors range from music to physical science and political science to psychology. An academic class, the College Singers seeks to foster a love for a wide range of music, awareness of social justice, and a deeper appreciation for the power of communal singing. The ensemble has performed for juvenile justice centers, prisons, hospitals, and senior living communities in

addition to performances on campus in traditional theatrical venues.

The program will present songs from various sources and styles from the Renaissance to Stevie Wonder, including music inspired by ancient poets such as Rumi and modern composers. The music is designed to uplift, inspire and mend the hearts and minds that have remained isolated even after the lockdown of 2020 and 2021 subsided. Some pieces include piano, while others are a cappella, and audiences will also enjoy music by smaller ensembles and soloists. Singers come from as far away as Jamaica and as close as Traverse City, reflecting the College's diverse population and vibrant study-abroad emphasis.

Kalamazoo College, founded in 1833, is a nationally



The Kalamazoo College Singers will perform in the final concert of the Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series. The free concert is May 7 at 2 p.m. at Irving Park Lutheran Church. *Photo courtesy of the Kalamazoo College Singers.*



recognized residential liberal arts and sciences college in Kalamazoo, Mich. The creator of the K-Plan, Kalamazoo College provides an individualized education that integrates rigorous academics with life-changing experiential learning opportunities. For more information, visit [www.kzoo.edu](http://www.kzoo.edu).

The concert is the fifth and final in the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee's 29th season. The series 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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## Call for Gardeners!

Are you interested in deepening your gardening knowledge while giving back to the community? Carlson Community Services' Three Brothers Garden needs you! We're seeking volunteers to help with the garden's harvests on Tuesday evenings throughout the 2023 growing season. The garden is located at 4107 N. Pulaski, next to Irving Park Lutheran Church's parking lot. Everything grown in the garden is donated to the Irving Park Food Pantry for distribution to its clients. If you have a passion for gardening, feeding the hungry, or want to learn about vegetable gardening from the ground up, contact Liz Mills at [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org) or 773.398.6766. If you'd like to be notified of garden work days and events, sign up for our newsletter at [carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://carlsoncommunityservices.org), and we will add you to our mailing list.

## Summer Job Opportunity - Three Brothers Garden Coordinator

Carlson Community Services is hiring a paid summer intern to work from June to August, three hours per week. Responsibilities include leading the garden harvest on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and delivering harvested vegetables to the Food Pantry Wednesday mornings. High school diploma or equivalent required. Must have access to transportation for food pantry delivery. Ideal for college students interested in environmental science or sustainable gardening practices. The garden is next to the Irving Park Lutheran Church parking lot at 4107 N. Pulaski. For a complete job description, contact Liz Mills at [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org).



2022 Garden Intern Clare Lyons weeds a raised bed at Three Brothers Garden. For information on the garden's 2023 paid internship, email [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org). Photo provided by Liz Mills.

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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!



## Pantry to Hold a Senior Day in May

In honor of May being Older Americans Month, the Irving Park Community Food Pantry will sponsor a "Senior Day" on May 3, starting with our regular Wednesday distribution. The program, to continue for several hours after our operating hours end, will include a variety of local groups that provide special programs for seniors.

Service providers planning to attend are Cano Health, CaptionCall, Hana Center, Irish Community Services, Northwestern University's Center for Audiology, Speech, Language & Learning, and Verizon Cellular Sales. All will have tables to provide seniors with information on their services and offer help in their areas. Any seniors in the area are welcome to attend, even if they are not clients of the Pantry's regular services.



Representative(s) from Verizon, which offers free Internet service to low-income people, will be one of the companies attending the Pantry's Senior Day on May 3. *Photo by Craig Shutt.*

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### Mask Policy Change

As of May 3, the Pantry will change its policy and make wearing masks optional inside the building for volunteers and clients. The change results from loosening the city, state, and federal protocols, especially the ending of the national and state public-health emergencies this month and the city reporting a low transmission level. N95 and disposable masks will still be available for clients and volunteers who wish to wear them.



Jose Garcia, the new Mayfair branch manager for Wintrust, along with his associate Leslie Villasenor, stopped by the Pantry to talk with Executive Director John Psiharis about how the company could help with key needs. *Photo by Craig Shutt.*

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Article submitted by Craig Shutt (773-282-3627; [craigshutt@ameritech.net](mailto: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).



## THANK YOU to Our Supporters



During March, Dispatcher Meredith O'Sullivan shows off some of the baskets the Pantry gave to clients' children 12 years and younger. We gave out 322, 40% more than last year. *Photo by Craig Shutt.*

• **Thank you to everyone who donated to the Pantry's spring Easter program**, providing clients' children with a basket of small toys and candy. We gave out 322 baskets, about 40% more than last year, even more than we anticipated. Fortunately, several groups came through with significant donations. We want to acknowledge **33 Realty, Irving Park Lutheran Church, Park Ridge Wilderness Princess's Crow Tribe, Radical Generosity Chicago, Evan & Rosie Peterson, and their neighbor Vivianne Burr** for their contribution. We even had some remaining toys and candy, which we gave to the children at Emanuel United Methodist Church (our home base) and several children's hospital wards. We appreciate everyone's support of this annual program.

• **Filament Theatre Holds a Successful Toiletry Drive.**

Through the efforts of Artistic Director of Creative Partnerships Molly Bunder, Filament Theatre has established an ongoing toiletry drive for the Pantry at the theater (4041 N. Milwaukee Ave.). Theater-goers—and anyone in the neighborhood when the theater is open—can drop off key items—shampoo, deodorant, body wash, toothpaste & toothbrushes, razors, and shaving cream—or any other items in the box in the lobby.

• **Thank you to the Nimble Thimbles** group that meets at the Irish American Heritage Center for their recent donation. The group sewed quilts and made and gathered items to donate to the Pantry, including hats, gloves, coloring books, and crayons.



Intake Coordinator Lynne Anderson talked to Brownie Troop 26273 at Bateman Elementary School about the Pantry's mission and how families come to have food insecurity. The troop also donated child-specific toiletries to aid our program. Photo courtesy of Stacie Rosenberg

# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

**Advertising:**  
First Tuesday  
of the month

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

## 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.
- 20 **Irving Park Garden Club** | Annual Plant Exchange | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave. | 11:00 a.m. | Members Only; \$25 to join.

## June

- 11 **OIPA Annual Ice Cream Social** | 3 p.m. | St. John's Episcopal Church Garden, 3857 N. Kostner Ave.

## Ongoing in the Neighborhood

- 1st Wednesdays** **Clarendale Six Corners, Wine-Down Wednesday** | 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., Clarendale Six Corners, Information Center, 4004 N. Cicero Avenue, RSVP to 872-250-5126, 2 Days Before Event. Space is limited. Wine and refreshments will be served.
- 1st & 3rd** **Clarendale Six Corners, Coffee & Conversations with Clarendale!** | 9:30-10:30 a.m., Clarendale Six Corners, Information Center, 4004 N. Cicero Avenue, RSVP to 872-250-5126, 2 Days Before Event.

## Stay Connected, Be Informed

There are a variety of 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](mailto: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 [www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc](http://www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc)

**Visit our website** | [www.oldirvingpark.com](http://www.oldirvingpark.com)  
**Questions? Contact us** | [Hello@oldirvingpark.com](mailto:Hello@oldirvingpark.com)



# 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 June 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.		
Publication Month	Advertising	General
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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**OLD IRVING PARK NEWS**

Old Irving Park Association

4313 North Keeler Ave

Chicago IL 60641