

OLD IRVING PARK



NEWS



**HALLOWEEN
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See pages 4-5.



OCTOBER

VOLUME 37 | ISSUE 8 | 2023



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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS | Volume 37 ★ Issue 8 ★ October 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.

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Cover photo by Kathleen Kearns

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Meet New OIPA Board of Director — Daniel William



Where did you grow up? Syracuse, New York

How long have you lived in Old Irving Park and who is in your household?

My wife, Arleen, and I moved into Old Irving Park in October 2013 and added our dog Charlie to the family in 2021.

Work outside of OIPA? Forensic consultant, university adjunct professor, and retired FBI Special Agent.

Favorite local business: Community Tavern.

Breakfast drink of choice: Coffee.

Interests/hobbies: Travel and exploring the Chicago dining scene.

Favorite things to do outside: Gardening and hiking.

Profession you would have if given a “do over”: Chicago Streets and Sanitation Supervisor.

Last book you read: *Sapiens – A Brief History of Humankind* (It’s an eye-opening book—a must read).

Craziest thing you’ve ever done: I ate *balut* from a street vendor in the Philippines. Look it up!

History with OIPA: I attended meetings shortly after we moved into the neighborhood and was always impressed with OIPA’s volunteers and community vision. OIPA’s efforts motivated me to act regarding community cleanliness, which I continue to do as a new OIPA board member.

Favorite part of serving on the board: Helping the community maintain it’s neighborhood personality while seeking growth through thoughtful partnerships.

Hope for the future of OIPA: I’d like to assist the board with raising the OIPA profile to businesses that would enhance our community and lead a fundraiser or two to assist OIPA with meeting its community goals and objectives.

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**Do you have art that you would like to display and sell- seeking
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**Woman owned by a local resident of OIP
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THE OLD IRVING PARK ASSOCIATION
5th ANNUAL

HALLOWEEN

House Decorating Contest

Hi Neighbors!

It's October, and the Halloween decorations are slowly going up in Old Irving. Like last year, OIPA will hold a decorating contest.

Nominate yourself or anyone else whose Halloween decorations you admire by sending a photo and information to hello@oldirvingpark.com.

Photos submitted will be posted on the OIPA Facebook page (www.facebook.com/oldirvingparkassoc).

The winner is chosen by popular vote.

Voting ends on October 20, 2023 one minute before midnight.

All homes located in the Old Irving Park neighborhood are eligible to enter.

And, yes, there will be a prize for the winner!



OIPA HALLOWEEN PARADE AND PARTY



Live Music
Balloon Twisting
Fun and Games

October 28, 2023
10am to Noon

Disney 2 Playground
3815 N Kedvale Ave

PARADE ROUTE MAP COMING SOON!

**Seeking
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Membership Note

Hello from the Membership Director, **Meredith O'Sullivan**, and Treasurer, **Lynn Ankney**. We've been telling you about our ongoing work to update our Membership tools, moving our antiquated Excel sheet and pivot tables to an honest-to-goodness actual database tool (FileMaker Pro). In addition to updating our membership tools, the Board reexamined our revenues and expenses and voted to raise our membership rates for the first time in more than five years. We announced the new rates in the September issue of OIPA News. However, a lucky

few of you who have joined or renewed recently may have noticed your credit card charged the old rate. Our auto-renewal subscription members will see the new rates on their credit card statements moving forward. A friendly reminder that one of the perks of our new system is that all membership will begin/end on whatever date you join. No more pesky August membership drives from us asking you to renew your membership. As always, thank you for your support of OIPA...because Good Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen.

OIPA General Member Meeting

**Monday,
October 9, 2023
7 p.m.**

St. John's Episcopal Church
3857 N. Kostner

Featured speakers include:

- **Representative from Northwestern Medicine**
- **Dr. Moran, Schurz High School Principal**



NEIGHBORS SENDING NEIGHBORS
A LITTLE SHOUT OUT FOR
ACTS OF KINDNESS

Join the movement!

Help us recognize good neighbors and community contributors. Do you have a neighbor who helped with virtual schooling or a kid who donated lemonade stand money? What about the person who went out of their way to pick up groceries, shovel an extra driveway or volunteered to help with others' derecho cleanup? If a resident's actions—big or small—made you take a step back and think “wow, that was kind of them,” we want to help you give them a big high five. Send your acknowledgment to Hello@oldirvingpark.com. If you have a photo of the honoree, please include it.

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Summarized Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on September 5, 2023

– Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

Meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. via Zoom

Meeting started at 7:05 p.m.

Attendees

Adrienne Chan, Anne Swingen, Colleen Kenny, Dan William, Dave Ryan, Lynn Ankney, Meredith O'Sullivan, Merry Marwig, Michael Cannon, Nicholas Plagman-Frank, and Scott Legan

After sharing pleasantries while we waited for our OIPA board colleagues to sign into the meeting President Chan called the Board of Directors meeting to order for the last time during her term. At the September OIPA General meeting, association members will elect a new slate of officers to the Board. Because of term limits in the President's position, Adrienne will step down from her officer's role but will continue to serve as a director. Thank you, Adrienne, for your leadership over the past four years. Our neighborhood and OIPA are lucky to have you as an advocate.

Financial Report

The first order of business was a financial update from OIPA Treasurer **Lynn Ankney**. The month of August was a good one for receipts. The balance sheet recorded more than \$2,500 in advertising receipts as well as the start of membership renewals in August [This is not surprising since fall marks the beginning of our traditional membership renewal season]. Other receipts in August came from the OIP Parents Committee, which relaunched with a Back-to-School event at Kolmar Park in August, and donations to Keep

OIP Clean, now under OIPA's financial management. Disbursements included all the normal expenses related to newsletters and costs related to the Back-to-School event, website, and State of Illinois annual reporting. Adrienne brought approval of the August OIPA financial report to vote, Meredith seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by the remaining directors.

Membership

New Old Irving Park Association membership rates for 2023-2024 were published in the September newsletter and updated on the OIPA website on September 3. Increases in annual household fees were necessary partly due to the increasing costs of publishing our monthly newsletter and member perks and partly because of our organization's increased charitable donations over the past couple of years.

While membership rates are increasing slightly, the Board decided to leave advertising rates the same but to make a push to increase advertising revenue by pursuing new and existing businesses and asking them to become new advertisers. The Board discussed a few of the business directors they have approached already and is still planning on organizing a marketing committee special session in the coming months to continue the momentum.

In addition to membership rate and advertising strategies, the Board discussed member swag for 2024. In past years, we have always given away canvas tote bags to our All-Star and Good Neighbor members.

Continued on 10



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OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT



Summarized Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on September 5, 2023, *continued from page 8*

For the past few months, the Board has had a lot of discussions about changing it up next year. We have explored commissioning a custom print produced by a neighborhood artist. This month, the continued discussion focused on potential sizes for the print as well as a theme for the commissioned piece.

Newsletter

Topics for October's message from the Board were discussed and settled. The idea was also shared to highlight the new rolling renewal of OIPA memberships. Gone are the days of fall membership renewals for everyone and missing out on the perks of membership if you join early in the year. Watch the newsletter for this and other improvements made possible by our new database platform going live in September!

New Business

- **Wildlight Yoga**, one of our monthly newsletter advertisers (page 11), has completed a renovation and expansion of their studio. The Board discussed how to highlight their new space and extend a special invitation from Wildlight to OIPA members.



Photo by Anupam Mahapatra on Unsplash.

- **Holiday Trolley – Six Corners Association** is organizing the NW Chicago Holiday Trolley as they have done in past years. They are working to secure funding for the event this holiday season. **Dave Ryan** attended a planning meeting and reported to the rest of the Board.



After much discussion, it was decided that OIPA will offer complementary advertising for this event but will continue to reserve monetary donations for events within our neighborhood boundaries and charitable organizations that work within our community.

- **Liquor License Request by Convenient Food Mart – 4301 W. Irving Park Road**
 - The Board learned about this request during the meet and greet with Alderperson Cruz.
 - After learning about this, OIPA facilitated a survey to neighbors.
 - Responses to the survey were mostly opposed to issuing Convenient Food Mart a liquor license.
 - The Board discussed the results in detail and decided to issue a formal letter of opposition, including reasons for not supporting this request.
- **Peoples Gas Site Redevelopment** – A public meeting has been scheduled for the developer to present updated plans to the community. It will



OIPA BOARD MEETING REPORT

be held Wednesday, September 20, at 6 p.m. at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W Lawrence Ave.

defer to IPHS stakeholders to make the final decision about any materials not accepted by the library.

Old Business

- **OIPA directors attended a “Get to Know You” meeting with Alderperson Cruz.** Highlights from the meeting included:
 - The Alderperson shared with the developer that she will not support the Dunkin Doughnuts Drive-through Proposal at 4229 W. Irving Park Rd.
 - OIPA Directors shared with Alderperson Cruz that we are interested in seeing quality pedestrian focused mixed use development at the Peoples Gas site. This is not in the Alderperson’s ward but borders it as it does Old Irving Park.
 - Alderperson Cruz has committed to continuing quarterly power washing of the OIP viaducts in her ward.
- **Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) Meetings** – The Board decided to send information about upcoming CPD CAPS meetings in our e-blasts, and in the calendar in the OIPA newsletter.
- **Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC)** – Irving Park Road Pedestrian Safety Improvement. MPC will work with state officials to secure funding that has been earmarked by the State of Illinois.
- **Gas Station Proposal** – 4301 W. Montrose
OIPA communicated its opposition to this proposal and will follow up with Alderperson Nugent’s office to get an update about the fate of this proposal.
- **Irving Park Historical Society Archives (IPHS)**–
The archives have been sorted and are ready to be presented to the Sulzer Library.
The Board decided that materials not accepted by the library would not be returned to OIPA. The Board will

Upcoming Events

- **Monday, September 11** at 7 p.m.: OIPA General Meeting – BOD Officer Elections & Welcome Back Wine and Cheese
- **Monday, October 2:** OIPA Board “Get to Know You” Meeting with Alderperson Gardner
- **Monday, October 2:** OIPA Board of Directors Meeting
- **Monday, October 9** at 7 p.m.: OIPA General Meeting – Northwestern Medicine and Dr. Moran, Schurz High School Principal

Meeting ended at 8:37 p.m.



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Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting on September 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

– Submitted by Nicholas Plagman-Frank, OIPA Secretary

Meeting started at 7:06 p.m.

The September OIPA General Membership meeting is the first of the organization's new fiscal year. Attendees are greeted with a spread of wine, cheese, and craft beer to welcome everyone back after the summer break.

OIPA President **Adrienne Chan** started the meeting by introducing the OIPA Board Directors present:

Dave Ryan, Dan William, Meredith O'Sullivan, and Michael Cannon. She then introduced the current BOD Officers, **Lynn Ankney, Scott Legan, Nicholas Plagman-Frank**, and herself. The first general meeting after the summer break is when OIPA membership elects the Board of Directors. On odd-numbered years, members elect officer positions to the board. As her last act as President, Adrienne invited the OIPA BOD officers seeking a new 2-year term to the front of the room. The 2023 slate of officers included the following people, followed by the position they are seeking.

- Michael Cannon - President
- Scott Legan – Vice President
- Lynn Ankney – Treasurer
- Nicholas Plagman-Frank – Secretary

Adrienne Chan called the vote for the panel of officers running; Dan William seconded the motion, and no members in attendance opposed it. The slate of officers was elected!



OIPA Officers (pictured left to right): Lynn Ankney, Treasurer; outgoing President, Adrienne Chan; Scott Legan, Vice President; Nicholas Plagman-Frank, Secretary and Michael Cannon, President. Photo by Meredith O'Sullivan.

Before releasing neighbors to continue socializing, Adrienne shared an announcement about a Peoples Gas site redevelopment meeting hosted by the developer and Alderperson Gardner's office scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Copernicus Center.

She also asked OIPA members what speakers and topics they would like to see at future OIPA General Meetings. One idea shared was electrifying your home with solar energy. This question from Adrienne invited additional questions from members. Questions included:

- When will traffic lights be installed at Kilbourn and Irving Park Road on the west side of the Northwestern Medicine development, and when



OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

will the new specialty medical offices open?

- Have any retailers been announced for the new retail spaces at Clarendale Six Corners?
- Can OIPA membership get consensus on the kinds of retailers and restaurants that open in our neighborhood? (In reference to the recent Dunkin' Doughnuts drive-through proposal for the previous Golden Nugget Restaurant site.)
- Has there been any other development interest in the vacant Golden Nugget building?
- When will the participatory budgeting project for bike lanes/stripping on Montrose begin? (This is a 2024 budget item; OIPA will follow up with 39th Ward.)

- Is anything known about Mayor Johnson's plan to house migrants in large tents around the city?
- Will the city come to OIPA or the Alderperson's office with any plans to locate migrants in our ward?
- Are any changes coming to the Six Corners Jewel with the Albertson's and Kroger merger?
- Can Old Irving Park get a chamber of commerce to support current businesses and drive recruitment of business neighbors?

Adrienne Chan adjourned the semi-formal portion of the meeting at 7:48 p.m. and invited members to stay for drinks, snacks, and socializing.

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OIPA | ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



October Anniversaries

Michael & Elizabeth Basile
Leslie & Blake Batterson
Robert Berner & Christine Lofton
Meridith & Michael Cannon
Adrienne & Chris Chan
Barbara & Stephan Cohn
Phoebe & Chris Craig
Alisun DeKock & Richard Liu
Jarod Dixon & Christina Fuhrman
Susan Gidley & Phil Timberman
Jorge & Illeana Gomez
Kristin Gross & John Nicewick
Carolyn & Jay Hackleman
Claudia & T. J. Hine
Jill Hopke & Peter Eckels
Katie Johannigman & Nathan Musgrove
Pete Jurgeleit & Carolyn Morehouse
Tonnia & Mike Koehler
Dawn & Shawn LaFleur
Kathryn & Burke Leshner
Mark & Cindy Malin
Kati McKelvey & Alex Murphy
Jaime & Mark Murray
Margaret & Vernon O'Donnell
Margaret O'Donoghue & Frank Smith
Laura & John Ozog
Cynthia & Jose Rivera
Robert & Victoria Ross
Beth & John Ruark
Kiki & Brad Schotanus
Midge Stocker & Diana Clegg
Marc & Mary Sussman
Kyle & Christina Tondo-Kramer

October Birthdays

Tim Alexander	Kurt Fries	Maria Pfeifer
Jonathan Ankney	Frank Gogliotti	Emily Plagman
Dorothy Barrett	Cate Hall	Jennifer Rood
Bridget Bauman	Tracy Hoffmann	Peggy Rooney
Leslie Becksted	Sarah Kessler	Beth Ruark
Megan Beseth	Jennifer Kotecki	Juan Salinas
Sara Bishop	Peggy Krischer	Samantha Schmitz
Heather Boran	Deborah Maron	Alice Sheets
Katie Brandt	Marcus Mason	Jason Simon
JR Cadawas	Roel Mason-Vivit	Maile Solis
Kate Cain	Leslie McGreevy	Megan Stride
Charles Calloway	Kati McKelvey	Frank Suerth
Gayle Christensen	Maureen Miller	Ewa Tran
Brittany Churukanti	Jonathan Miller	Katie Tuten
Mary Czarnowski	Leanne Neurauter	Gregory Ward
Maire Dempsey	John Nicewick	Kelly Williams
Patrick Driscoll	Vernon O'Donnell	Kinsey Wolf
David Evaskus	Rachel O'Mara	Sara Yoest
Cristina Evaskus	Linda Parker	
Chris Faris	Chyrsa Petersen	

OCTOBER KID BIRTHDAYS

Madeline Andrews
Kaden Artzt
Austin Bebart
Christopher Cannon
Winston Greene
Luca Hackleman
Cade Linnemeyer
Everett O'Donnell
Langston O'Donnell

PET BIRTHDAYS

Cat: Luna Gomez

Is your birthday or anniversary missing from this list? Not sure if you provided your info in your renewal form? If so, please contact Meredith O'Sullivan at membership@oldirvingpark.com or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.



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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.

OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

[C] = Court Approved [F]= Foreclosure Sale [S] = Short Sale



Single Family

4055 N. Kolmar.....	\$604,000
4040 N. Lowell.....	\$650,000
4247 N. Lowell.....	\$680,000
3915 N. Kilbourn.....	\$725,000
3926 N. Kostner	\$890,000
3726 N. Kildare.....	\$982,000
4122 N. Kenneth	\$1,100,000
4048 N. Kostner.....	\$1,125,000
4328 N. Keeler	\$1,200,000



2-4 Units

4042 N. Kolmar	\$815,000
----------------------	-----------



Attached Single Family

4126 N. Kedvale, 2.....	\$150,000
4247 N. Keystone, 1.....	\$185,000
3851 1/2 N. Kedvale, D1.....	\$265,000
4550 W. Hutchinson.....	\$475,000
3821 N. Milwaukee, A	\$555,000



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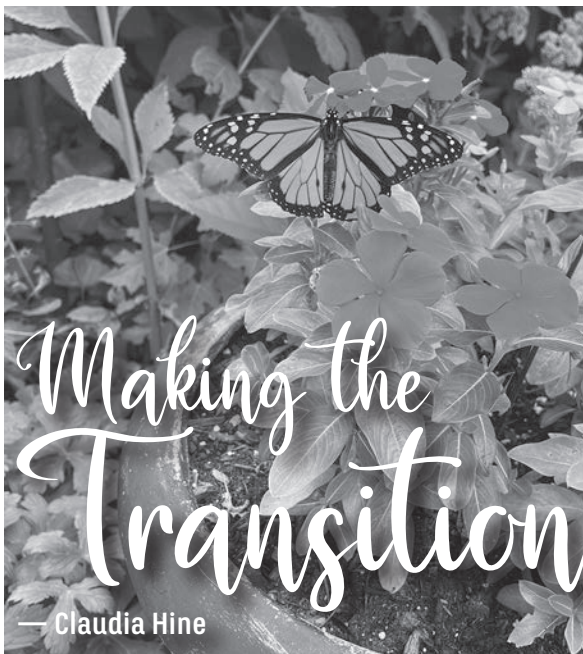
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Container gardening is critical for Irving Park Garden Club members living in condos or apartments without yards to use. To get their gardening fix, they fill their porches, decks, and balconies with planters to grow their favorite flowers, veggies, and herbs.

But even members that have front and back yards usually plant some containers to decorate their front stoops and back decks and to fill bare spots in their gardens. But by this time of year, their summer annuals are wilted, and the planters need a refresh.

That's where our October speaker comes in. Back by popular demand, horticulturist **Nina Koziol** will present "Pots With Panache," showing us how containers can create a dazzling display. This program explores pots, potting mixes, planting techniques, maintenance, and a variety of plants to create four-season interest. Nina also will give us some ideas for changing over to winter containers.



Horticulturist Nina Koziol will present "Pots With Panache" at the Irving Park Garden Club's October meeting. *Photo courtesy Nina Koziol.*

Nina has great credentials. She's been teaching horticulture, design, and residential landscape design history at the Chicago Botanic Garden and The Morton Arboretum since 1997. She presented to IPGC two years ago, dazzling attendees with her program on "The Gardener as Artist."

This month's meeting will take place on Saturday, October 21, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave., at 10 a.m. Irving Park Garden Club meetings are for members only. Contact us at irvingparkgardenclub@gmail.com for more information on joining.

It's a boy! On August 25, this Monarch butterfly [pictured above] emerged from its chrysalis, which was attached to the side of the house. As fewer than 10% of Monarch eggs and caterpillars are said to survive, it was a thrill to see this one complete its metamorphosis and fly away.

Photo by Claudia Hine.

Mini Plant Swaps

IPGC's plant exchanges are epic. Scheduled for May each year, members bring in lots of divided perennials to share with each other. Using a lottery system, it can get quite competitive as our gardeners hope to be picked early to ensure they get the plants they want.

Early fall is also a great time to divide perennials, so this year the club has scheduled two mini swaps to allow more opportunities to pick up desired plants. Members can bring their divisions to the October and November meetings. "This swap is completely informal," said President Debbie Maher. "We won't be calling numbers or setting time aside during the meetings."



Barry Bebart rakes up debris during the Tripp Garden cleanup in August. *Photo by Debbie Maher.*

Holiday Plans Shaping Up

Last year, IPGC added a November meeting to its calendar to celebrate the holidays with a cookie exchange and art show. It was so well attended, our Advisory Committee has voted to add a November meeting to our schedule again this year.

Debbie has set a date of Thursday, November 30, and is expanding our event with a potluck dinner in addition to the art fair. Details are still being finalized, but the party will take place at St. John's at 7 p.m.



2023 Meeting Dates

- Saturday, October 21
- Thursday, November 30

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



Ed Caplan, Keeler Gardens, offers his tips and tricks for photographing the garden with your mobile phone at IPGC's hands-on class in August. *Photo by Kate Roche.*



2023 Adopt a Green Space WINNERS!

—Adrienne Chan, OIPA Director



OIPA has 6 “mural planters” and 16 in-ground planting beds on Irving Park Road that need to 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 held a contest again this year for the In-ground Garden Beds. “Before” pictures were taken in May. The Irving Park Garden Club reviewed the in-ground garden beds over the Summer and again in mid-September to determine which beds earn bragging rights (at least until next season).



This year’s winners are:

Best Overall

Michelle Skoropistsev (N8)

The judges felt this garden really stood out. They loved the pops of color and found the garden accessories made it whimsical and charming. This garden was creatively designed and well maintained.

Honorable Mention: For Color

Kelly Construction & Design (N4)

The gorgeous pops of color really stood out for the judges. They were impressed with the use of annuals and beautiful roses.

Honorable Mention: For Design

Brad McDowell and Scott Wurtzebach (S7)

This charming garden gave the judges the feeling of a woodland in the city. The hostas and hydrangeas were lovely and the judges especially loved the stepping stone garden path.

Honorable Mention: City Wildlife Friendly

Dave Ryan (N3)

Whether it was the naturalistic design or the fat happy bunny that greeted the judges, this garden struck them as a wonderful wildlife habitat. They thought the use of grasses really made a statement and enjoyed the lavender plant tucked in.

Honorable Mention: Serene Setting

Residences of OIP (S5)

The judges were impressed by the great color of the heucheras and excellent use of grasses, together creating a harmonious garden space that was wonderfully maintained.

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Join Us This Fall at St. John's

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



Worship Schedule

Sunday worship is at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., in person or online.

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Worship with a meditative feel, with generous time for silence.

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Worship and music with choir and congregation that is lively, designed for the participation of children.

Children are welcome!

Children are welcome at all services and nursery care is available from 8:00 until 11:00 a.m.

Zoom Information

Join online via Zoom
(Meeting ID: 882 2966 1337, Password: 3857) or Facebook
(www.facebook.com/stjohnschicago).

Whichever service you choose, you will find welcome and community.



Sunday School

Sundays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for children from three years to fifth grade.

Youth Group

Meets two Sundays a month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for youth in grades six through twelve.

You do not need to be a member of the church to attend Sunday School. To register please email info@stjohnschicago.com or call 773.725.9026.

Sacraments

Communion is open to all. Besides baptism we offer healing, reconciliation, confirmation, and marriage. For more information please visit www.stjohnschicago.com or contact the church office.



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WEEKLY CLASSES AT ST. JOHN'S

YOGA

Mondays 5:00 pm

Tuesdays 6:00 pm

Bring your own yoga mat.

NIA DANCE


**Wednesdays
6:00 pm**

Walk-ins welcome!

Yoga on Mondays at 5:00 p.m.
with Heidi Ellison Childress.

All levels welcome, \$15 per class, bring your yoga mat.

Yoga on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
with Gena Cielak. For all levels, ages and bodies. For information, email gena.cielak@gmail.com or call/text 773.791.4526. \$15 per class and please bring a yoga mat.

 **Nia Dance Movement on
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.**

with Meghan. Preregister at mhowietimm@gmail.com. Sliding scale: \$12–\$15 per class. Buy a 4-class card for \$45.

All classes in the Parish Hall. Enter the side green door on Byron Street.



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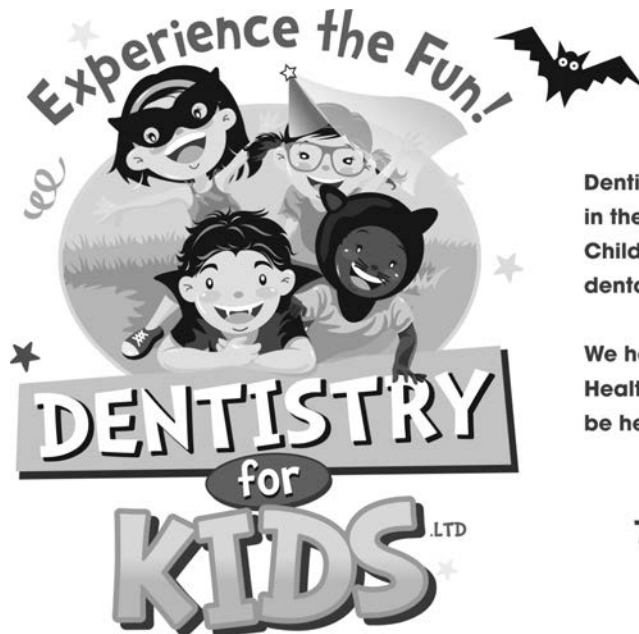
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Let's make it a Children's Dental Health Year!

Dentistry for Kids, Ltd. visited several schools in the area during the month of February, Children's Dental Health Month, to provide dental health education.

We hope you make it a Children's Dental Health Year and encourage your families to be health conscious every day of the year!

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Lincolnwood, IL 60712
ph. 773-545-0007**

Dr. Kirk Kollmann Dr. Cissy Furusho

www.dentistry4kids.net



Disney II Civics Mentor Program

Disney II Magnet, Lawndale Campus, is organizing its annual 8th Grade Civics Mentor Program. We are looking for mentors from all careers that can help mentor our teens on their semester projects and participate in conversations about civic responsibilities, rights and community building. Please reach out to Mr. Kelly at pmkelly@cps.edu for more information!



October Jokes

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

Q: Why did the scarecrow win an award?

A: He was outstanding in his field.

Q: What do you call a toothless bear?

A: A gummy bear!

Q: What do you call a fibbing cat?

A: A lion.

Q: What do you call an alligator in a vest?

A: An investigator.

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than a house?

A: Of course, houses can't jump.

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

COLORFUL FUN IN OCTOBER



Ken kenklopakart.com



The Buzz at Belding — Michele Stefl, IB Coordinator



Mark your calendars for October 11 to dine in or order at Easy Street Pizza on Irving Park Road to support Belding's 2nd graders. Make sure you mention Belding; a portion of the earnings will be donated to the school.



Fall Sports are in Full Effect

The Bulldogs are ready to run, spike, kick, and win with their fall sports! This season, the 5th – 8th graders have the opportunity to participate in cross-country, girls' volleyball, or boys' soccer. Want to support your neighborhood school? Belding has a new spirit wear store so you can show your Bulldog pride. Simply visit www.beldingschoolspiritwear.com.

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

Principal Durkin or Assistant Principal Cortes set aside one morning each month to give tours to interested parents. Tours are geared toward adults, so if children are present, please ensure they can safely and quietly attend the tour. Tours begin at 8 a.m. in the main office. There is no need to RSVP; please just come! Please arrive by 7:55 a.m. and check in with security. Upcoming tour dates include October 10 and November 14. Tours are an excellent opportunity to learn more about our school and Belding community! You can also check out the Belding website www.beldingelementary.com, for more information.



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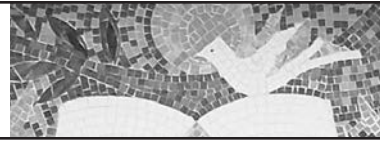
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Viator Vibrations — Sara Yoest

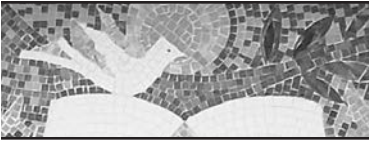
St. Viator's commitment to service was on display when our St. Viator Girl Scout Cadettes troop painted sections of the campus parking lot this summer to create imaginative play areas for our young learners! Next time you are walking in the neighborhood, play a game of hopscotch or find a book in our Little Free Library and rest awhile in the pollinator garden on Kedvale Ave. and Addison Street.



Photos by Kathleen Barnes

Interested in learning more about St. Viator? Please contact Diane Uργο in the school office at durgo@stviatorchicago.org or call 773-545-2173 with questions regarding admission or to schedule a private in-person tour.

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



Art Zone

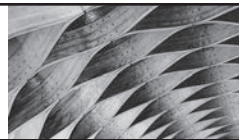
For over 25 years, St. Viator has demonstrated a commitment to the arts through Art Zone, our unique, parent-lead fine arts program. This year, our students will learn about various artist styles and techniques to inspire their art investigations through art making. New this fall, our 1st through 5th grade students are being offered after-school enrichment art classes through a partnership with Young Rembrandts. This program, designed to bring art to more kids, allows them to learn step-by-step drawing methods as they deconstruct and reconstruct images.

SAVE THE DATE

Save the date for our **3rd annual Trunk or Treat Halloween event on Saturday, October 28**. Our Old Irving Park neighbors are welcome to participate in this fun afternoon event, which will take place in the St. Viator parking lot. Enjoy candy, food, drinks, crafts, music, games, a costume contest and more! Tickets required. Follow our Facebook page for details on ticket sales and times.



Photos by Sara Yoest



Three Brothers Garden

— Liz Mills, Executive Director,
Carlson Community Services



We're winding down the season at Three Brothers Garden, and it's been a great year! Thanks to Judy Sviatko for leading the garden committee! We've donated over 300 lbs. of vegetables to the Irving Park Food Pantry, with more to come. Tomatoes, cucumbers, green beans, and radishes have been our mainstays, with beets, herbs, squash, and lots of greens rounding things out. Thanks to Melanie Reschke, Rebecca Haneberg, Ruth Meberg, Joyce Patch, Laurie Paliga, Jose Garcia, and Susan Trudeau for regularly participating in the harvests!

We appreciate all the neighbors who contributed vegetables from their home gardens in our *Plant A Row for the Hungry* campaign. Surplus veggies are combined with what we grow and are delivered to the Food Pantry on Wednesday mornings for immediate distribution to their clients. If you're planning for next year's garden, why not dedicate a row to Plant A Row?

We'll harvest in the garden every Tuesday through October from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at 4107 N. Pulaski, next to the Irving Park Lutheran Church parking lot. Join us!

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



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Carlson Community Services

Save the Date for Carlson's Trivia Night – November 10!



TRIVIA

Mark your calendar for Carlson Community Services' 14th Annual Trivia Night (in-person) on Friday, November 10! We look forward to seeing you at the Irving Park Lutheran Church gym for one of the neighborhood's oldest and best trivia fundraisers, supporting Carlson's after-school program, community garden, and free concert series. Teams will compete for \$200 cash and glory! Get your team of eight together today!

For more information about Trivia Night, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org/events.

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 32 for full details.



Pantry Coat Drive Gets Underway



The Pantry's coat drive begins October 10 and seeks gently used or new winter coats, gloves, hats, and scarves. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

The Irving Park Food Pantry's coat drive is underway! We will give our clients and their families in the 60641 and 60618 ZIP codes new or gently used coats beginning Tuesday night, October 10.

The program extends through Wednesday, November 9; we are collecting coats now.

We also accept hats, scarves, mittens, and other cold-weather gear. Please do not donate sweaters, sweatshirts, boots, or other clothing.

Thank you for all your support in helping us meet our mission of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

Donations can be taken to:

- **Big Helpers store**, 4184 N. Elston Ave. (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday).
- **Compass Real Estate**, Three offices: 2044 W Roscoe St., 1653 N. Milwaukee Ave., and 2350 N. Lincoln Ave., 3rd floor.
- **Disney II Magnet School**, 3815 N. Kedvale Ave. (Inside Main Entrance, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.)
- **Disney II Magnet High School**, 3900 Lawndale Ave. (Inside Main Entrance, 8:45 a.m.–3:45 p.m.)
- **Distinct Bath & Body**, 4046 N Milwaukee Ave.
- **Irving Park YMCA**, 4251 W Irving Park Rd. (Dropbox in the lobby)
- **Jet's Pizza**, 3951 N. Kimball Ave., (Dropbox in the waiting area)
- **J.T.'s Genuine Sandwich Shop**, 3970 N. Elston Ave. (Closed Mondays)
- **Old Irving Brewing Company**, 4419 W Montrose Ave. (Noon to 10 p.m.)
- **Perkolator**, 6032 W Irving Park Rd.
- **Front Porch** at 4731 Kiona Ave. (Anytime)
- Other drop-off points will be noted on our social media. If you have a large donation or want to run a drive to gather coats, please email info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org for suggestions or to arrange delivery.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Irving Park Community Food Pantry

WBEZ

WBEZ interviewed Executive Director John Psiharis and Client Services Coordinator Elvia Esparza in August about the impact that the ending of COVID-era relief programs has had on our neighbors in need .

Thank You for the Support

- Thank you to the **Chicago Fire Department Foundation**, which donated 100 smoke detectors in August for our clients. We appreciate the donation and look forward to working with the Foundation again.
- Thank you to **Dr. David Nayak**, founder of Nayak Farms in Gardner, Illinois, who donated another 800 pounds of freshly harvested corn. The Farms also donates produce to other local pantries and the Greater Chicago Food Depository.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to our school supply drive in August. We gave out about 325 bags of supplies to our clients' children in kindergarten through high school, about 25% more than last year, indicating how our numbers have grown in the past year.



Executive Director John Psiharis and Bruce Dean look over the detectors that Raymond (right) dropped off from the Chicago Fire Department Foundation. *Photo by Craig Shutt*



Julie Parache brought one of the regular Merchant Park Community Garden donations to Executive Director John Psiharis.



Dr. David Nayak, founder of Nayak Farms, talks with Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis as he delivers the farm's corn donation in August.



Thank you to the volunteers from State Farm Insurance (l-r: Bailey Quade, Francis Runzel, Denver Dukes, and Roberto Velazquez (in front)) who helped Deb Christensen (left) and Joyce Redding.

All photos by Craig Shutt.

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

CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

OIPA NEWS SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Advertising:
First Tuesday
of the month

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

October

5th Annual OIPA Halloween House Decorating Contest (see page 4 for details)

- 7 **Medicare 101 hosted by the YMCA**, Get help on navigating Medicare | 1–3 p.m. | Irving Park YMCA, 4251 West Irving Park Road, 773-777-7500 | **Registration Required, Call 773-777-7500** | presented by Grace Kwon, Independent Insurance Broker.
- 8 **Independence Park Farmers Market** | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. | 3945 N Springfield Ave.
- 9 **OIPA October General Meeting** | 7 pm | St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner Ave. Northwestern Medicine has been invited to present their new specialty facility in OIP and Dr. Moran, Schurz High School Principal.
- 22 **Independence Park Farmers Market** | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. | 3945 N Springfield Ave.
- 28 **OIPA Halloween Parade and Party** | 10 a.m. to Noon | Disney 2 Playground, 3815 N Kedvale Ave.
- 28 **St. Viator 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat Halloween Event** | Visit their Facebook page for time and ticket information.

November

- 19 **Carlson Trivia Night** | Irving Park Lutheran Church gym | For more information about Trivia Night, visit carlsoncommunityservices.org/events.

Stay Connected, Be Informed

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



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

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

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

Visit our website | www.oldirvingpark.com

Questions? Contact us | Hello@oldirvingpark.com

2023–2024 OIPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

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

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

This is a: ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift Membership

NAME (FIRST/LAST)		BIRTH MONTH	
SPOUSE/PARTNER NAME (FIRST/LAST)		BIRTH MONTH	
ANNIVERSARY MONTH			
CHILD OR PET NAME (FIRST), BIRTHDAY MONTH (LAST NAME OPTIONAL)			
CHILD OR PET NAME (FIRST), BIRTHDAY MONTH (LAST NAME OPTIONAL)			
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
TELEPHONE			
E-MAIL		E-MAIL 2	

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS expire August 31 and are due by September 1.

Membership dues received after August 1 will be applied to the following year membership.

Membership Level (per household)	In area DUES	Out of area DUES*	Benefits
Standard	\$35	\$50	Monthly meetings, newsletter delivery, member/spouse and anniversary published in newsletter, ice cream social event, holiday event
Senior (Age 65+)	\$20	\$45	Same as Standard membership
Good Neighbor	\$95	\$120	Standard + kid/pet birthdays in newsletter and OIPA tote bag
Neighborhood All-Star	\$195	\$220	Good Neighbor + admission for two to an exclusive OIPA cocktail party

* Dues + postage for mailed newsletter

GIFT MEMBERSHIP: Simply complete the form above or the online form with your neighbor's name(s) and address. You may not know their birthday/anniversary info. That's okay—we'll follow up with them. **If purchasing a gift membership online:** Please indicate "this is a gift subscription" in the final box titled, "Special Instructions."

SEND FORM & PAYMENT TO: Old Irving Park Association, c/o Lynn Ankney, OIPA Treasurer, 4313 N Keeler Ave, Chicago, IL 60641.

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

Contribute to the OIPA News | SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

General Submissions

Community Calendar, Articles & Photos

- Please send articles and calendar items as a Word document or in an email or Google doc. Include the author’s name, company or organization (if applicable), and contact information in the document. If you have an event for inclusion in the calendar (regardless of whether or not you mention it in your article submission), please specifically note it when submitting your article. If submitting images, please include photo captions and photographer credit.
- 400 words maximum without photos, 300/325 with photos and captions.
- Submissions as Links to websites or Facebook are NOT accepted.
- Articles should be information-based and should not contain advertorial content. Bylined articles should be written in third-person, unless the submission is an opinion piece or a personal story. Byline includes the author’s name, business name and contact info. **PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE DOCUMENT.**
- **Photos and images should be provided as separate files. We cannot use photos or images that are embedded or placed in a Word document. We need the original image file.**
- Photos should be accompanied with photographer credit and a caption(s). If submitting photos for an article, please include captions and photo credits in the same document as your article.
- If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wettransfer.com> or Dropbox Transfer. You can send several files at a time using either platform.
- The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Information printed in the newsletter may be reproduced with Old Irving Park Association cited as the source. Opinions in this publication do not necessary reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.

Advertising Submissions

- **Purchase ad space and upload your ad at:**
www.oldirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad
- **AD SIZES:** Full Page: 6.25" X 7.5"
Half Page: 6.25" X 3.75"
Quarter Page: 3" X 3.75"
- **ACCEPTABLE AD FILES:** High Resolution (minimum 300 dpi) gray scale; jpg, PDF, or eps.
Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.

Submission Deadlines

- **Advertising:** First Tuesday of the month by 5 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. If file(s) is large please use a file transfer method. 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
November	10/3	10/5
December*	10/31*	11/2

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Friday – Saturday: 10am – 12am

Sunday: 10am – 10pm

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Old Irving Park Association

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