



# OLD IRVING PARK

NEWS



# FEBRUARY

VOLUME 31 | ISSUE 1 | 2017

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**OLD IRVING PARK NEWS** Volume 31 No. 1 February 2017

A publication of the Old Irving Park Association by, for and about people living in the neighborhood bordered by Montrose, Addison, Pulaski and Milwaukee Avenue. The Old Irving Park Association (OIPA) is a non-profit, all volunteer community group active since 1983.

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

President's Message..... 2

OIPA Board | Meeting Report..... 3

OIP Real Estate Activity..... 4

Irving Park Historical Society..... 8

**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

Filament Theater..... 10

Nifty Neighbor..... 12

Tip From Your Neighbor..... 14

Art, Culture & Entertainment..... 16

Focus On Local..... 18

Schurz High School..... 20

Belding School..... 22

St. Viator Elementary..... 24

St. Edward School..... 26

Carlson Community Services..... 28

Happenings at Six Corners..... 30

Hands to Help..... 30

From The Wards..... 31

Irving Park Community Food Pantry..... 32

Irving Park United Methodist Church..... 33

Events Calendar..... 34

OIPA Membership & Renewal Form..... 35

The Social Network..... 36

Bulletin Board..... 39

From The Editor..... 40

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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# A Place to Call Home

– Lynn Ankney, President

Over the holidays, my family and I were fortunate to travel to a tropical locale where the pace of life is slow and our biggest decision we faced was which beach to visit. Every morning, when making the daily trip to the garbage and recycling drop off, we saw the same park bench with a humorous, albeit earnest, plea to residents and visitors alike: “Be nice or leave. Thank you.” I had to laugh, because St. John is the type of place that seems like everyone is on a permanent vacation, blissed out and unaware of the wars, famine and injustices around the globe. OF COURSE everyone is nice!

Is Old Irving Park a tropical utopia? Um, not-so-much. But I have to imagine we in OIP have one of the highest “nice quotients” across this big, sometimes beleaguered, city of ours. Our OIPA tagline, “Because Good Neighborhoods Don’t Just Happen” rings true. We have involved residents who know and care for one another (Shout out to my next door neighbors, the **McKelveys**, for intercepting an unexpected UPS package while we were away). Our neighborhood Google group has reunited countless pets and their families; alerted neighbors to garage break-ins; shared pediatric dentist, plumber, house painter and every other type of recommendation under the sun; given unwanted items new homes; and even provided an up to the minute traffic alert.

So, in the spirit of kicking off 2017 and trying to extend the holiday spirit (which doesn’t need only to occur during November and December), I urge all of us to do our part to embrace our Irving Park Road banner tagline (“A Place to Call Home”) by shopping LOCAL. We’ve had a good run of new, unique businesses opening the



past couple of years. If we want these businesses to thrive and attract more of the like, we need to support these local haunts – especially in the winter months!

Perhaps you have a New Year’s resolution to get in shape. Look no further than **The Irving Park YMCA**, **The Yoga Shop**, **Snap Fitness**, or the newly opened **Retro Fitness** at 6 Corners. Looking for a new hobby in the new year? We have **The Chicago Weaving School**, **Ariel Dance Academy**, the **Pursuit Supply Company**, **Dell Cove Spices** and **Chicago Roots Hydroponics & Organics**. And for those of us who are content with our “Dad bods” (or “mom bods”, as it were) or have no use for developing their crafty side, we all still need to eat. Don’t forget to patronize our local restaurant bar and dining scenes. The parent group at **Belding school** has started a tradition of “Parents Night Out” following our monthly meetings. It’s fun, easy, and a win-win for the parent group and the local business.

The morning before returning home from our holiday trip, I said to my kids and husband – all of whom were lamenting the idea of leaving paradise, “Guys, I can’t imagine how it will be true, but I’m sure we’ll be happy to be home tomorrow night.” I’m not sure if I was trying to convince them or myself, but darn it if my optimism didn’t come true. Old Irving Park truly is a place to call home.



# Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting

on January 16, 2017 — Bart Goldberg, Secretary

**Attendees:** Lynn Ankney, Howard Silver, Anna Sobor, Meredith O'Sullivan, Adrienne Chan, Colleen Kenny, and Bart Goldberg

*The Board meeting commenced at 7:07 p.m.*

**Treasurer's Reports:** The Treasurer's Report for the prior two months will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**4300 W. Berteau:** The demolition of this distressed six unit building has finally occurred thanks to the efforts of Alderman Laurino's office, the City of Chicago Building Department, and the residents of this community. The court-appointed receiver will prepare a final report and then the costs of the demolition will become a lien affecting title to the property. It is hoped that the owner will now sell the vacant land to someone who will then develop it in accordance with the current zoning designation, which means that it will probably be a single family home in the future.

**4301 W. Montrose:** There will be an administrative hearing regarding this property on 1-17-17, and President Ankney will attend along with Mary Ann Melzl, and Dana Fritz from the 39th Ward.

**Neighbors Night Out:** The next event will be at **The Cabin at Old Irving** on February 2, 2017. They are located at 4104 N. Pulaski. We are aware that this is short notice, but we feel that socialization is vital in order to survive the winter.

**Prior House Walk Information on OIPA Website:** The website is looking better and better all of the time. A new feature that is being added highlights the old

homes in Old Irving Park, and in particular those that have been featured in the prior House Walks that were organized by the Irving Park Historical Society (now a part of the OIPA). The first House Walk was in 1985 and the brochure from that event is now on the website, and the brochures for subsequent Walks will be added over time. We thank Megan Stalter and Laura Marie Sanchez for their help with this.

### **Next General Meeting Featuring Alderman Arena:**

The next public meeting of the Association will be on February 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the basement of the Irving Park Baptist Church at 4401 W. Irving Park Road. We are quite pleased that we will be able to feature Alderman Arena for the full meeting. He usually attends one of our meetings at least once a year to report on the State of the 45th Ward, and it is always very informative. For all that care about the neighborhood, it is must-see.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.**

### **NEXT MEMBER MEETING**

February 13, 2017 • 7 p.m.

Lower Level of  
Irving Park Baptist Church

#### **AGENDA**

Alderman Arena  
State of the 45th Ward

# OIP REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY



Prepared by Tom Brandt

(F) = Foreclosure Sale

(S) = Short Sale



## Single Family

4308 N. Kostner (F).....	\$275,000
4061 N. Kenneth.....	\$325,000
3932 N. Lowell.....	\$375,000
4129 N. Pulaski.....	\$375,500
4137 N. Pulaski.....	\$412,000
4501 W. Byron.....	\$460,000
3836 N. Lowell.....	\$550,000
4416 W. Waveland.....	\$ 609,000
3750 N. Lowell.....	\$ 800,000
3913 N. Lowel.....	\$ 800,000



## 2-4 Units

4057 W. Waveland.....	\$460,000
-----------------------	-----------



## Attached Single Family

4233 N. Kedvale, 4S.....	\$80,000
4225 N. Keystone, 3A.....	\$94,000
4149 N. Tripp, 4.....	\$105,000
4106 N. Keystone, GW.....	\$115,000
4333 N. Keeler, 1B.....	\$119,000
4231 N. Kedvale, 2C.....	\$127,000
4337 N. Kedvale, 206.....	\$134,500
4125 N. Keystone, 305.....	\$147,000
4123 N. Pulaski, 3 (F).....	\$155,000
4235 N. Kedvale, 3A.....	\$167,000
4212 N. Keystone, 2C.....	\$170,000
4336 N. Keeler, 3C.....	\$195,000
4106 N. Keystone, 1E.....	\$230,000
4135 N. Kedvale, 402.....	\$300,000
4135 N. Kedvale, 201.....	\$300,000

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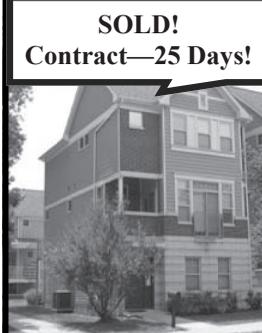
**4037 W. Waveland**

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**4346 N. Lowell**

**SOLD!**  
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**4501 W. Byron**

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in 4 Days!



**4061 N. Kenneth**

**SOLD! 3 Offers in 3 Days!**



**5041 W. Dakin**

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**3414 N. Tripp**

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**4502 W. Hutchinson**



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# Garden Club Sets 2017 Schedule

— Claudia Hine

**W**hile our perennials are wrapped in winter's chill, Irving Park Garden Club members are "thinking spring" and planning our upcoming educational meetings and social events. So, despite the weather, it's not too soon to save the following dates and times for this year's schedule:

**Saturday, March 18, 10:00 a.m.**

— St. John's Episcopal Church  
3857 N. Kostner Ave.

**Thursday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.**

— St. John's Episcopal Church

**Saturday, May 6, 9:00 a.m.**

— Field Trip

**Saturday, May 20, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.**

— Plant Exchange

**Thursday, June 22, 7:00 p.m.**

— Midsummer Night Stroll

**Saturday, July 15, 10:00 a.m.**

— Annual Garden Walk

**Saturday, August 19, 10:00 a.m.**

— Hands On Event

**Saturday, September 16, 10:00 a.m.**

— Villa Walking Tour

**Saturday, October 28, 12:00 p.m.**

— St. John's Episcopal Church



Succulents are one of the topics on the agenda for the Irving Park Garden Club's 2017 meeting schedule. *Photo by Claudia Hine.*

We'll be learning more about succulents, backyard birds, and planting milkweed for Monarch butterflies. **Dave Nells** (AKA Dave the Sharpening Guy) will come out to sharpen our garden tools. We'll share our divided perennials, exchange our books and movies, take a field trip to a great nursery, and visit a number of our neighborhood's beautiful gardens. Plans are in the works to spruce up our decorative planters on Irving Park Rd., and we'll tend to the community garden on Tripp Ave.

We've already got some great gardens lined up for the annual garden walk in July, and if you'd like to be considered for this year's event, don't be shy. You don't have to be a member to be on the walk, but you will receive a free membership for next year if you participate. If you wish to be considered, contact me at [claudia.hine@yahoo.com](mailto:claudia.hine@yahoo.com). Our garden walk will be open to the community again this year for a nominal fee.

**Be sure to follow us on Facebook for all the latest updates.**

Peggy Brockhaus

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New Year!

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everyone a  
great 2016



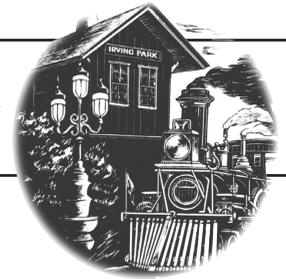
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- Anne Ralston

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# OIPA Trivia

Test your history knowledge with these fun facts about Old Irving Park.

- 1. Irving Park was named in honor of what famous American?
- 2. Which President is rumored to have stayed overnight at the Dickinson Inn, once located at Six Corners?
- 3. What area street was known as Douglas Street prior to 1895?
- 4. What "mistake" can be found on the front of the Van Bergen home at 4221 N. Kedvale?
- 5. What historic structure stood on the site of Carl Schurz High School prior to 1909?

- 1. Washington Irving, author
- 2. Abraham Lincoln allegedly stopped at the Dickinson Inn, razed in 1929
- 3. Douglas Street became Byron Street
- 4. Pulaski Road was once known as Rutledge in the Irving Park area
- 5. An old windmill from the old Haymarket District once stood on the site of Schurz

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | FILAMENT THEATER

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# Robin Hood, Creative Play and Sensory-Friendly Performances at Filament

— Christian Libonati, Managing Director, Filament Theatre  
[www.filamenttheatre.org](http://www.filamenttheatre.org)

Filament Theatre's action packed, fast-paced theatrical adaptation of *The Adventures Of Robin Hood* is now playing Saturdays & Sundays at 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. through March 19. Bring the whole family to experience anew the tale of Robin Hood and his Merry Men in an immersive and playful production! *The Adventures Of Robin Hood* is an innovative take on the classic story in which all the show's characters — from the beguiling Maid Marian to the villainous Sheriff of Nottingham — are brought to life by just two actors.

You and your family are encouraged to arrive early to explore the story for yourself! We have crafted interactive games and activities that will make a trip to Filament an experience that families will talk about for years to come! We even have a parent guide that will give you ideas for fun games to play even after leaving the theater!

We are also offering a sensory-friendly version of *Robin Hood* designed to create a performing arts experience that is welcoming to all families with children with autism or other sensory sensitivities on Saturday, February 4 at 11am. Our *Pinocchio* sensory-friendly performance was such a success last year, that we are looking forward to offering a similar experience for *Robin Hood*.

Many thanks to all who attended our 5th Annual Holiday Special where friends and families gathered for a screening of two holiday classics, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* & *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, voiced by your favorite Filament actors with live jazz accompaniment! Special thanks to City News Cafe for the truffles and lovely warm drinks!

Learn more about Filament's adventurous and playful productions and events that inspire, empower, and activate young people and their communities by visiting [www.filamenttheatre.org](http://www.filamenttheatre.org). **And save 15% on ROBIN HOOD by using code OIPA15 online! Filament is located at 4041 N. Milwaukee Ave.**



*The Adventures of Robin Hood* at Filament Theatre.  
Photo by Dominick Maino.

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# Meet Denise Petersen

*Painter and artist Denise Petersen lives in Old Irving with husband Brian and rescue dog Lucille.*

## Where else have you lived and how did you wind up in Chicago?

I was born in Chicago at St. Elizabeth's Hospital on Western Avenue. Grew up in Elmwood Park and Addison. I've lived in apartments in Bucktown and Galewood before putting down roots in Old Irving in 2002, moving, and returning for good in 2005.

## Why did you choose Old Irving?

I sought a relatively quiet neighborhood, and also loved the feeling of spaciousness. Area reminds me of suburban River Forest. There is a sense of community. Convenient transportation, just as easy to get downtown as to visit family in the suburbs.



## What do you do, and what is the path that led you there?

Am a painter who specializes in portraits of people and of pets, using oil and acrylics. My first memory at age 4 is of sitting at the kitchen table and copying Disney illustrations. I attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago, studied fine art and graphic design. I have worked for several design studios, and painted massive murals as well as small custom figurines. I have both commercial and residential clients. Additionally, I paint customized portraits of people's pets.

## What are some of your favorite things in OIP?

Walkability—walking my dog everywhere, walking to many businesses. Love that people make eye contact, are friendly and say “hello.” I have a soft spot for Sabatino's—that's where my husband proposed to me. We like Thai Aree, LaVilla, Irving Park YMCA, Independence Park Farmers Market, Filament Theatre.

## If you had one wish, what would you change here?

Would love to have more unique and creative businesses open nearby, along the lines of Aerial Dance, Pursuit Supply Co. and the breweries.

To learn more about Denise go to:  
[www.denisepetersen.com](http://www.denisepetersen.com)

Do you know a Nifty Neighbor we can interview?  
Send your suggestions to Anna Zolkowski Sobor,  
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## TIP FROM YOUR NEIGHBOR

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# LEAD CONTENT IN OLD IRVING PARK WATER: HOW TO TEST FOR IT

New Water Mains Can Cause Lead Level in Water to Increase

By Terry McGuire



Test kit for lead content in your water. Photo: Terry McGuire

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Last September an article ran in the *Chicago Tribune*, discussing the possible increase in lead in our drinking water. This was the result of new water mains being installed throughout the city, which can affect the water lines that run from the new water mains to individual buildings. For years lead pipes were used for this purpose, and hooking them up to the new water mains could cause particles to enter buildings with the water.

The article said the City of Chicago Department of Water Management was offering a free testing of your water supply: just call 311 and ask for the kit. I did this, and to my amazement got the kit two days later.

This consisted of three plastic liter bottles that were to be filled from a kitchen sink faucet after a period of six hours with no water running in the house. The bottles were to be filled at stated intervals, capped, place in a plastic bag and then inside the box they came in, and left on the front porch. A phone number

was given to let the city know you had the box ready, and it would then be picked up in 24 hours. It was.

The original idea was to have test results in two to three weeks, but demand has been so high this has stretched to six weeks. Keeler Avenue, where my wife and I live, got new water mains last year, and as our house was built in 1889, I wondered if that could mean a high lead contact from the new connection.

In early November we got a letter from the City of Chicago Department of Water Management, showing the results of the test. All three liter bottles showed a lead contact far below the 15 parts per billion the EPA says is the action level for lead in drinking water. I was relieved.

Still, if the water mains on your street have been replaced, you can find out easily and without cost if your water has a high lead content. So call 311, ask for the test kit, and put your mind at rest.

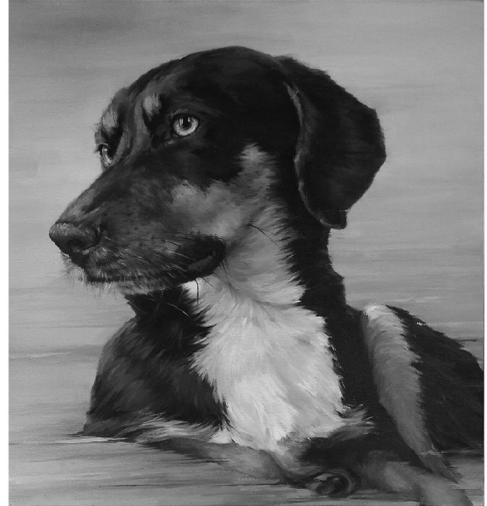


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*2 Tim 3:16a*

For the word of God  
is living...

*Heb. 4:12a*



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neighborhood**

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Art, Culture & Entertainment

– Marlena Ascher



## National Veterans Art Museum

4041 N Milwaukee | Vonnegut's Odyssey

Nov 11 – May 6

Vonnegut's Odyssey explores connections between the timeless and universal story of veterans' return from combat through the artwork of World War II. Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s selected artwork on display.

---

## Roots Room | 5203 N Kimball

Fri, Feb 3 | 6 p.m. Writers open mics

Fri, Feb 10 | 7 p.m. Variety open mic Variety 7 p.m.

Fri, Feb 17 | 7 p.m. Stann Champion acoustic concert

Mon, Feb 27 | 7 p.m. Storytelling Evening

---

## Independence Tap Lounge

3932 W. Irving Park Road

Fri, Feb 3 | 6 pm Happy Hour Bluegrass with the Smokin' Cattails

Sat, Feb 4 | 8 pm Rock with the Holy Smokes

Sun, Feb 5, 12, & 19 Pipes and Fiddle

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Sat, Feb 18 | 8 pm Blues with the Toasted Allmans

---

## City Newsstand & Café | 4018 N. Cicero

Feb 4 11 a.m. One River, country, rock, bluegrass

2-4 p.m. Rent Party

Feb 5 Bluegrass Jam

Feb 11 10-12 a.m. La Pompe - Gypsy jazz

Feb 18 10-12 a.m. Pipes and Fiddle

2-4 p.m. Rent Party

Feb 25 10-12 a.m. Matthew Dennison Band, jazz

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## Fannie's Café | 5044 W Montrose

Feb 4, 11, 18, 25 | 2-4 p.m. Pipes and Fiddle

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## Art Colony | 2630 W Fletcher

Sat, Feb 11 | 5 p.m. Open Reading; emphasis on poetry

---

## Filament Theatre | 4041 N Milwaukee

Feb 17 – Mar 5, Fri, Sat, Sun | 7 p.m.

(Thurs, Feb 23 at 9 a.m.) | \$15

Shakespeare All-Stars Theatre presents Macbeth directed by Ellen Cribbs. [www.shakespeareallstars.com](http://www.shakespeareallstars.com)

---

## Northeastern Illinois University

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Fri, Feb 17 | 7:30 p.m. | Anderson & Roe Piano Duo

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## Irish American Heritage Center

4626 N Knox

Friday, February 17 | 8 p.m.

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## Unforgettable Lounge | 4206 W Irving Park Rd.

Thurs, Feb 23 | Blue Line Laughs improve comedy  
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## Meet Lisa Fosler Kelly and Jennifer Wisniewski, Co-owners of Bread & Wine

— Interview by Anna Zolkowski Sobor

It's been 5 years since **Lisa Fosler Kelly** and **Jennifer Wisniewski** transformed the former Washing Well laundromat into a restaurant. **Bread & Wine**, an American bistro, wine bar and market, has anchored the corner of Irving Park and Ridgeway since 2011. Mayor Rahm Emanuel says it's one of his top three favorite restaurants, Wilco frontman, and Old Irving resident, Jeff Tweedy is a customer, and the *2015 Michelin Guide* recommended it. More importantly, going out to Bread & Wine has become a family tradition for nearby neighbors. An eight-year-old customer has celebrated his birthday there every year since he could chew solid food.

The Lisa and Jennifer's goal was to create a community gathering place. They've adjusted their menu and hours over the years to reflect what customers want. This includes a popular Sunday and Saturday brunch, \$5 children's menu, and updated comfort food. Favorites are fried chicken, steak frites and panna cotta with popcorn, while brunch hits include chicken and pancakes, homemade biscuits with gravy, house made sausage and signature cinnamon rolls.

There's a Wine Club with monthly tastings. Co-owner Lisa can also curate a wine tasting in your home or create



Lisa Fosler Kelly (L) and Jennifer Wisniewski (R)

a custom gift basket. Of course, take out and catering is available, and you can purchase items from their market.

Running a business is always challenging. Bread & Wine has had two ceiling cave-ins due to heavy snow and ice, one happened the night before New Year's Eve, and three floods. It's dealt with air conditioning outages and heavy snowstorms. The rewards—satisfied patrons—outweigh those mishaps. The restaurant has planned and hosted three weddings, multiple christenings, baby and bridal showers, birthdays, political and school fundraisers and one memorial service. "We take care of the flowers, menu and whatever else the customer wants," said Fosler Kelly. "Our aim is to get it just right."

Lisa and Jen are pioneers in more ways than one. Bread & Wine is one of only ten women owned restaurants in Chicago. It's beaten the odds in the hospitality industry where 90% of restaurants close





All photos provided by Bread & Wine.

in their first 2 years of operation. And, you have to admit, West Irving Park Road in Independence Park/West Walker is off the beaten path—for now. “When we decided to open in our neighborhood, Lisa and I saw a lot of opportunity because there wasn’t a lot of competition here,” reflected Wisniewski. “That means that you have to become a destination, because people won’t just be walking by and stumbling upon your restaurant. You also have to adapt and adjust course so your area customers stay happy, and keep coming back. ”

A collaborative environment has emerged among local restaurant owners. As Lisa and I were talking early on a windy Tuesday night, Trevor Rose-Hamblin and his fiancée walked in for dinner. Rose-Hamblin is the head brewer at the newly opened Old Irving Brewing. Lisa and Jen attend the openings of local restaurants, and give advice when asked. That’s what owner Barry Sorkin of Smoque BBQ did for Bread & Wine. Everyone knows there’s room for growth to serve the demand on the NW side, and success stems from working together. Congrats on your 5th, Bread & Wine, and many more!

Bread & Wine, 3732-34 W. Irving Park Rd, Chicago,  
[www.breadandwinechicago.com](http://www.breadandwinechicago.com)

To set up a wine tasting in your home:  
[lisa@breadandwinechicago.com](mailto:lisa@breadandwinechicago.com)



## RESTAURANT AND WINE MARKET

# BREAD & WINE

Open for dinner Tuesday - Sunday, Brunch 10am-2pm Sat/Sun

Available for weddings, showers, corporate events, birthdays, etc.

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**THURSDAYS: BURGER AND A DRAFT BEER FOR \$15**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT (HAPPY HOUR): 5-6:30PM \$5 DRAFTS, \$10 GLASSES OF WINE, \$9 COCKTAILS**

3734 W Irving Park Rd. - 773/866-5266 - [breadandwinechicago.com](http://breadandwinechicago.com)



## Yolobe Schurz Pilot Launch Dinner

Schurz Library

Thursday, February 9 | 6pm

Seeking business and community members interested in networking with Schurz youth in matters of mentoring, volunteer and job opportunities.

## Schurz Student Council Blood Drive

February 7, 2017

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

in the Schurz Social Room and Gym



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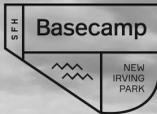
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# The Buzz at Belding

— Lisa Owens, 4th Grade Reading/Social Studies Teacher

## Feed My Starving Children

**O**n Wednesday, December 7, 2016 the Belding 8th grade class took a service learning trip to an organization called Feed My Starving Children. Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit organization that is committed to feeding malnourished children.

Our students worked as a team to hand pack meals specifically formulated to feed malnourished children. The meal packs included rice because rice is culturally accepted around the world. In addition, the packs included a cup of soy for protein, dried vegetables and a scoop of chicken flavored vitamin seasoning. Our students worked in an assembly line fashion to create the meal packs and they learned about the impact of their service.

On this particular day, the food that they packed was for Haiti. Haiti is considered to be the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and has suffered many catastrophes. Our students feverishly worked to pack as many meal packs as they could within their allotted time at the warehouse. After the event, many students expressed that they want to volunteer with the organization again in the future.

The result of the service learning trip was great! Our 8th graders packed 128 boxes which included 27,216 meals for children and their families. We're proud of our 8th graders for launching a hunger campaign this year. They are doing relevant work that is impacting lives.

Our school vision is joyful, inquisitive learners who care for and contribute to our community. As we celebrate the work of our 8th graders, we see our school vision in action and we are so proud of our students for giving back locally and abroad.

## Winter Wellness Fest

On December 8, over 70 Belding families braved the cold weather to attend our first ever Winter Wellness Fest. Students and families had a fantastic time participating in fun physical classes such as hip hop and zumba as well as attend workshops about healthy living like meal prep and brain exercises.

**Way to be healthy, Bulldogs!**

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

Each month Principal Heather Yutzy offers school tours for prospective parents. This is a great opportunity to see Belding teachers and students in action, and to learn more about our school. Upcoming tour dates include: February 21, March 21, April 18, May 20, June 6. Tours begin at 8:00 a.m. in the school office.



**Wishing you and your family  
a healthy and Happy New Year!  
We look forward to seeing you in 2017!**

**Love,**

**Dr. Kollmann, Dr. Furusho,  
Marisela, Cassidy, Leticia, Nicky,  
Michael, Adam and Tanisha**

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**Dr. Kirk Kollmann Dr. Cissy Furusho Dr. Marvin Berman**

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## Viator Vibrations — Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

Stay tuned for upcoming events at [stviatorchicago.org](http://stviatorchicago.org) or on our Facebook page.

Three preschool classrooms, one meeting room and half of the first floor hallway at St. Viator Elementary now have beautiful new floors! **Heather Rice**, whose two children attend St. Viator, works in the flooring industry and orchestrated a huge donation of materials and labor to make this project possible. Heather also coordinated new flooring in our two computer labs last year, and there are plans to do additional rooms over the summer. Huge thanks to the **Rice family** and to all of the other volunteers and parents who gave so generously of their time and energy to help with this makeover during the busy holiday season!



Fabulous new flooring installed on first floor — and classrooms as well.

Volunteer parents provide sweat equity.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**The 8th grade class will be hosting a Trivia Night on Saturday, February 11th, 6:30-11:30 p.m. in the St. Viator Parish Hall (church basement).**

This event is open to everyone in the community. Please join us and put all of those mundane facts in your head to good use! Cash bar available (beer, wine, soda and water), and bring an appetizer and/or beverages to share with your table (8 people per table). Winning table takes home 15% of the total entry fee, second place table gets 10% of the total entry fee. \$25 per person, email or call Chris Russette to register: [chrisrussette@gmail.com](mailto:chrisrussette@gmail.com) or 773-320-8492. Proceeds benefit the 8th grade class.

**Wiggles & Giggles Playgroup • FREE February 9 and 23, 9 to 10:30 a.m.**

This fun and FREE playgroup is for children in the community (ages newborn-4) and their parents/caregivers. Open gym with balls, blocks, hula-hoops and so much more! St. Viator Gym, 3644 N. Kedvale.

**Primary Gym | Saturday February 4, and 18, 8:30 to 10 a.m.**

Primary gym offers a relaxed yet active environment where children and parents can participate in basketball, baseball, scooters, floor hockey and parachute. St. Viator Gym, 3644 N. Kedvale.

**Join our growing community!**

Admission applications are available online and in the school office. For more information, please call 773-545-2173 or email Marge Tiritilli at [mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org](mailto:mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org).



# We Believe

*in Educating Mind, Body and Soul*

**P**rogressive and dynamic, St. Viator Elementary School has been an integral part of the Old Irving Park community for 110 years. We strive to develop the whole child, intellectually, spiritually and physically through a supportive partnership of award-winning faculty and parents.

## Come and see what we have to offer you and your child.

- ⚙️ PreK 3 year old program: 3 or 5 days a week, Full or Half days (a.m.)
- ⚙️ PreK 4 program: 5 days a week, Full or Half days (a.m.)
- ⚙️ Excellent Academic Program built on the principles of differentiated, hands-on learning using interactive technology – including iPads and Smart Boards
- ⚙️ Super Kids Reading, Go Math and Rosetta Stone World Language Programs
- ⚙️ National Junior Honor Society
- ⚙️ PeaceBuilders Program – Learning peace and positive behaviors
- ⚙️ Reading Specialist for students with special need, as well as advanced readers
- ⚙️ Award-winning Art Zone program as well as Music, Choir and Band
- ⚙️ Championship Athletic and Intramural Sports Programs
- ⚙️ Enrichment Clubs and Summer Camp Programs
- ⚙️ Before and after school Kid Care Program

### St. Viator Elementary School

4140 W. Addison St • Chicago, Illinois 60641

*in Historic Old Irving Park*

773.545.2173 | [www.stviatorchicago.org](http://www.stviatorchicago.org)



**REGISTRATION  
IS STILL OPEN FOR THE  
2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR.**

A few seats are still available in our early childhood classrooms and in the intermediate and junior high classrooms.

**Join our thriving community.**

*Please feel free to contact us with any questions or to schedule a personal tour at [MTiritilli@stviatorchicago.org](mailto:MTiritilli@stviatorchicago.org) or call 773.545.2173.*



Elementary School



In case you missed our Discovery Sunday Open House on January 29, please join our Open House on Tuesday, February 2. Walk through the hallways and enter the classrooms while school is in session from 9 – 11 a.m. Registrations will also be accepted. Please join us at 4343 West Sunnyside Avenue.

Congratulations to our 8th grade boys' basketball team! The team won the St. Patrick High School tournament on January 7th for the second consecutive year. Way to go, boys!

---

## ALL ADULTS WELCOME TO THE ST. EDWARD SUPER BOWL PARTY!

**On Sunday, February 5, benefit St. Edward's Youth Athletic Program while rooting for your favorite team!**  
St. Edward Gym, Buckley Hall, 4447 N. Lowe

**\$25 per person** - includes all you can eat Italian Beef, Sausage, Chili, Hot Dogs and other snacks.

**\$50 per person** - includes all you can eat Italian Beef, Sausage, Chili, Hot Dogs other snacks, and adult beverages from 3 – 10 p.m.



### **Congratulations to all students, faculty, and Windy City Music Theatre**

for all their amazing job and hard work put into the productions of *James and the Giant Peach* this January! Three separate productions were staged, each one showing off our talented students.

We look forward to the next play, *The Lion King*, this spring!

---

*For over 100 years, St. Edward School has provided a Catholic education to children from three-year old pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. We have an average student-teacher ratio of 18:1, and feature an extensive music program as well as art, gym, sports, chess, and Spanish at all grade levels. Our students matriculate to highly selective CPS and Catholic schools in Chicagoland. Our school is located at 4343 W. Sunnyside. For more information on the School call 773-736-9133, or visit [www.stedwardschool.com](http://www.stedwardschool.com).*

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## SAVE THE DATE:

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### **Sunday, March 5, 2017**

Join us in St. Edward's Gym, Buckley Hall, for the annual **McNulty/Kelly Corned Beef Dinner!**

From 12 – 5 p.m., join the community for food, music, drinks and more! Kick off St. Paddy's Day!

---

### **Saturday, March 25, 2017**

**St. Edward Annual Big Red Auction** will take place in Buckley Hall from 6 p.m. – 12 a.m. Join us for silent and live auctions, music, food, drinks — more details to come!

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### **Tuesday & Wednesday, March 28 & 29**

Have you ever watched St. Edward's favorite game of pinball? Whether you come every year or have never seen a game, come to St. Edward's gym, Buckley Hall, from 3 – 5 p.m. for the tournament.



Excellent Academics • Small Class Sizes • Art • Music Program • Vibrant Community  
Varied Extracurricular Opportunities • Before and After School Care • Catholic Education

## Open House

**Tuesday, February 2 • 9 – 11 a.m. • Registrations will also be accepted.**

---

For more information, visit [stedwardschool.com](http://stedwardschool.com) or call us at 773.736.9133.

Follow us on  at <https://www.facebook.com/stedwardschoolchicago>

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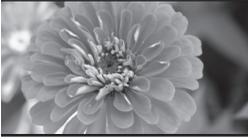
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# Soup & Bread for Carlson, February 12th

**T**ake a break from the cold and snow with a steaming bowl of soup from great restaurants and cooks served among friends and neighbors — all for the good of neighborhood programs. Carlson Community Services will host its fifth **Soup & Bread fundraiser** on Sunday, February 12 from 5-7 p.m.

Patterned after a popular winter event at The Hide-out Bar, Soup & Bread for Carlson will be held at the **Irving Park Lutheran Church gym**, 4057 N. Harding Ave. Although the soup lineup was not final at this newsletter's deadline, past participants have included fine restaurants like **Community Tavern, Bread & Wine, Smoque, Tre Kronor** and more. Up to 10 satisfying soups from local restaurants and neighborhood cooks will be

served along with delicious breads to benefit Carlson's programs. The event will also feature music, a raffle and bake sale — fun for all ages.

All proceeds will go to Carlson Community Services, a 501c3 non-profit connecting the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. Carlson's programs include the **Magic After-School Place, Three Brothers Community Garden** and the **Irving Park Fine Arts Concert Series**. For information on ticket prices and how to volunteer for the event, visit [www.carlsoncommunityservices.org/event/soup-bread/](http://www.carlsoncommunityservices.org/event/soup-bread/) or contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766 or [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org).



**Rebecca Haneberg and Ruth Olech** will co-chair Carlson Community Services' Soup & Bread.  
*Photo by Liz Mills*

*The mission of Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is to connect the Irving Park community with programs that enrich lives through education, culture and service. For more information, contact Liz Mills, Executive Director at [lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org](mailto:lizmills@carlsoncommunityservices.org). Follow us on Facebook for photos and info about our programs and events!*

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Happenings at Six Corners

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### Community Tavern

4038 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Call for reservations: 773.283.6080

**Tuesday, February 14:** Valentine Dinner: 3-course menu for \$50/guest (tax and gratuity additional) and optional wine pairing package for \$15/guest. Reservations available 5 – 9 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 22:** Donati Family Vineyards Wine Dinner: 4-course menu & wine pairings for \$50/guest. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Dinner begins at 7 p.m.

.....

### Art Side Out Studio Art Classes

4041 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Art Side Out Studio & Mask Shop will hold after school drawing and painting classes starting in March. Spring Break Art Camps is also going to be in session. Call 773- 697-5012 or visit: [ArtSideOutStudio.com](http://ArtSideOutStudio.com)

### Filament Theatre

#### *Robin Hood* (Sensory Friendly)

4032 N. Milwaukee Ave.

**Saturday, February 4, 2017 | 11:00am 12:15pm**

Sword fights and explosions. Heroes and villains. Love and loss. With astounding creativity and fast-pace athleticism, Filament Theatre has created an experience that immerses audience in the wildly inventive world of *The Adventures of Robin Hood*.

Tickets are \$25 for all ages. 10% off purchases of 5 or more. The show has a running time of 75 minutes without an intermission and is recommended for everyone ages 7 and up.

– Submitted by Jessica Vazquez, SSA 28 Program Manager, Six Corners Association  
4041 N. Milwaukee Ave. #301, Chicago, IL 60641  
773-685-9300 | [jessica@sixcorners.com](mailto:jessica@sixcorners.com)  
[www.sixcorners.com](http://www.sixcorners.com)

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Hands to Help

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### Our Mission

Hands to Help Ministries works to find housing for homeless people living in our neighborhood, and provides assistance to those in danger of becoming homeless by:

- Offering long-term relationships and a stable support system for those in need
- Connecting faith communities and their resources
- Advocating for systematic change in services for people in need
- Providing referrals for housing, healthcare, jobs, and benefits
- Providing financial assistance for rent, transportation, and identification.

### Coming Soon Trivia 2017

Watch for details on our  
facebook page.

*Gayle Nelson, Executive Director*  
*Hands to Help Ministry, c/o St. John's Episcopal Church*  
*3857 N. Kostner, Chicago, IL 60641*  
*[P] 773-599-0502 · [hthexecdirector@gmail.com](mailto:hthexecdirector@gmail.com)*  
*[handstohelpministries.org](http://handstohelpministries.org)*



## Free Income Tax Return Assistance

**M**any Chicagoans may not be aware of all the income tax credits they can claim without the help of knowledgeable preparers. Eligible individuals and families with children could receive up to \$6,896 from the federal and state Earned Income Tax Credit alone, in addition to other valuable credits.

Families earning up to \$55,000 or individuals earning up to \$30,000 are eligible to take advantage of the city's free and confidential income tax assistance at 19 sites across Chicago.

Volunteer tax preparers certified through IRS-approved training will assist eligible tax payers with federal and state income tax returns for the 2016 tax year. Sites will be open between late January and mid-April 2017.

For specific information on locations and site hours, visit the Tax Prep Chicago website. The closest site for 45th Ward residents is at **Wilbur Wright College, 4300 N. Narragansett. Their hours are:**

- Mondays from 5 pm to 8:30 pm  
January 30 thru April 17;
- Fridays from 10 am to 4 pm  
February 3 thru April 7; and
- Saturdays 9 am to noon  
January 28 thru April 8.

*Please note that this location will be closed on February 20, April 14, and April 15.*

Last year, the City of Chicago's free income tax assistance helped 20,000 families and individuals receive \$31 million in tax refunds and credits. This added income not only has a direct impact on the lives of Chicago residents — it also helps sustain small businesses, strengthens neighborhoods, and infuses millions of dollars into the local economy.

*For more information and to view additional locations, visit the Tax Prep Chicago website, [www.taxprepchicago.org](http://www.taxprepchicago.org).*





# Large FDC Grant Aids Pantry in 2017 – Craig Shutt

The Irving Park Community Food Pantry is pleased to announce that the FDC Foundation has provided us with a grant of \$30,500. The money will fund our nutrition programs for clients and our Client Resources Coordinator position during the year. We are grateful to **John Doyle, Susan Patke** and the entire board of FDC for their continued support. Thanks also to volunteer **Cathy Foster** for preparing our proposal.



Jessie Schwartz of the BuildOn Program dropped off several big bags of basil harvested by the students in the Schurz High School Food Science Lab from their hydroponic gardens at the school for the Pantry's Holiday program. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

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## Holiday Meal at the Pantry

On December 21, the Pantry provided a holiday meal to 952 people in 262 households during our annual Holiday program. We also provided toys to 273 of our clients' children, as well as board games, stocking stuffers, and books. Thanks go to **Sara Yoest** and **Debbie Fries** for coordinating the collection of toys, setup and distribution.

Our donors contributed enough toys that we were able to provide 50 toys to the **Magic After School Place program** (run by Carlson Community Service), 28 to the **IPUMC Hispanic Mission**, three bags of toys to **Shorewood Elementary School in Englewood** and a box and bag to **St. Viator** for their holiday adopt-a-family program. All were appreciated!

Thank you to the many businesses that provided space for our drop-off boxes to help collect toys for our program. They included **Alderman John Arena's Ward 45 office, Irving Park Lutheran Church, Josi's Frozen Yogurt, Old Irving Brewing Co., Pert Cleaners, Potbelly, St. John's Episcopal Church** and **Starbucks**.

We also thank the many companies and organizations that ran food drives to add to our program. Thanks also to the students at **Vaughn High School** for donating blankets and to the **buildOn program at Schurz High School's Food Science Lab** for harvesting and donating bags of basil. We also appreciate the employees at **Fossil** who volunteered for the day.

All of your efforts on our behalf help us continue to meet our goal of being "Neighbors Helping Neighbors." It adds up!

---

*John Psiharis, Executive Director*  
Irving Park Community Food Pantry  
3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago IL 6064 |  
e-mail: [info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org](mailto:info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org)  
Web: [www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org](http://www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org)

### Exploring Our History

Irving Park United Methodist Church has been a worshipping and serving the community on the corner of Keeler and Grace since before the street was named Keeler. Exploring our history has helped us identify some of the DNA of our congregation, as well as the ways that our congregation has been involved with the community through the years.

Starting with the earliest years of the church, missions were really important. Irving Park Methodist Episcopal Church supported missionaries in several countries around the globe.

Welcoming children has always been important. They sent neighborhood children to summer camp, provided summer Vacation Bible School, and hosted Sunday school and midweek classes for children.

During World War II, a publication was sent from the congregation to soldiers with news from home. Church minutes show discussions with plans to welcome soldiers home with meals, special events and ways to help soldiers to adjust to returning home.

The 1960s were a time of racial tension. The congregation responded by inviting and warmly welcoming persons from a variety of ethnic traditions. Pictures of the congregation from that time show that African-Americans and those of Asian descent regularly worshiped with the predominantly white congregation.

In the 1970s, concern for food insecurity prompted **Leila Duncan** to carry bags of food on the bus to neighbors who didn't have enough to eat. She recruited her friends, and their efforts grew to become the Irving Park Community Food Pantry, now the third largest



emergency food pantry in the city of Chicago and still housed in the church.

In the 1980s, another kind of welcome was planned as the church became one of the first Open and Reconciling congregations in Chicago. The congregation offered an invitation to persons whose sexual orientation differed from the heterosexual "norm." In 1986 the congregation publicly affirmed that they welcomed all persons regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

These strands from our history run true to the present. We continue to welcome children and provide programming for them that includes VBS, summer camp, Sunday school and our Global Citizens program. We continue to welcome all persons and invite them into the full life of the church. We open our building to a wide variety of community organizations and programs including AA, the Pantry, a school, and two other congregations. It's all in our DNA.

#### **Irving Park United Methodist Church**

3801 N. Keeler Ave. | Chicago, IL 60641 | 773-283-6262  
irvingparkumc@comcast.net

# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## FEBRUARY

For complete event details, go to the organization's feature page.

**OIPA NEWS  
MARCH  
SUBMISSION  
DEADLINE**

**Advertising &  
Editorial  
BOTH DUE  
FEBRUARY 9  
(SECOND TUESDAY OF  
THE MONTH)  
BY 5 p.m.**

- 2     **The Cabin at Old Irving | Neighbors Appreciation/Night Out**  
7 p.m. | 4014 N Pulaski, Light appetizers and an "open" jukebox will be provided.

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- 7     **Schurz Student Council Blood Drive**  
8 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Schurz High School Social Room and Gym

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- 9     **Schurz to Launch the Yolobe Pilot Program**

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- 11    **St. John's Episcopal Church | CELEBRATES ANNUAL DARWIN DAY**  
6 p.m. | St. John's Episcopal Church at 3857 N. Kostner Ave.

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- 12    **Carlson Community Services | Soup & Bread fundraiser for Carlson**  
5 – 7 p.m. | Irving Park Lutheran Church Gym, 4057 N. Harding Ave  
[www.carlsoncommunityservices.org](http://www.carlsoncommunityservices.org)

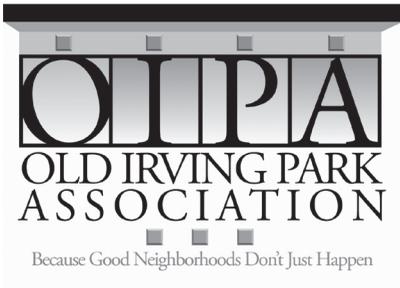
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- 13    **OIPA General Meeting**  
7 p.m. | Lower Level of Irving Park Baptist Church

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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Please complete the form below. If renewing, please use this form to let us know about any changes.

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

This is a:  New Membership  Renewal  Gift Membership

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

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

ANNIVERSARY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

- \$20/year
- \$14/year Seniors (age 65+)
- Add \$16/year for OIPA NEWSLETTER deliveries out of boundaries

(Boundaries: Montrose, Addison, Pulaski and Milwaukee Avenue.)

## SEND FORM & PAYMENT TO:

Old Irving Park Association  
Meredith O'Sullivan  
OIPA Director / Membership  
4061 W. Warwick Ave., Chicago, IL 60641

## Make checks payable to:

Old Irving Park Association OR join or renew online with PayPal at www.oldirvingpark.com

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. Please indicate this is a gift subscription in the final box titled, "Special Instructions."

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS are due September 1 and expire August 31

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## THE SOCIAL NETWORK | OIP Members Out and About

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Spotted: Alderman John Arena and Jill Arena worked one of the client stations during the Pantry's holiday program along with volunteer Gerri Calderone. *Photo by Craig Shutt*



Spotted: Pantry Toy Room coordinators (l-r) Debbie Fries and Sara Yoest talk with Executive Director John Psiharis and State Rep. Jaime Andrade during the Pantry's holiday program. *Photo by Sandra Schwarzbeck*



Spotted: Sara Yoest (left), Barb Cohn (right) and Sandra Schwarzbeck get into the holiday spirit before the opening of the Pantry's holiday program. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

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## THE SOCIAL NETWORK | OIP Members Out and About

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Spotted: The Belding Elementary School's 8th grade class, with teacher Denise Jones (standing), listens to Executive Director John Psiharis talk about the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. The students delivered the results of their Holiday food drive, part of a program to learn about hunger in our community, to the Pantry on a very cold December day. *Photo by Sandra Schwarzbeck*



Spotted: Alderman John Arena, volunteer Christine Lee and her daughter Vicki show off some of the blankets donated by students at Vaughn High School and distributed to Pantry clients during its holiday program. *Photo by Sara Yoest*

Capture OIPA members members out and about — send in

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# THE SOCIAL NETWORK | OIP Members Out and About

---

Martha Sanders, Anna Sobor, Alderman John Arena and Carolynne Kent enjoy the post-concert reception put on by the Irving Park Fine Arts Committee. The holiday concert in December featured Anna Fermin's Trigger Gospel. *Photo by Liz Mills*



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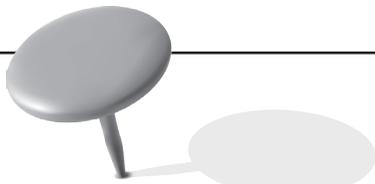


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**Did you attend a special event or celebration, volunteered for a neighborhood cause, won an award? Send us your photos.**

1



## OIPA MEMBERS

We have three meetings between now and the June Ice Cream Social. Do you have a topic of conversation you would like covered or an idea for a guest speaker?

Let us know, by emailing:  
oldirvingparkassn@yahoo.com.

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Tuesday & Thursday 7:00 A.M - 7:00 P.M.  
Saturday 8:00 A.M - 4:00 P.M

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# SUBMISSION TO THE NEWSLETTER POLICY

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, articles (450 words maximum without photos) for publication. 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 event for community calendar, etc.

Photos should be accompanied with a caption(s) and photo credit. If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wetransfer.com>. You can send several files at a time using [wetransfer](https://wetransfer.com).

**New  
deadline  
policy for  
editorial.**

**Deadline for advertising AND editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. Materials SUBMITTED AFTER this date will be held over to the next month's issue.**

**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) grayscale; jpg, PDF, or eps. **Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.**

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 necessarily reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.

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## 40th District State Representative **Jaime Andrade**

773-267-2880 - [staterep40@gmail.com](mailto:staterep40@gmail.com) - 3657 N. Kedzie Avenue



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Old Irving Park Association

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